

Easter Customs in Europe

** zdjęcia przedstawiają dania wielkanocne*



Projekt e-Twinning stworzony przez uczennice klasy 8:

- ❖ Kaję Bisiorek
- ❖ Julię Grzegorzewską
- ❖ Oliwię Juszcak
- ❖ Wiktorię Łapacz
- ❖ Noemi Piasecką
- ❖ Julię Rybarczyk
- ❖ Oliwię Potasiak

Opiekun projektu: Agnieszka Kaczowska

Easter in Spain: spectacular processions, penitents and... delicious cuisine

Traditional dishes

Potaje de garbanzos, a stew of chickpeas, spinach, cod and many other delicious and aromatic ingredients, is the best example of this. Another traditional dish is cod in tomatoes. There is no shortage of sweet delicacies on the Spanish Easter table, and the best example is torrijas - bread fried in olive oil, previously soaked in egg, milk and sugar. Can be served with honey, sugar or cinnamon. A very popular dessert is also mona de pascha, a yeast cake with a chocolate egg inside.



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Traditions

Famous in the Iberian Peninsula, especially in the south, there are processions organized by religious brotherhoods. Members of the fraternities put on traditional costumes for the processions and carry large platforms, called pasos - on them there are figures of Christ, the Virgin Mary and passion scenes. A surprising Easter custom is self-flagellation, which is still practiced in San Vicente today - a tradition that dates back to the Middle Ages. Penitents hit their backs with a special, heavy whip until their skin turns blue or begins to bleed. Volunteers apply for this ritual, and they can only be men.

In Valcarlos in the north of Spain, Resurrection Sunday is celebrated every year with cheerful dances performed by the so-called bolantes. Bolantes are dressed in white shirts with a bodice and colorful silk ribbons fluttering across the back, white pants with braids and little bells. They wear white gloves and red berets.



* Zdjęcie przedstawia pochód w Hiszpanii z okazji Zmartwychwstania

Symbols

The platforms with figures mentioned above are certainly an important symbol of the Spanish Easter. Tourists who spent Easter in Andalusia will surely remember the characteristic hoods worn by members of the fraternities - they are elongated, sewn in a pointed shape and have only a cutout for the eyes. Individual brotherhoods wear hoods of different colors and their processions are really impressive.

Easter in Sweden

Easter is a joyous time in Sweden. The good mood is boosted by the usually improving weather at this time of year, which brings relief from the harsh winter. Easter celebrations are very original in Sweden. The most noticeable difference in Swedish Easter traditions is that it is a secular holiday with very few religious elements. Protestant Swedes do not visit church at this time, instead they focus on lavish feasts with family and friends. The days off are often spent in more practical ways, such as spring cleaning, or as an opportunity to relax in nature, which Swedes appreciate.

What's on the table?

The Swedish diet is quite simple on a daily basis, so both at Easter and Christmas the tables are filled with dishes rarely seen at other times of the year. In addition to eggs prepared in a variety of ways, the Easter menu includes salmon and herring dishes, roast lamb, the famous Swedish meatballs made of mixed minced meat - köttbullar, and a casserole of potatoes, onions and anchovies known as Janssons frestelse, or 'Jansson's temptation'. Easter time in Sweden abounds with huge amounts of sweet treats. In addition to chocolate cake and semla buns filled with whipped cream and marzipan, Swedes enjoy Easter sweets, chocolate and marzipan bunnies and jelly beans.



** zdjęcia przedstawiają ciasto wielkanocne oraz
zajaczki zrobione z marcepanu*



Easter decorations

In public places you can even hear from strangers wishing them a Happy Easter - Glad Påsk, and houses as well as streets, stores and galleries are decorated in the cheerful colors of Easter decorations. In almost every house there is a bouquet of budding twigs, decorated with feathers in flashy colors. The colorful feathers on the still bare branches are a harbinger of the coming spring. Påskris is the equivalent of the Easter palm commemorating Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. Eggs are also commonly painted. The traditional way to decorate eggs is to boil them in onion skins, along with ears of grain, or sprigs of herbs, to create natural designs.

Easter Witches

On Maundy Thursday, children go door to door with baskets. The little girls are dressed up as witches - they have long skirts, scarves on their heads and drawn freckles. If someone opens the door to them, the children say - Glad Påsk! (pronounced glad posk) meaning - Happy Easter! You have to respond to these wishes and put some money or sweets in the basket. Although children's trick-or-treating is a bit like American Halloween, it is a custom closely related to Swedish tradition and beliefs. According to legend, it was on Maundy Thursday that witches gathered on the Swedish Babia Góra to perform their Sabbath. The Swedes believed that by burning fires and firing cannons to scare the witches away from their homes. This belief is reflected in modern times. In the western part of the country it is still popular to burn bonfires on Maundy Thursday and let off firecrackers.



** zdjęcie przedstawia żonkile oraz życzenia w języku szwedzkim*

Easter in France

In France, Easter is celebrated differently than in Poland. The French are not in the habit of blessing of sweets and Easter breakfast. Wet Monday is also unknown in this country. In France, Easter begins on Sunday lunchtime, when everyone is looking for chocolate sweets at home and in the garden. It is called une chasse aux oeufs, translated as egg hunt. Legend has it that all sweets were sacrificed in Rome. Special dishes are leg with beans or egg dishes such as hard-boiled eggs, omelette. For dessert, a cupcake that the whole family enjoys. In other parts of France, lemon-flavored or lamb-shaped cake is popular. The cakes are decorated with decorations in the shape of hens and eggs. Easter Monday is free from work. For this country, Easter symbolizes a new life, so it is a very important holiday.



** zdjęcia przedstawiają
dania wielkanocne*

Easter traditions in Poland

Easter traditions in Poland date back to the beginning of the 14th century. It is the most important holiday in the Christian religion, commemorating the resurrection of Christ.

Preparation for Christ's resurrection begins earlier, because it is

Ash Wednesday, but Palm Sunday is a clearer indication of the impending renewal. This holiday has been celebrated in Poland since the Middle Ages and was established to commemorate Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In Poland, it was called "willow" because willow twigs replaced palm trees. The period of spiritual preparation for the holiday begins, which is silence, recollection and experiencing the passion of Christ. On this day, the faithful bring the palm tree to the church, which is a symbol of reborn life.

The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Holy Mass on Holy Thursday, Holy Friday and Holy Saturday, when you go to church with a Easter basket. A beautifully decorated święconka must be decorated with an embroidered napkin and contain treats that will later go to the Easter table. Tradition has it that after returning from church with blessed food, one had to go around the house three times to ensure the harvest and prosperity.

Blessed Easter eggs were also buried in the doorsteps of houses to prevent access by unclean forces. The Easter Triduum ends on Easter Sunday. It is the culmination of Holy Week in the Church, which begins on Palm Sunday. The next day, on Easter Monday, also known as Lany Monday, is the second day of Easter. In the Polish tradition, on this day, water is poured on other people as a joke, once her beautiful idea was to wash away from sin and reborn to a new life.



** zdjęcie przedstawia tradycję lanego poniedziałku*

What should be in the Easter basket:

- bread (symbol of Christ body)
- sugar lamb (symbol of the risen Christ),
- meat and sausages (as a sign of the end of the fast).
- horseradish, - because "the bitterness of the Lord's passion and death has been overcome by the sweetness of the resurrection",
- butter - a sign of prosperity
- eggs, easter eggs - a symbol of birth. This is one of the most deeply rooted Easter traditions. Eggs need to be painted before Christmas.
- Święconka was eaten the next day after the resurrection.





** zdjęcie przedstawia koszyczki ze święconką*



Easter traditions in Ireland

- Ireland boasts one of the most interesting Easter customs in Europe. On Holy Saturday, there is a procession in the cities where people demonstrate their fatigue with long fasting and the desire to start celebrating. The march is led by a local butcher. The most interesting, however, is the fact that he carries a herring suspended on a stick, and the inhabitants beat it with sticks, clubs and whatever.



** zdjęcie przedstawia pisanki*

This battered herring, symbolizing the fast, is thrown into the river. Then the butcher places a leg decorated with sheep's flowers on the same stick, which is to herald the feast.

The Irish spend Easter in the company of their family, behind a lavishly set table. Usually it includes puddings, cakes and sweets. The main dishes are roasted turkey and ham.

On Easter Saturday, you had to go to church for holy water, drink three small sips for health and sprinkle it on your family. Sometimes livestock was sprinkled with holy water.

On Saturday evening, vigils were organized in decorated churches, and at 23 the lights were turned off and only the light of the Paschal scattered the darkness.

The whole Easter Sunday was marked by eggs. On average, people ate six for breakfast; fried or boiled. The rest were cooked with natural dyes and left to decorate the May bush.

A child born on Good Friday was to receive the gift of healing, and if it was a boy, he should enter the priesthood.



** zdjęcie przedstawia koszyczki ze święconką*

Easter in Italy is a huge holiday, second only to Christmas in its importance for Italians.

Easter With the Pope in Rome at Saint Peter's

On Good Friday, the pope celebrates the *Via Crucis*, or Stations of the Cross, in Rome near the Colosseum. A huge cross with burning torches lights the sky as the stations of the cross are described in several languages, and the pope gives a blessing at the end.



** zdjęcie przedstawia plac św. Piotra w Rzymie*

Good Friday and Easter Week Processions in Italy

Solemn religious processions are held in Italian cities and towns on the Friday or Saturday before Easter and sometimes on the Sunday holiday. Participants are often dressed in traditional ancient costumes, and olive branches are frequently used along with palm fronds in the processions and to decorate churches.

Easter Food in Italy

- Since Easter is the end of the Lenten season—which requires sacrifice and reserve—food plays a big part in the celebrations. Traditional holiday foods across Italy may include lamb or goat, artichokes, and special Easter breads that vary from region to region. *Pannetone* sweet bread and *Colomba* (dove-shaped) bread are often given as gifts, as are hollow chocolate eggs that usually come with a surprise inside.



** zdjęcia przedstawiają dania wielkanocne*

Easter in the UK

Easter is a wonderful time to invite relatives and friends to dinner.

A common Easter meal in UK includes ham, mashed potatoes with gravy, string beans, green salad, rolls, a pickle tray, and a sweet desert like chocolate cake or apple pie.

After the meal, the adults usually drink coffee and talk when the children play.

In most households the women clear the table and put the food away. It is common for the host or hostess to offer food for the guests to take home.

Some families have an Easter egg hunt for the children. They hide Easter eggs in the backyard and the children search for them.



** zdjęcie przedstawia zabawę, w której dzieci zbierają pisanki*

Other Easter Games:

ROLLING EGGS - it's nothing more than rolling eggs from the top, the winner is the one whose egg breaks last.

PACE - EGGING - children in England go from house to house on Easter and ask for chocolate eggs. And in return for receiving them, they sing a song in which they promise not to show up until the next Easter.



** zdjęcia przedstawiają zabawę kulania pisanek oraz przebrane dzieci.*



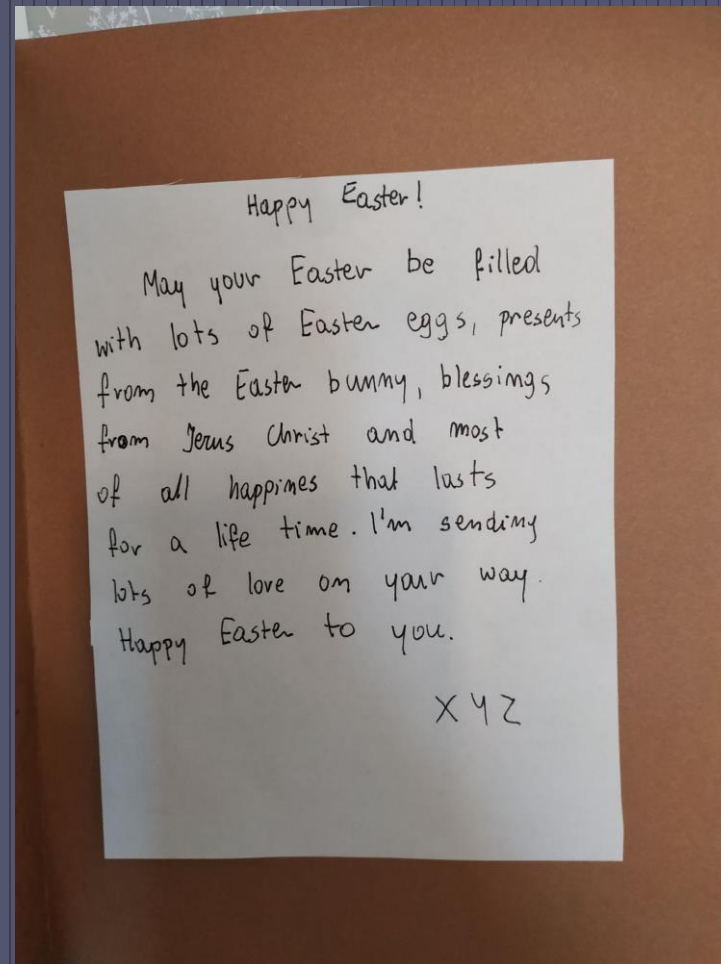
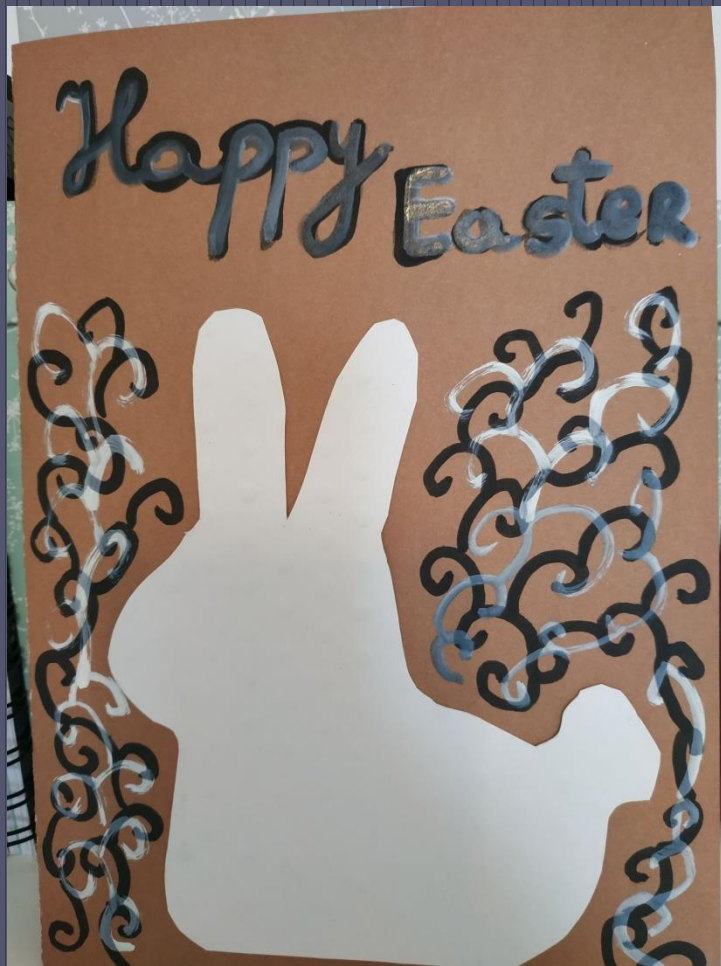
UK cuisine also has its own rules during these four days. In addition to the popular chocolate eggs, the stores are dominated by buns with a characteristic cross, baked especially for this occasion. Simnel cake - a cake covered with a layer of marzipan. They can be recognized by the 11 marzipan balls placed on top. Why such a number? Because there were eleven apostles without Judas. The British believe that for their behavior, this particular disciple of Jesus does not deserve any sweetness.

The British abandoned colorful Easter eggs some time ago in favor of chocolate eggs.

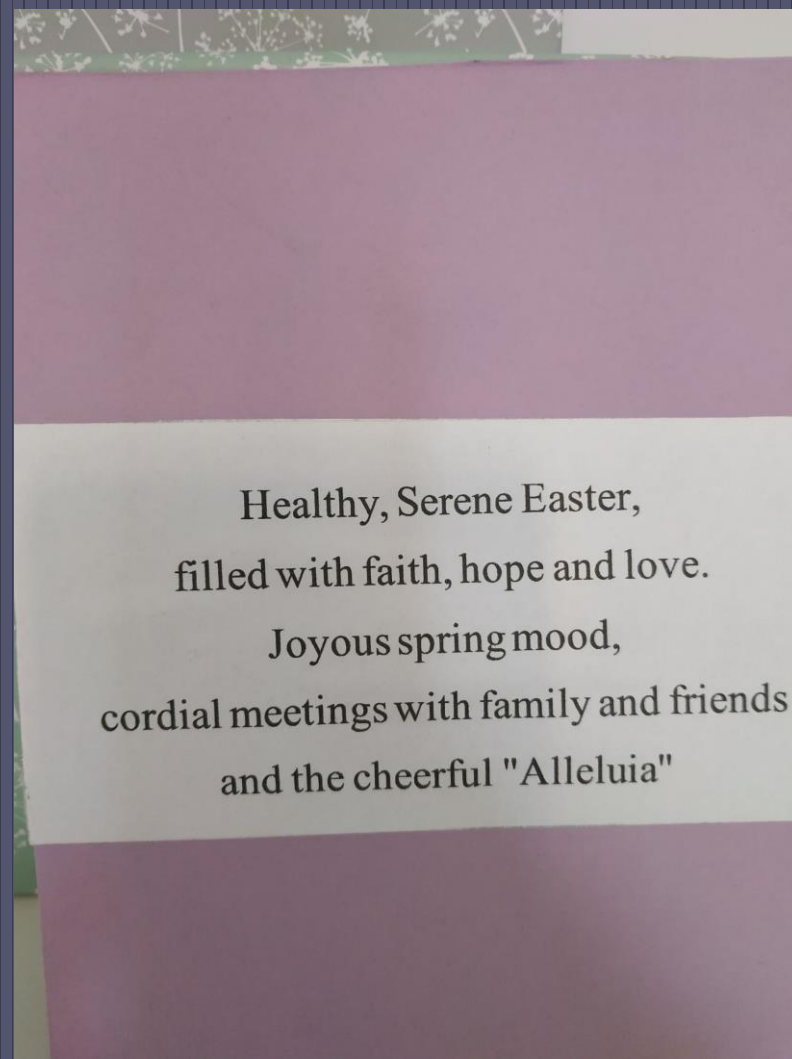
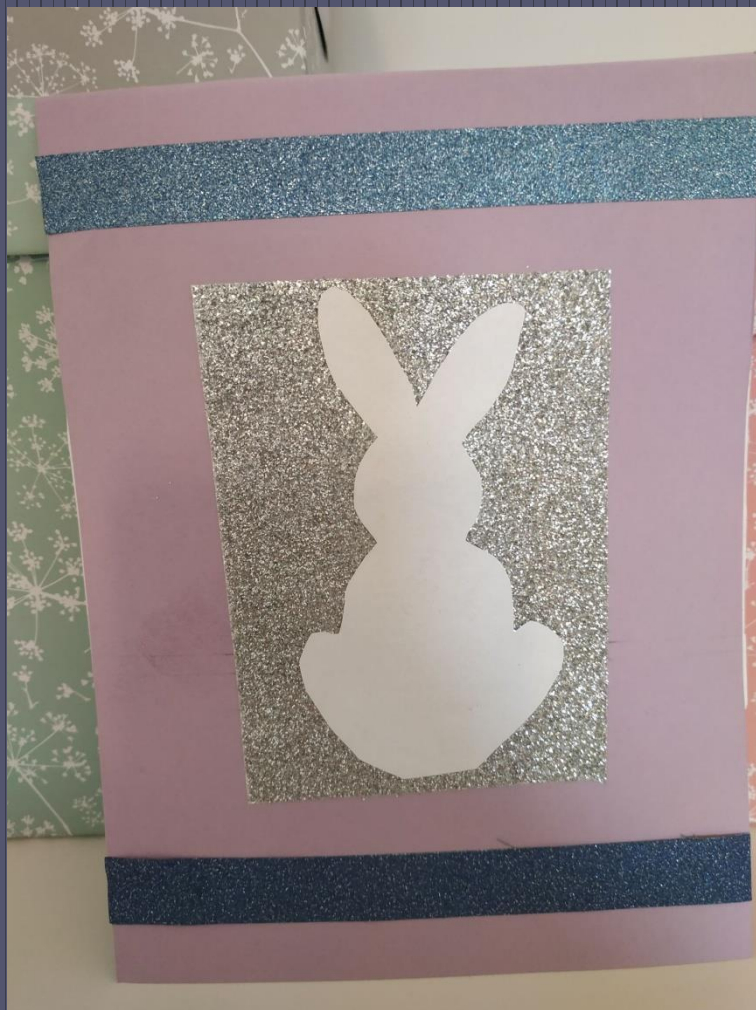


** zdjęcia przedstawiają dania wielkanocne*

Easter wishes from different countries



** zdjęcia przedstawiają kartki wielkanocne z życzeniami*



** zdjęcia przedstawiają kartki wielkanocne z życzeniami*

Wesołych
Świąt



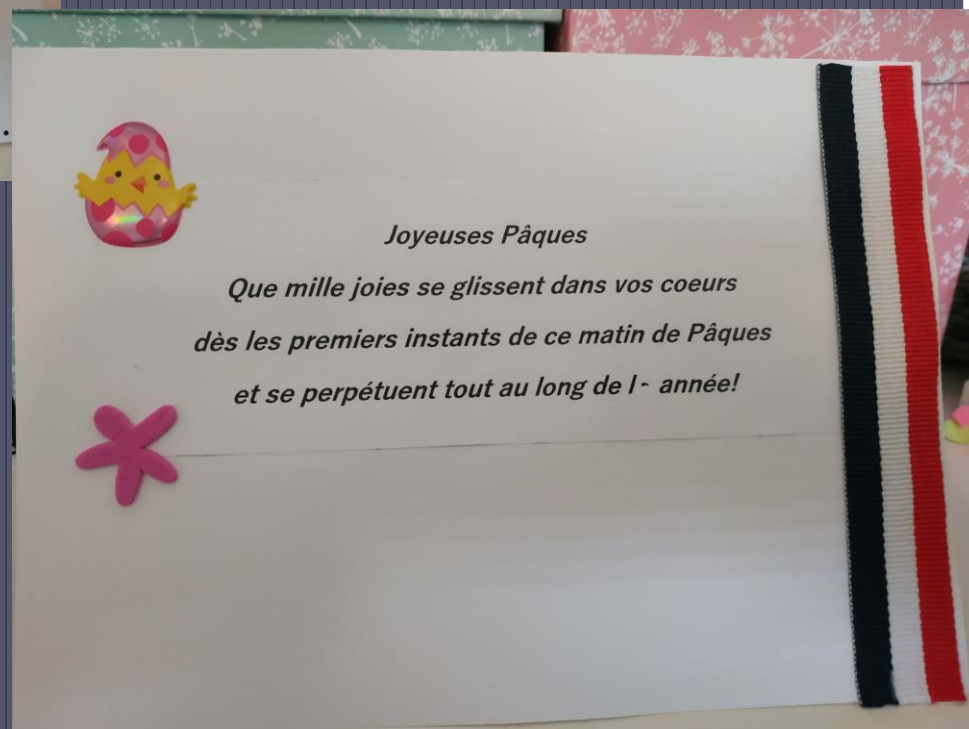
*Zdrowych, Pogodnych Świąt Wielkanocnych,
przepełnionych wiarą, nadzieją i miłością.*

*Radosnego, wiosennego nastroju,
serdecznych spotkań w gronie rodziny
oraz wesołego "Alleluja".*

** zdjęcia przedstawiają kartki wielkanocne z życzeniami*



* zdjęcia przedstawiają kartki wielkanocne z życzeniami





* zdjęcie przedstawia kartkę wielkanocną z życzeniami

** zdjęcia przedstawiają kartki wielkanocne z życzeniami*



** zdjęcia przedstawiają kartki wielkanocne z życzeniami*



Thanks for
reading, we
hope you've
enjoyed it !

