



## A SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR



We celebrate Christmas in Ireland with lots of things to do and see during this festive season, such as religious services, festivals, pantos, gift giving, and lavish meals. But most of all, this is a time of traditions.

We are a multicultural society now and the traditions carried on in some homes may be new to us.

These traditions have been passed down from generation to generation, but do the Cub Scouts know why they are carrying out these customs?

Ask them to find out the reason for some of these practices during their Christmas holidays.



Did your School have a nativity play?

What role did you play?



What is Chanukah and how many candles are there on a menorah?

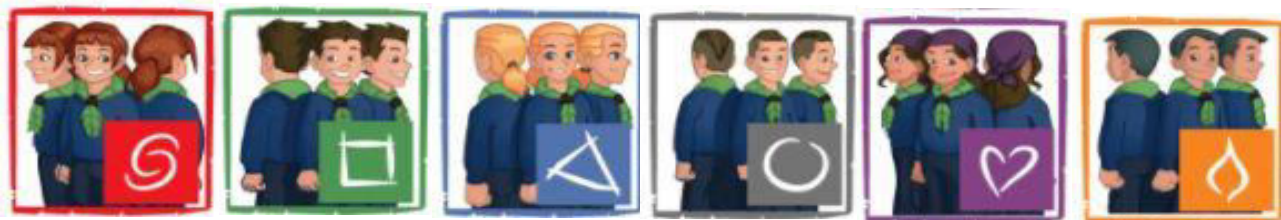
Explain what Wigilia and Oplatek are?



Why is there a big tree in the sitting room?

Plum pudding takes ages to cook and then we set fire to it? What's all that about?

*Which Travel Cards could we use?*



There is so much going on at this time of year, that all of the Travel Cards can be used both individually or in various combinations.

**Review**



At the first meeting after the Christmas holidays, gather the Cub Scouts in their Sixes and with the help of a Scouter, perform a holiday review. The Cub Scouts will want to chat and tell all of their Christmas stories and news to their friends.

They can mark off parts of their travel cards if they think it is relevant to their Christmas activities and they can validate it.



Does anyone know who these strange beings are and where they're from? Keep an eye out for them on St. Stephen's day.