Thanksgiving

What's it all about?

- Freedom from Want is the name of the painting by American artist Norman Rockwell.
- All of the people in the picture are friends and family of Rockwell.
- The painting was created in November 1942.
- It was inspired by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's speech in 1941 called The four freedoms.

What is Thanksgiving?

- Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada.
- Thanksgiving comes from the verb to give thanks

When is it celebrated?

- In the USA Thanksgiving is on the fourth Thursday of November.
- In Canada Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October.

The first National Thanksgiving holiday

- President Abraham Lincoln issued the Thanksgiving proclamation in 1863 during the American Civil War. (1861-1865)
- Sarah Josepha Hale was an American writer and activist who campaigned for the creation of the American Thanksgiving holiday.

Why is it celebrated?

- Traditionally "The First Thanksgiving," in 1621 was between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians at Plymouth.
- The Pilgrims were the English settlers who came to North America on the ship The Mayflower and established the Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts.

How is it celebrated?

- A big meal with family and friends
- Pumpkin pie
- A turkey dinner

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Thanksgiving

- Parades
  - There are parades with marching bands, floats and giant inflatables
  - The most famous parade is Macy's parade in New York.
  - The first parade was in 1924.
- American Football
  - The very first Thanksgiving Day game was played in Philadelphia in 1869.
  - The contest came six years after former President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a fixed national holiday
  - After that time, Thanksgiving Day football became a college athletics and high school sports tradition.

The President's pardon

- It only became an annual tradition in 1989 by President George H.W. Bush.
- It was seen as a popularity stunt to gain support from animal rights activists.
- The turkey is pardoned and set free.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

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