1 Do the quiz. Guess! Then read and check your answers.
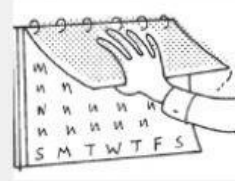
What do you know about St Patrick's Day and Irish traditions?

1 St Patrick is the patron saint of …
- **a** the USA.
- **b** Ireland.
- **c** Scotland.

2 St Patrick's Day is on the …
- **a** 15th August.
- **b** 25th December.
- **c** 17th March.

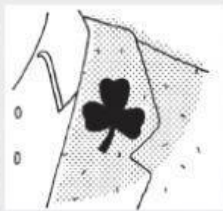**3** The biggest St Patrick's Day parade is in …
- **a** Dublin.
- **b** New York.
- **c** London.

4 On St Patrick's Day people wear … clothes.
- **a** green
- **b** red
- **c** blue

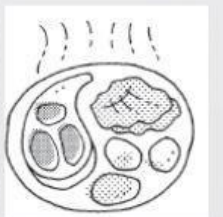**5** People wear shamrocks on St Patrick's Day because …
- **a** it's a magic plant.
- **b** it's the national plant of Ireland.
- **c** it smells good.

6 Leprechauns are …
- **a** Irish dancers.
- **b** small, magical creatures.
- **c** Irish musicians.

7 It's traditional to eat meat, potatoes and …
- **a** cabbage.
- **b** apples.
- **c** tomatoes.

8 Traditional Irish music has …
- **a** trumpets, guitars and drums.
- **b** guitars and tambourines.
- **c** violins, flutes, bagpipes and drums.

St Patrick's Day

St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. People in Ireland and all around the world celebrate his day on 17th March. Many Irish people emigrated to the USA and other countries in the 19th century. Their descendants remember their Irish origins on St Patrick's Day with parades and with Irish customs and traditions. The biggest parade is in New York, with 100 music bands and 150,000 people! The bands play traditional Irish instruments – the violin, the bagpipes, flutes and drums.

On St Patrick's Day it is traditional to wear green clothes. People wear a 'shamrock' – the Irish national plant, and they eat Irish food like meat, cabbage and potatoes. Some people dress up as leprechauns. Leprechauns are small, magical creatures from Ireland.

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