



Buon Capo d'Anno

Akemashite
Omedetou
Gozaimasu

Feliz ano novo

Feliz Año Nuevo

Bonne année

S Novym Godom

Aide shoma mobarak

New Year Traditions

Another year has ended and a new one is just beginning. The year ahead is filled with promise, mystery and hope. At this time of the year it is part of our New Year's traditions to make New Year's resolutions. That tradition dates back thousands of years. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight, quit smoking, learn a new skill, or exercise more. Of course most New Year's Resolutions fail after a few weeks.

Another American New Year's tradition is watching the [Tournament of Roses Parade](#). The first Tournament of Roses was put on in 1890 by members of Pasadena's Valley Hunt Club. These men used to

live in the East and Midwest and they were eager to showcase their new home's mild winter weather.

Now the Tournament of Roses parade is watched by nearly a million people along the parade route in Pasadena and millions of people around the world.

This year's parade was the 121st and the theme was "A Cut Above the Rest". The Torrance city float, *Garden of*



Dreams, won the Lathrop K. Leishman Trophy.

Another tradition that some families have is the preparation and eating of special dishes. Some families will eat tamales (Mexican corn dough filled with meat or cheese and steamed) and menudo (a spicy Mexican soup filled with corn and meat) for the New Year.

Other families eat black-eyed peas and ham hocks. Japanese families eat specially prepared dishes known as *sechi-ryori*

What are some of your New Year's traditions?

Martin Luther King Day

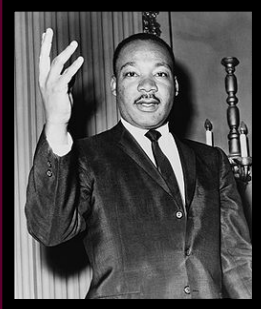
Martin Luther King, Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was an African American [clergyman](#), activist and prominent leader in the American civil rights movement. His main legacy was to secure progress on [civil rights](#) in the [United States](#) and he is frequently referenced as a [human rights](#) icon today. A [Baptist](#) minister,^[1] King

became a civil rights activist early in his career. He led the 1955 [Montgomery Bus Boycott](#) and helped found the [Southern Christian Leadership Conference](#) in 1957, serving as its first president. King's efforts led to the 1963 [March on Washington](#), where King delivered his "[I Have a Dream](#)" speech. There, he raised public consciousness of

the civil rights movement and established himself as one of the greatest [orators](#) in U.S. history.

In 1964, King became the youngest person to receive the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) for his work to end [racial segregation](#) and [racial discrimination](#) through [civil disobedience](#) and other [non-violent](#) means.

Martin Luther King (continued)



Martin Luther King

By the time of his death in 1968, he had refocused his efforts on ending poverty and opposing the Vietnam War, both from a religious perspective.

King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. He was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977 and Congressional Gold Medal in 2004; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was established as a U.S. na-

tional holiday in 1986.

This short biography was taken from Wikipedia.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther_King,_Jr

Kindom Day Parade

The Kingdom Day Parade in Los Angeles happens each January, generally on the federally recognized Martin Luther King Day

holiday Monday. In 2010, the parade will be held on Monday, January 18. It begins at 10:15 am (televised at 11 am) at Martin Luther King Blvd and Western Ave, traveling west on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd to Crenshaw Blvd, south on Crenshaw Blvd to Vernon Ave with a festival at Leimert Park.

Continued on Page 3 >

Welcome to GEOS & Welcome Back!

We'd like to welcome the following students to GEOS English Academy, Los Angeles.

- R Mihyeon Bang
- R Yuko Enomoto
- R Juban Obaid J Alqahtani
- R Daseul Kim
- R Pimpawan Karnsomjit
- R Abdullah Alqatanki
- R Daisuke Ikeda
- R Mi Young Ju
- R Sungyong Um
- R Chieh Ling Hsu
- R Abdularahman Mohammed A Bin Saeed
- R Samir El Sakka
- R Caterina Mancuso
- R Davide Ciofalo

We'd also like to say welcome back to students who have returned to GEOS or who have decided to continue their studies with us.

- R Yoshiteru Hishida
- R Miyoung Son
- R Hyuckchoel Kwon
- R Yongook Lee

We are looking forward to helping you continue your studies.

We hope that they will enjoy their time studying with us.



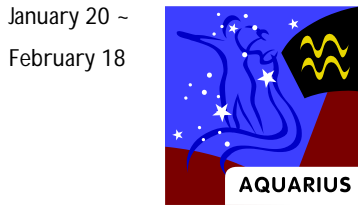
January Birthdays

The following students are celebrating a birthday this month— We'd like to wish them a Happy Birthday!

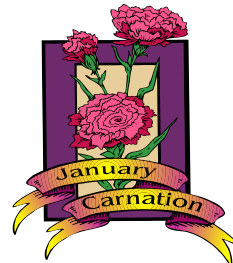
- e Kyung Soon Kim
- e Salem Nwides Alshamamari
- e Chia Ling "Caroline" Chen
- e Jubran Alqahatani
- e Joohyung Lee
- e Yandra Moreira
- e Ryuhi Fukuyama



December 24
~ January 19



January 20 ~
February 18



January's
Flower



January's
Birthstone

*"January's
birthstone—
Garnet
represents
Consistency."*

Congratulations!

Several students were promoted this month and we'd like to say congratulations and good luck in your new level!

- Merve Serioğlu
- Yoshiteru Hishida
- Caroline Chen
- Ryuhi Fukuyama
- Rieko Hosono
- Youjin Park

Want to speak better English?!

If you want to speak better English there are some easy steps you can take—

Come to class everyday ready to participate—bring questions to ask your teachers AND ask them.

Take every chance you have to speak English with your classmates—this includes break times and lunch times.

You should join as many of the afterschool activities that you can and enjoy the opportunities to use your English. Check out the January Activity Calendar for all the events.

The best way to improve your English is by using your English practice make perfect.

MLK Events

> Continued from page 2

Long Beach—**Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace & Unity Parade**

The City of Long Beach will hold their Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace & Unity Parade Celebration on Saturday, January 16, beginning at 10:30 am along

Martin Luther King Jr. Ave from 7th Street north to King Park, where a festival will be held from 12:30 to 5 pm.



January is....

- national skating month
- national mentoring month
- national hot tea month
- national get organized month



GEOS Host Families

Feature Host Family of the Month:

The Stewarts

Mike and Wendy are very active people. They enjoy the experience of meeting people from new cultures, having conversations about their home country, and forming long-lasting friendships. Mike is a handy man and Wendy is a realtor. In their free time they enjoy watching sports, camping, traveling, watching movies, and listening to music.

Their favorite meals include Indian, Italian, French and Japanese.

They live in a beautiful beach home only 2.6 miles away from GEOS!



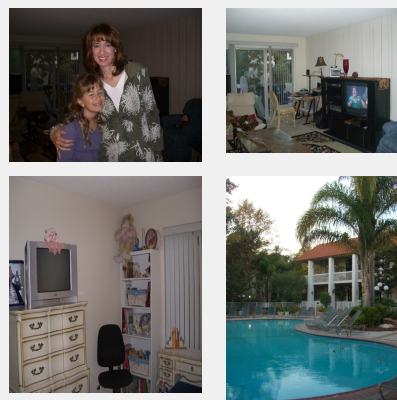
Welcome New Host Families!



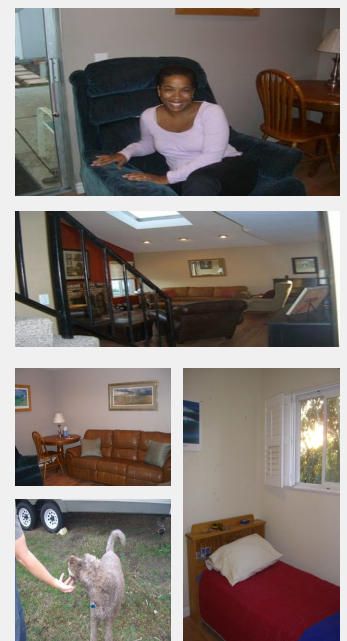
The Hong Family



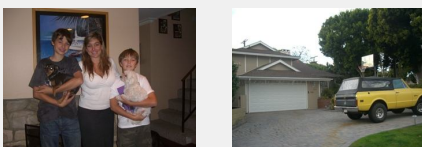
The Outman Family



The Talbott Family



The Martin Family



The Provence Family

