

It's Christmas!!! Yeah! I wish you a merry Christmas, I wish you a merry Christmas, I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year! I hope that you have a really good Christmas and a great new year. I hope that Santa brings you nice presents, if you do that sort of things, and that you have a great family get together on New Year's Day, if you do that sort of thing. Are you going to make any new year's resolutions<sup>1</sup>? I usually make about 10. I give up on most within a week. This year, unusually, I managed to keep one going all year!! Wow!

### Something You Don't Know (The Academy Awards<sup>2</sup>)

1. The first Academy Award was on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1929.
2. The most awards won by a movie is 11. 3 movies share this honor: Ben-Hur, Titanic and The Lord of the Rings – Return of the King.
3. Walt Disney has won the most awards. He has won 26 awards.
4. Tatum O'Neal was the youngest winner of an award. He was 10 years old.
5. Jessica Tandy was the oldest winner of an award. She was 80 years old.
6. The award statue (Oscar) is 34cm tall and weighs 3.85kg. It is 92.5% tin and 7.5% copper. It is gold plated<sup>3</sup>. 3,072 Oscars have been awarded so far. Mine is coming!!
7. There are 6,000 people who can vote in the academy awards.



### Last Week's Answers

**Announcements**  
 Christmas prep  
 Mon-Wed PM.  
 Classes 1+2 on  
 Thurs. Hallelujah.  
 Cleaning. Christmas  
 assembly on Fri.  
 13:00 at school  
 13:30 start.

### An Oscar Sells For \$500,000

Last week, 2 Oscars went up for auction. These were for the 1947 movie, "Gentleman's Agreement" and the 1935 movie "Mutiny on the Bounty". It is extremely rare<sup>4</sup> for an Oscar to be auctioned because the Academy that governs<sup>5</sup> the Oscars changed its rules to stop Oscars being sold. The Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences doesn't think that Oscars should be sold. They think they have to be won.



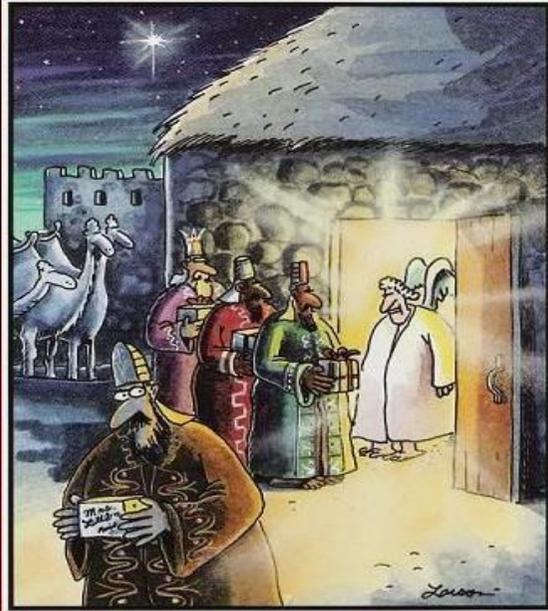
Now, winners of an Oscar, have to agree that when they die, their heirs<sup>6</sup> will sell the Oscar back to the Academy for \$1. This means that all Oscars are returned to their source. This only applies to Oscars won after 1951, so the two Oscars sold week were legally<sup>7</sup> sold. I want an Oscar, but I don't think I would pay that much money for one. The auction house expected it to sell for \$200,000. Nobody knows why it was so popular.

In 1999, Michael Jackson paid \$1.5 million for an Oscar from "Gone With The Wind". When his estate<sup>8</sup> was organized after his death, no one could find that Oscar, and it is still missing to this day. Many people say that movies today are not as good as they used to be, and that Oscars won now are not worth as much as they were before. They say that movies rely too much on CGI and not enough on acting and story-telling. What do you think? Do you agree?



**1.New Year's Resolution** 新年の抱負 **2.Academy Awards** アカデミー賞 **3.Gold plated** 金ぬっきの **4.Extremely rare** 非常に珍しい **5.Govern** ~を管理する **6.Heir** 相続人 **7.Legally** 相続人 **8.Estate** 遺産

# ★ English News Page 2 ★



Unbeknownst to most theologians, there was a fourth wise man who was turned away for bringing a fruit cake.

## World Records

When we see a Santa in a department store, I tell my daughter that he is just helping Santa because the real Santa is too busy. "Wow," she said, "he must have a lot of helpers." And, it seems she was right. Last year, in India, 18,112 of them gathered<sup>1</sup>. They now have the world record for the Largest Gathering of Santa Claus in one Place. I wonder if the real Santa was there. Maybe he turned up. He was probably in the middle, thinking, "Yes. Ha ha. I'm here. And none of you know!! Ha ha ha ho ho ho!" I bet that's true.



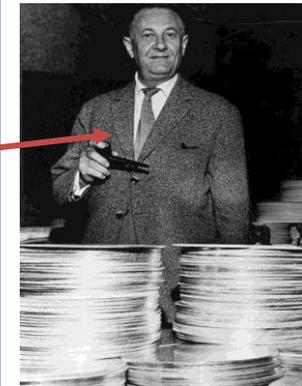
# Believe you can and you're halfway there.



Theodore Roosevelt

# ★ Where did it come from? ★

Do you where the Teflon<sup>2</sup> in non-stick frying pans came from? It was invented by accident. In 1938, Roy J. Plunkett was making refrigerator refrigerant<sup>3</sup>. The tetrafluoroethylene gas in his bottle ran out, but the weight showed there was still something inside. He cut the bottle open and to see why ad found it was covered in a slippery material. The iron in the gas bottle was a catalyst<sup>4</sup> to the gas and under high pressure<sup>5</sup> it changed state. His company patented the product, calling it Teflon. It was used on pipes, valves and even fishing gear. In 1954, the wife of a French engineer, Marc Gregoire, asked him to try some on her cooking pans. He did and found food didn't stick to the pans. He created the company Tefal (**Teflon+aluminium**).



# ★ An Interesting Sport ★

## Camel Jumping

This sport isn't jumping camels over things, it is people jumping over camels. Have you ever ridden a camel? Or seen on in a zoo? They are huge? Enormous things. Well, in Yemen, as part of a festival, there is a camel jumping contest. The rules are pretty simple. There is a ramp made of mud. People take turns running up it and jumping a camel. Then they jump two camels. Then three ... and so on. The person that jumps the most camels wins.



- 1.Gather 集合
- 2.Teflon フッ素樹脂の一種で、防水コーティング加工に用いられる
- 3.Refrigerant 冷却剤
- 4.Catalyst 促進の働きをするもの
- 5.High pressure 高気圧