Webquest: St George’s Day

Level: Intermediate
Target age: Teenagers / Young adults
Time needed: 30–45 minutes
Key skills: Reading, speaking
Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student

On 23 April, England celebrates the day of its patron saint, St George. But St George isn’t just the patron saint of England. In this webquest, your students will discover the answers to these questions: Who was St George? What is he the patron saint of? Where is his day celebrated? Did he really kill a dragon?

Activity 1: Who was St George?
Hand out one worksheet per student. Students choose one of the topics listed and prepare a report. The questions are there to help them prepare their report. You will find some suggested answers below. The report can be oral or written and done individually or in groups. It also could be done in PowerPoint. Encourage students to illustrate their reports.

Key:

1. A biography of St George
   a. no
   b. in Cappadocia in Turkey
   c. He was a Roman soldier.
   d. in the 3rd century AD
   e. He was beheaded.
   f. in 1222

2. George and England
   a. St Adamnan, Abbot of Iona, in the 7th century
   b. returning Crusaders
   c. a ‘signe’ of St George on their chest and back
   d. ‘It’s a red cross on a white background.
   e. an award given to civilians for acts of bravery; Saint George killing the dragon

3. The legend of St George and the dragon
   a. in Libya
   b. It was terrorizing the people and demanding the sacrifice of young girls.
   c. students’ own answers

Activity 2: A web cross
Students complete the crossword to learn about how St George’s Day is celebrated around the world. They should use the websites listed on their worksheets to find the answers to the questions. Students can work individually or in groups. They can fill in the answers as they surf through the web links.

Key:

Across
3  books
4  farmers
6  horse
10  Shakespeare
12  Labrador

Down
1  Barcelona
2  love
3  born
4  festival
5  scouts
7  rose
8  traditions
9  May
11  Snap
13  reenactment

Extra activities
Students can do these activities to find out more information about St George or just to have some fun.