

## NYELVI HÉT

SUPERSTITIONS ROMAN PAGAN GREEDY EASTER CHRISTMAS PUPILS PROSPEROUS BAKERY LENT AMAZED ASPECT PARADE PANCAKES
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Insert the correct word from the box into the gaps.

### CARNIVAL TIME!

The area where I live at the moment in the south-west of France is predominantly Catholic so the celebration of Mardi Gras (known in the United Kingdom as *Shrove Tuesday*) and the beginning of .....(1)....., which leads up to .....(2)....., is very important here. I had always associated Mardi Gras with .....(3)..... and so I was surprised to hear, after making myself some crêpes, that I was in fact a week late! Apparently, the closest thing to Pancake Day in this area is '*la Fête de la Chandeleur*', celebrated on the 2nd of February, 40 days after .....(4)..... Originally a religious celebration dating back to .....(5)..... times, this day has many .....(6)..... and proverbs surrounding it. For example, if you flip a pancake on this day with one hand while holding a gold coin in the other hand, you will be .....(7)..... for the rest of the year. Also, a friend told me that if it rains on the 2nd of January, it will rain for forty days and nights without stopping. I come from Scotland so I told her that that sounded like summer! So, if you can't eat pancakes on Mardi Gras what qualifies it to be named *Fat Tuesday*?! I discovered the answer at my local .....(8)..... - beignets. Beignets are pastries made from deep fried choux pastry coated in powdered sugar and filled with apricot or other fruit jams ... or, if you're feeling particularly indulgent, Nutella! They are delicious!

Another amazing .....(9)..... of life here at this time of year is that it is Carnival time! Carnival has been celebrated in this area since 1480 despite periods of it being banned by the church for being a .....(10)..... ritual. It has become a very important celebration at this time of year which people of all ages get involved in. In schools, all of the teachers and .....(11)..... get dressed up for the afternoon and .....(12)..... through the village centre throwing paper confetti. Also a handmade mascot is taken on the procession too and is then burned to represent the purging of .....(13)..... human nature. The children and adults absolutely love the opportunity to go all out with their costumes and take part in this amazing local tradition. As a visitor to this country I was .....(14)..... by this beautiful tradition and by seeing all the joy and fun it brings to people who take part.