English 4ème

Thanksgiving Today

What's happening in the USA ?

1 Warm-up – Look and match

A. Match the pictures with the correct description.







☐ **1.** Families share a special meal. ☐ **2.** People help others and give free food. ☐ **3.** People watch a famous parade with giant balloons.

B. Discuss.

- What do you know about Thanksgiving ?
- What food can you see in picture A ?
- Have you ever watched a parade ?

2 Reading – Thanksgiving is today !

A special day with a surprise !

Today, Thursday, November 26, millions of Americans are celebrating Thanksgiving. It is a very popular holiday. Families and friends get together and share a big meal.

People usually eat roast turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables and pumpkin pie. Before dinner, some families say what they are thankful for. They are happy to spend time together.

Every year, New York organises the famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. There are giant balloons, colourful floats, music and dancers. Millions of people watch it on television.

But this year, something unusual is happening !

Because of a powerful storm, with heavy rain and strong winds, the parade cannot take place today. The organisers have decided to move it to Saturday, November 28, at 8:30 a.m. It is the first time in the parade's history that bad weather has caused this postponement.

Thanksgiving is also a time to **help others**. Many volunteers prepare free meals for people who need help.

3 Reading comprehension

Answer the questions.

1. When do Americans celebrate Thanksgiving ?
2. What do families usually eat ?
3. What do some families do before dinner ?
4. What can people see during the Macy's parade ?
5. Why can't the parade take place today ?
6. When will the parade take place ?
7. How do volunteers help people ?

4 Vocabulary – Match

Match the English words with their French translations.

1	a holiday	a	un bénévole
2	a meal	b	un défilé
3	a parade	c	un repas
4	a balloon	d	un jour férié / une fête
5	a volunteer	e	un ballon
6	a storm	f	une tempête
7	to be thankful	g	être reconnaissant
8	to help	h	aider

5 Grammar – Present simple or past simple ?

A. Choose the correct form.

1. Americans **celebrate / celebrated** Thanksgiving every year.
2. Families usually **eat / ate** turkey.
3. Last year, my family **watch / watched** the parade.
4. Volunteers **help / helped** people every Thanksgiving.
5. Yesterday, the organisers **decide / decided** to move the parade.

B. Complete with the correct form of the verbs.

1. Thanksgiving ..... (take place) every year in November.
2. Families usually ..... (share) a special meal.
3. Last year, we ..... (watch) the parade on television.
4. The organisers ..... (change) the parade date this year.

Speaking – Quick discussion

- Would you like to celebrate Thanksgiving in the USA ? Why or why not ?
  Use: I would like to... / I think... / because... / I prefer...