

# Christmas Goals and New Year's Resolutions

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"Helping parents homeschool through high school"

## How to Survive December

### Christmas School for Young Children

- Cover core classes
- Cover weak areas
- It's OK to eliminate some busy work and supplements to preserve sanity
- Replace school with Christmas activities

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### Christmas School for Teens

- Cover core classes and encourage independent study
- Use educational enrichment activities: seasonal work, delight directed learning

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### Christmas School for Teens: 5 Ways to Collect Christmas Credits

1. Christmas school
2. Career and occupational education
3. Delight directed learning
4. Bible credits
5. English credits: [Classic Christmas Literature for High School Students](#)

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### Christmas School for High School Senior

- Radical focus on college applications
- Encourage non-academic activities
- Allow specialization and independent study
- Seek scholarships
- Limit technology

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### How to Cope at Christmastime

How to survive and thrive: Ask "Is it fun? Is it important? Will it increase or decrease my workload?"

1. Make ahead family meals: [Learn How](#)
2. Freeze ahead for the party and holiday cooking: [Holiday Freezer Cooking from 30 Day Gourmet](#)
3. Create a master gift list: who, how many, how much: [Gift Ideas](#), [Games across the Curriculum](#)
4. Read aloud holiday classics: [Classic Christmas Literature for High School Students](#)

5. Choose the last day of school for the year
6. Set time limits on school
7. Focus on "fun school"
8. Do less "schoolish" school
9. Swap school assignment
10. Set your budget
11. Prioritize family activities
12. Slowly savor moments of peace
13. Make ahead baked treats
14. Create family traditions
15. Practice self-care
16. Pay for help
17. Focus on family
18. Date your spouse
19. Decorate simply
20. Take it easy
21. Watch body mechanics
22. Love your neighbor
23. Serve others
24. Set aside quiet time
25. Just say no

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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## How to Thrive in January

### Resolutions You Can Finish Today

1. Get Tubby: put a box in the schoolroom
2. Mark your calendar: ACT.org, Collegeboard.com
3. Have a parent-teacher conference to review your high school plan
  - English 4 years
  - Math 3-4 years
  - Science 3 years
  - Social Studies 3-4 years
  - Foreign Language 2-3 years
  - PE 2 years
  - Fine Arts 1 year
  - Electives To make 24 credits
4. Use it or Lose it
5. Begin transcript on this date \_\_\_\_\_
6. Identify specialization
7. Estimate your student's SAT score
8. Start the Reading List

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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### **New Year's Resolutions for Homeschool Parents**

Dream big but set reasonable achievable goals. Takes 6 weeks to develop a habit

1. Lose weight; eliminate homeschool clutter. Review [HomeScholar College Planning Guide](#)
2. Get in shape: get the transcript done
3. Break a bad habit: cover the core consistently and put weak areas first
4. Get organized; keep and organize homeschool records
5. Save money: learn to earn scholarships for college
6. Focus on your kids: include delight directed learning
7. Fine a new home: adapt your school choices
8. Fine love: search for a college that loves your child
9. Travel more: attend college fairs and visit colleges in person
10. Find a new job: prepare yourself and your children

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### **New Year and a New Attitude**

1. Be committed: add to the calendar
  - PSAT in October of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade
  - SAT or ACT in spring of 11<sup>th</sup> grade
  - FAFSA on October 1<sup>st</sup> of 12<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Apply to college in fall of 12<sup>th</sup> grade
2. Avoid panic and learn more
  - Reference: [Setting the Records Straight: How to Craft Homeschool Transcripts and Course Descriptions](#)
  - Reference book: [The HomeScholar Guide to College Admission and Scholarships](#)
3. Stay strong with [Finding the Faith to Homeschool High School: Weekly Reflections for Weary Parents](#)

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