

## Why did I receive a Christmas Card on Halloween?

To answer the question of why I received an Xmas card on Halloween, you have to know the decimal (base 10) and octal (base 8) number systems. The decimal system uses 10 signs: 0, 1, ..., 9. The octal number system uses only 8 signs: 0, 1, ..., 7. The table below show how the integers in 0..25 are represented in these two systems.

You can see that Dec 25 equals Oct 31. Ha!

Decimal	Octal	Decimal	Octal	Decimal	Octal
00	00	10	12	20	24
01	01	11	13	21	25
02	02	12	14	22	26
03	03	13	15	23	27
04	04	14	16	24	30
05	05	15	17	25	31
06	06	16	20		
07	07	17	21		
08	10	18	22		
09	11	19	23		