

What are the deeper meanings of festivals?

LKS2

What you have already learnt:

- To identify the core concepts and beliefs studied and give a simple description of what you mean
- Give examples of how people use stories, texts and teachings to guide your beliefs and actions, individually and as communities
- Think, talk and ask questions about whether there are any lessons for them to learn from the ideas you have been studying, exploring different ideas
- Give examples of how stories show what people believe (e.g. the meaning behind a festival)
- Give examples of ways in which believers put their beliefs into action
- Give a good reason for the views you have and the connections you make
- Give clear, simple accounts of what stories and other texts mean to believers
- Talk about what you have learned

What I will learn by the end of the Key stage:

- ✓ To identify and describe the core beliefs and concepts studied
- ✓ To make clear links between texts/sources or authority and the key concepts studied
- ✓ To offer informed suggestions about what texts/sources of authority might mean to believers
- ✓ To make simple links between stories, teachings and concepts studied and how people live, individually and in communities
- ✓ To describe how people show their beliefs in how they worship and, in the way they live
- ✓ To identify some differences in how people put their beliefs into practice
- ✓ To raise important questions and suggest answers about how far the beliefs and practices studied might make a difference to how pupils think and live
- ✓ To make links between some of the beliefs and practices studied and life in the world today, expressing some ideas of their own clearly
- ✓ To give reasons for the views they have and the connections they make
- ✓ To talk about what they have learned and if they have changed their thinking

Skills I may use from other subjects:

Art

To use a range of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture.

To analyse artwork

Computing

Use a variety of software to design and create presentations.

Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly

Geography

Investigate other countries where Christianity and other religions are followed, locating them on a world map

map

English

Write stories including a range of age appropriate grammar and punctuation choices.

To explain the meaning of new vocabulary in context.

What I will learn by the end of this unit:

To identify the main beliefs at the heart of religious festivals (i.e. at least one festival in at least two religions)

To make clear links between these beliefs and the stories recalled at the festivals.

To make connections between stories, teachings, symbols and beliefs and how believers celebrate these festivals

To describe how believers celebrate festivals in different ways such as between celebrations at home and in community; and/or a variety of ways of celebrating within a religious tradition.

To raise questions and suggest answers about what is worth celebrating and remembering in religious communities and in their own lives

To make links between the beliefs and practices studied and the role of festivals in the life of Britain today

To show understanding of the values and beliefs at the heart of each festival studied, giving good reasons for my ideas

To talk about what I have learned, how and why my thinking has changed.

Key Skills:

Analyse
Apply
Connect ideas
Consider
Create
Describe
Discuss
Evaluate
Explain
Express
Identify
Investigate
Link
Outline
Question
Recognise impact
Respond thoughtfully

Opportunities for teaching diversity, equality and expanding capital culture

Choose a variety of festivals from different cultures, religions and parts of the world to help foster an appreciation of global cultures
Emphasise common values and themes that are shared across different religious festivals such as love, compassion, generosity and community
Invite guest speakers to school from different religions or cultural backgrounds
Use stories, myths and symbols associated with various festivals to teach universal themes
Incorporate art and creativity
Celebrate cultural diversity by organising a multicultural event
Use inclusive language and model inclusive behaviour
Encourage respectful enquiry where children feel comfortable asking questions about different religious practices without judgement

Vocabulary:

Blessing - a prayer or words expressing gratitude and good wishes

Celebration - the act of observing an event with joy and festivity

Ceremony - a formal event with specific rituals or actions

Community - a group of people living in the same place or sharing common interests

Cultural - relating to customs, art and social institutions of a particular group

Diversity - the state of having differences, especially in terms of culture, race or religion

Fasting - the act of abstaining from food or certain activities for a specific period, often for religious reasons

Festival - a special event or celebration that is marked by specific customs and traditions

Harmony - a state of peaceful coexistence and agreement

Lantern - a portable light source with a protective enclosure often used for decoration

Offering - something that is presented as a gift or contribution, often in a religious context

Ritual - a set of actions or ceremonies that are repeated in a specific way

Sacred - regarded with reverence and respect, often associated with religious significance

Symbol - an object or image that represents a deeper meaning or concept

Tradition - customs and practices that are passed down from one generation to another

Unity - the state of being united or working together

Key Knowledge:

Christianity



For Christians, the meaning of Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The Christmas Story is the story of God sending his son from Heaven to Earth in the form of Jesus Christ.

Christians celebrate Christmas by observing Advent, singing seasonal songs, reading the Nativity story from the Bible, going to church, displaying a nativity scene and buying presents for their loved ones.

Easter is when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus was crucified on Good Friday and rose again three days later on Easter Sunday.

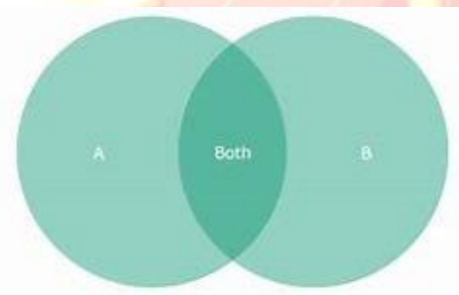
Christians celebrate Easter in various ways including visiting church, often at special midnight services or at sunrise, praying and singing hymns, sharing food such as hot cross buns and Easter lamb, give out crosses made from palm leaves, holding a Holy Communion ceremony. Roman Catholic Easter week includes a ceremony where the priest washes 12 people's feet to commemorate Jesus washing his disciples' feet at the last supper.

Judaism



Passover, is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the liberation of Hebrew slaves in Egypt, who were led out of Egypt by Moses.

It takes place during the spring, on the 15th day of the Hebrew month, Nisan. The celebration lasts for seven days and includes a service known as Seder. Passover is celebrated with a series of rituals, each symbolising a different part of the story,



A Venn diagram which is used as a way to consider similarities and differences between two concepts.

Hinduism



Diwali is celebrated over five days and is a Hindu festival.

During Diwali, people decorate their homes, shops and other public places with oil lamps called Diyas.

Other ways that Hindus celebrate the festival include:

- Spring cleaning their homes
- Wearing new clothes
- Exchanging gifts and preparing festive meals
- Decorating buildings with fancy lights
- Huge fireworks displays
- Making patterns called Rangoli from colourful materials like powders and pastes.

Diwali is also known as the Festival of Lights. It represents new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil.

Islam

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim year, during which strict fasting is observed from dawn until sunset. It usually lasts for 29-30 days. Children are not expected to fast until they reach the age of 14.

Ramadan falls during this month because this is when the holy book, called the Qur'an, was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

There are 6 prayer times every day during Ramadan.

Ramadan is a time for Muslims to donate some of their wealth, known as Zakat, to the poor and people who need it.



Sikhism



Vaisakhi is a spring festival which happens on the 13th or 14th of April every year. It was originally a harvest festival in the Punjab until it became Sikhism's most important festival.

The festival is celebrated by decorating and visiting Gurdwaras, and taking part in parades, dancing and singing throughout the day. Many Sikhs choose to be baptised into the Khalsa brotherhood on this day.

The guru Granth Sahib is carried reverentially into the gurdwara. People often visit temples or gurdwaras on Vaisakhi, where special services take place. Celebrations traditionally feature parades, which are held not only in India but across the globe. Special food often makes up part of the occasion.