





| Term | Autumn | | Spring | | Summer | |
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| | Autumn 1 | Autumn 2 | Spring 1 | Spring 2 | Summer 1 | Summer 2 |
| | Ganesh Chaturthi Hinduism | Guru Nanak Gurpurab Sikhism | Lent Christianity | Vesak Buddhism | Shavuot Judaism | Hajj Islam |
| Year 3 | Children learn that Hindus celebrate the birthday of Lord Ganesh during Ganesh Chaturthi. They pray to Ganesh to remove obstacles when starting something new and mention his name first when they perform puja to make sure nothing will get in the way of their worship and prayer. Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations vary around the world and last between one and 10 days. Statues of Ganesh are made from clay and placed in homes, temples and even in the street! At the end of the festival, the statues are put into water and left to disintegrate. Sweets are also a big part of the festival. They | Children learn that Gurpurabs are celebrations which commemorate the anniversaries of the Sikh Gurus. Guru Nanak's Gurpurab is usually celebrated in November. Guru Nanak is the founder of the Sikh religion. He was born a Hindu in 1469 but when he was 30 years old, he bathes in the Kali Bein, the Black River and disappeared. He returned after three days and declared he had been with God. He taught his followers that all religions worshipped the same God, and everyone on Earth should be treated equally and with respect. All Gurpurabs are celebrated in a similar way. The whole of the Guru Granth Sahib may be read over a period of two days, finishing on the day of the festival. There may also be a Nagar Kirtan, a parade of the Guru Granth Sahib, through the streets accompanied by music and dancing. Many Sikhs will also help to prepare langar, which is free food. | Children learn that Lent is a time for Christians to fast, think about God, say sorry for the things they have done that they regret, pray and learn more about the life of Jesus. It last for 40 days (excluding Sundays), because this is the same amount of time that Jesus spent fasting and thinking about God in the desert before he started teaching and performing miracles. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week. During Holy Week, Christians remember Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and celebrate his rising from the dead three days later on Easter Sunday. | Children learn that Vesak is an important Buddhist festival, which commemorates the birth, enlightenment and sometimes death of Prince Siddhartha, who became known as Buddha. Most Buddhists celebrate Vesak when there is a full moon in May or June because they believe his birth, enlightenment and death all happened at this time. Buddhists may bathe a statue of Buddha with scented water, light lanterns, bring offerings to the template, meditate and learn more about the Buddha's life and teachings during Vesak. | Children learn that The word Shavuot means 'weeks' and the festival of Shavuot is celebrated 50 days (seven weeks) after Passover. Practising Jews celebrate the gift of the Torah and the Ten Commandments by visiting the synagogue, studying the Torah scrolls (sometimes all night) and possibly eating cheesecake. Shavuot is also a harvest festival that celebrates the end of the barley harvest and the beginning of the wheat harvest in Israel. | Children learn that The Hajj is a pilgrimage Muslims make to the holy city of Mecca. Pilgrims spend five days praying and worshipping both in Mecca and the surrounding desert. It is a spiritual pilgrimage that every adult Muslim must perform at least once in their lives if they are physically able and can afford it. During the Hajj, pilgrims wear simple clothes and try not to argue. The pilgrims walk around the Kaaba, drink water from the Zamzam well and stone the pillars at Mina. The Hajj is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. |





| | remind worshippers of the good things in life and Ganesh's sweet tooth. | Langar may be served on the streets during the Nagar Kirtan or in the langar hall. | | | | |
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| | Janmashtami Hinduism | Kathina Buddhism | Vaisakhi Sikhism | Holy Week and Easter Christianity | Shabbat Judaism | Eid ul-Adha Islam |
| Year 4 | Children learn that The festival of Janmashtami celebrates the birthday of Lord Krishna and falls in August or September. Krishna is one of the Hindu faith's most popular gods. The festival lasts for two days. Worshippers may sing songs, tell stories of Krishna's life, dance, rock his cradle and wait for midnight to arrive to mark his birth. Some Hindus fast during the day of Janmashtami and only eat after midnight. | Kathina is a celebration held in October or November after Vassa, the Rains Retreat, which is sometimes known as the Buddhists Lent. Buddhist monks stay in a vihara or monastery during the rainy season in Asian countries and spend time studying the Dharma (Buddha's teaching) and meditating. During Kathina, members of the local community give a new robe to the monks who have completed the Rains Retreat. The monks then decide which of them will receive the robe. Many Buddhists believe that giving a new robe is merit-making and will earn them good karma in their next life. The story of Kathina can be found in | Children learn that Sikhs usually celebrate Vaisakhi on the 13th and 14th April. It is the most important festival day for Sikhs because, in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh created the Khalsa. The Khalsa are ordained Sikhs who make promises to wear the Five Ks and follow the Sikh religion faithfully. To become part of the Khalsa, Sikhs drink a sugary liquid called amrit and have it sprinkled onto their eyes and hair. Some Sikhs choose to take amrit during Vaisakhi. Sikhs might also take part in a Nagar Kirtan during Vaisakhi, where the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib, is driven through the streets accompanied by many | Holy Week is the last week of Lent. It starts with Palm Sunday, which commemorates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem over 2000 years ago. During Holy Week, the story of Jesus' last supper and trial are commemorated. Good Friday is a day of mourning in many Christian churches as Jesus' crucifixion is remembered. Easter Sunday is the day when Christians remember the resurrection of Jesus with church services, candles, acclamations, great food and Easter eggs. | Children learn that Shabbat (Sabbath) is the Jewish day of rest. Jews believe God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. Shabbat begins at sunset on Friday and ends on Saturday. During Shabbat, families spend time together, rest, eat special meals and attend the synagogue. However, there are many things to prepare before Shabbat arrives and rules to follow to make sure that Shabbat is truly a day of rest. | Children learn that Eid ul-Adha, also known as the Greater Eid, is the second most important festival in the Muslim calendar. It commemorates the Prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son when Allah ordered him to. Muslims believe that Allah appeared to Ibrahim in a dream and asked him to sacrifice his son Isma'il as an act of obedience. The devil tempted Ibrahim by saying he should disobey Allah and spare his son. As Ibrahim was about to kill his son, Allah stopped him and gave him a ram to sacrifice instead. Eid ul-Adha is celebrated at the end of the Hajj pilgrimage |





ancient Buddhist scriptures. The ceremony is named after the sewing frame that monks and nuns would use to create new robes members of the local Sikh community. Free food, called langar, is provided and dancing and martial arts demonstrations are enjoyed. Vaisakhi is also a New Year and harvest festival in the Punjab.

Dharma Day **Buddhism**

Children learn that Dharma Day, or Asalha Puia, is celebrated in July by Buddhists around the world. The word Dharma means teaching and Dharma Day commemorates Buddha's first sermon in the Deer Park in Varanasi, India, over 2500 years ago. Buddhists celebrate Dharma Day by studying Buddha's teachings and feeling graduate for what they have learned.

Holi **Hinduism**

Children learn that Holi is celebrated throughout India and beyond. Bonfires are lit on the first day of Holi to remind Hindus of the story of Holika and Prahlad. Coloured paint is thrown or squirted at friends. family and even strangers on the second day of the festival. This commemorates a story about the young Krishna and his beloved Radha. The festival also marks the winter harvest, welcomes spring and celebrates love

Ramadan and Eid al Fitr Islam

Children learn that Muslims fast from dawn to dusk during the holy month of Ramadan. After each day of fasting, many families share iftar, their evening meal, together. All Muslims who are old enough and well enough are expected to fast. School and work life carries on as normal, even though no food or drink is consumed during daylight hours. Eid al-Fitr comes at the end of the fast and is an important religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide. During Eid al-Fitr, Muslims spend time with their families, eat together, celebrate as a community and thank Allah for the help, strength and self-

Passover **Judaism**

Children learn that Passover is one of the most important Jewish festivals. It commemorates the time Moses led the Israelite slaves to freedom over 3000 years ago. The word Passover refers to the final plague of Egypt, when God 'passed over' the houses of the Israelites and killed the first born sons of the Egyptians. After this plague, Pharaoh set the Israelites free and they were led into the desert by Moses. This is known as the Exodus. The Jewish Passover celebrations last seven to eight days. Families clean their houses, rest, eat special meals together and read

Pentecost **Christianity**

Children learn that Pentecost is celebrated 50 davs after Easter. According to the Bible, Jesus had ascended into heaven 10 days earlier and the disciples were waiting to receive power from God to help them spread Jesus' message. When the Holy Spirit filled the disciples, they started speaking in different languages so that the people in the crowd could understand them. That day, 3000 people were baptised as Christians, therefore Pentecost is seen as the birthday of the Christian church. Today, Pentecost is a popular time for baptism and confirmation services. Church leaders may wear red to represent the

Guru Arjan Gurpurab **Sikhism**

Children learn that Gurpurabs are special celebration days that commemorate the lives of the Sikh Gurus. Guru Arjan achieved many things during his lifetime. He completed the Golden Temple in Amritsar in 1604 and promoted the Sikh principle of dasvandh, giving 10% of earnings to help others as an act of service to God who Sikhs call Waheguru. He also collated the hymns and teachings of the first five Gurus and created the Adi Granth, the book that would eventually become the Guru Granth Sahib. Guru Arjan also became the first Sikh Guru to be martyred for his faith. Many Sikhs remember Guru Arjan by attending

Year 5







| | | | control he gave them throughout Ramadan. | the story of the Exodus from the Torah. | flames that settled on the heads of the disciples and some churches may also serve a special cake after the Sunday service to mark the birthday of the church. | special services in the Gurdwara and serving cooling drinks to others. This reminds them of the thirst Guru Arjan must have suffered and his cool and calm nature as he faced death. |
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| Year 6 | Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Judaism The children learn that Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year and it begins with the sound of a shofar (ram's horn). Sweet foods are eaten in the hope of a sweet New Year and the ritual of Tashlich is performed. The Days of Repentance follow, when Jews think back over the past year and make amends for their sins. Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, is know as the Day of Atonement. It is celebrated 10 days after Rosh Hashanah and ends when a shofar is heard. These high holy days are a time to right wrongs, reflect upon the previous year, fast and visit the synagogue. | Sikhism The children learn that The Sikh celebration of Bandi Chhor Divas coincides with the Hindu festival of Diwali. During the festival, Sikhs celebrate Guru Hargobind, who released 52 Hindu princes from Gwalior Fort in 1619. The main themes of the festival are religious freedom and helping others who are weaker or in need. During the celebrations, Gurdwaras are lit with electric lights and candles as a reminder that the Golden Temple in Amritsar was lit to welcome Guru Hargobind home after he left for Gwalior Fort. There may also be a Nagar Kirtan, a parade of the Guru Granth Sahib and gatka martial arts displays as well as Akhand Path, a continuous reading of the whole Guru Granth Sahib, which takes two days and nights. Many Gurdwaras also hold a firework | Parinirvana Buddhism The children learn that Parinirvana is celebrated on the 15th of February and commemorates the death of Buddha and his passing into Nirvana. During Parinirvana, Buddhists share the story of Buddha's death and think about their own lives. A key teaching of Buddhism is that everything is impermanent so many Buddhists think about changes in their lives, their own deaths and rebirth into a different life. Many Buddhists also think about loved ones who have recently died. Buddhists may also visit temples to share food and give gifts to the monks during Parinirvana. | Islam The children learn that Lailat al Miraj celebrates the story of Muhammad's Night Journey. The angel Jibreel (Gabriel) is said to have visited Muhammad while he slept near the Kabah in Mecca and taken him on a 666 mile journey to the farthest mosque, the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, on the back of a winged creature called Buraq. When he reached Jerusalem, Muhammad is said to have ascended into heaven, prayed with the prophets including Isa (Jesus) and Ibrahim (Abraham) and met with Allah. Allah gave Muhammad the instruction that all Muslims should pray five times a day, which is Salat, one of The Five Pillars of Islam. Muhammad travelled back to Mecca on Buraq that same night and began to tell others of his Night Journey. The Night Journey is | Kumbh Mela Hinduism The children learn that The Kumbh Mela is the largest gathering of people on Earth. Four Kumbh Mela pilgrimages take place at four sacred sites, Haridwar, Allahabad, Nasik and Ujjain, over a period of 12 years. Washing in holy river water is at the centre of the Kumbh Mela as Hindus believe this cleanses them of bad karma. The 2013 Kumbh Mela, held at Allahabad on the confluence of the Yamuna and Ganges Rivers, attracted around 120 million pilgrims, nearly twice the population of the UK. | Christianity The children learn that In most Western countries, Sunday is part of the weekend and most Christians see it as a day of worship and rest. Practising Christians worship in many different ways and have different traditions but most will go to church, sign hymns, listen to Bible readings, say prayers and spend time together. Worshippers from other faiths and cultures also celebrate holy days, but at different time of the week. Friday is a day for Muslims to gather in the mosque for prayers and Saturday (Shabbat) is a day of rest for Jewish people |



RE Curriculum Overview



| display in the evening. The state of lights during Band Chhor Divas seems simulated to the Hindu festival of Diwali but the stories celebrated during the transfer of the stories of the s | r around the world. During the celebrations, the story is retold, special prayers are said and sweets and | |
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