

# HALLOWEEN

Halloween, also known as All Hallows Eve, is celebrated each year on October 31st. It is the eve of Hallowmas, which is a pagan tradition dedicated to remembering the dead, and also coincides with the end of the harvest season.

Today, Halloween is a popular celebration in America, Canada, Ireland and the United Kingdom. People celebrate by dressing up in costume, typically those representing supernatural beings, however modern celebrations involve many different types of costumes. Children will visit houses in their neighbourhood asking "Trick or treat?", where they receive lollies or chocolate or have a trick performed for them.

Pumpkin carving is also a popular tradition during Halloween. Jack-o'-lanterns are thought to frighten evil spirits. Halloween is represented by black, orange and occasionally purple.



# Diwali

Diwali is a five day Hindu festival known as the 'festival of lights'. It is celebrated during October or November and is one of the most popular festivals in India.

During this festival, people worship Ganesha, the elephant-headed God, and Lakshmi, the goddess of light, wisdom and fortune. People celebrate by lighting small oil lamps and candles to represent good winning over evil. Firecrackers are also let off to ward off evil spirits.

People celebrating Diwali also create intricate rangoli patterns to bring good luck. Rangoli is a form of folk art which consists of bright colours and is typically created with materials including colored rice, dry flour, sand or even flower petals.



# 新年快樂

Happy Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is the most important holiday for Chinese people. The Chinese calendar is based around changes of the moon, unlike western calendars, which are based on the sun. Chinese New Year falls in January or February each year.

Chinese New Year is celebrated for fifteen days. On the holiday's eve, families come together to eat a meal called the reunion dinner. It is common to give children small red bags containing money. The red symbolises good luck.

On the last day of Chinese New Year, people celebrate with a lantern festival. Many people decorate their streets with beautiful lanterns and participate in parades. On this day, families cook dumplings made of sticky rice and eat them in a sweet soup.



# New Year's

New Year's Eve is the celebration of the last day of the year, on December 31. It is celebrated in many countries, and many cities host fireworks displays to celebrate.

New Year's Eve parties are a popular way to celebrate, and people countdown to midnight and the new year.

As this celebration marks the beginning of a new year, New Year's Day is thought of as a time for a fresh start.

People worldwide create lists of resolutions of their goals for the year ahead.



# Easter



Easter is a Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It can also be considered a celebration of the beginning of Spring or Autumn, depending on the hemisphere.

Easter is held on the first Sunday after the full moon following the Spring Equinox, which is the longest day of the year. This means that Easter is not held on the same day every year and is held in March or April.

The Easter Bunny is said to visit on the night of Easter Saturday, and people celebrate by eating hot cross buns and chocolate eggs on Easter Sunday. In Australia, some people use the bilby as their symbol, as rabbits are considered a pest and cause a lot of damage to farms and native wildlife.

Easter eggs, the Easter Bunny and chickens are traditional symbols of Easter because they are associated with new life and Spring.



# Christmas

Christmas is Christian holiday that honours the birth of Jesus on the 25th of December each year.

Many non-religious people also recognise Christmas as a cultural holiday. It is celebrated by setting up a Christmas tree and decorating it with lights, baubles and tinsel. It is believed that Santa Claus visits each house on Christmas Eve to deliver gifts and leaves them under the tree. On Christmas morning, people exchange gifts. It is common to give generously to those less fortunate, and it is a time for families to be together. Many people travel from far away to be with family on Christmas.

It is also popular for people to decorate their houses with lights at Christmas. Some neighbourhoods hold competitions for the best decorated house.

