

Christmas



The Christian celebration of Jesus' birth. Every year, Christmas Day is celebrated on the 25th of December.

Chinese New Year



Every January or February, the Chinese celebrate their New Year.

Independence Day



In the USA, the 4th of July marks the day when America became independent from the Kingdom of Great Britain.

Easter



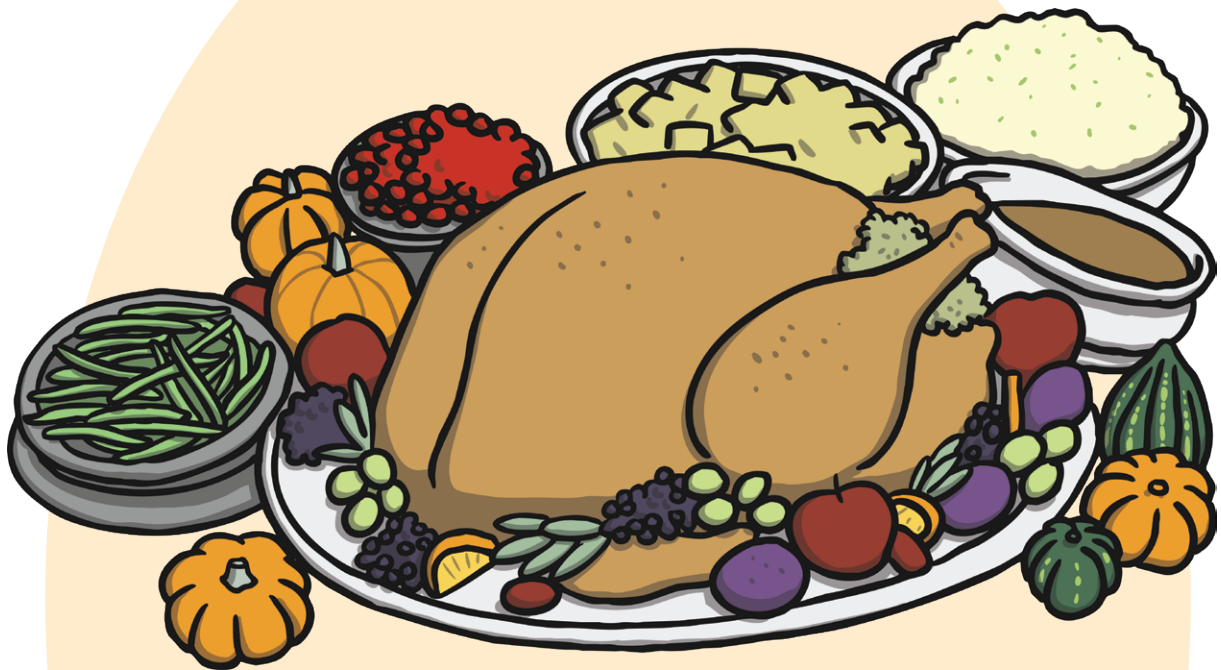
At Easter, Christians remember Jesus' death and rising to life again. Easter is usually celebrated over two days: Good Friday, which is celebrated every year between 22nd March and 25th April and Easter Sunday, which is celebrated the following Sunday. These dates change each year because they follow the Gregorian calendar.

Hanukkah



Hanukkah is the Jewish festival that celebrates the rededicating of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The exact date of Hanukkah changes every year to follow the Hebrew calendar but will always be on the 25th day of Kislev (a date from the Hebrew calendar). This is usually celebrated between late November and December.

Thanksgiving



Celebrated in the USA, it was originally a festival to give thanks to God for a good harvest. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November.

Guy Fawkes Night



This is a British celebration that marks the failed attempt to blow up Parliament. This can also be known as Bonfire Night. Guy Fawkes Night is celebrated every year on the 5th of November.

Diwali



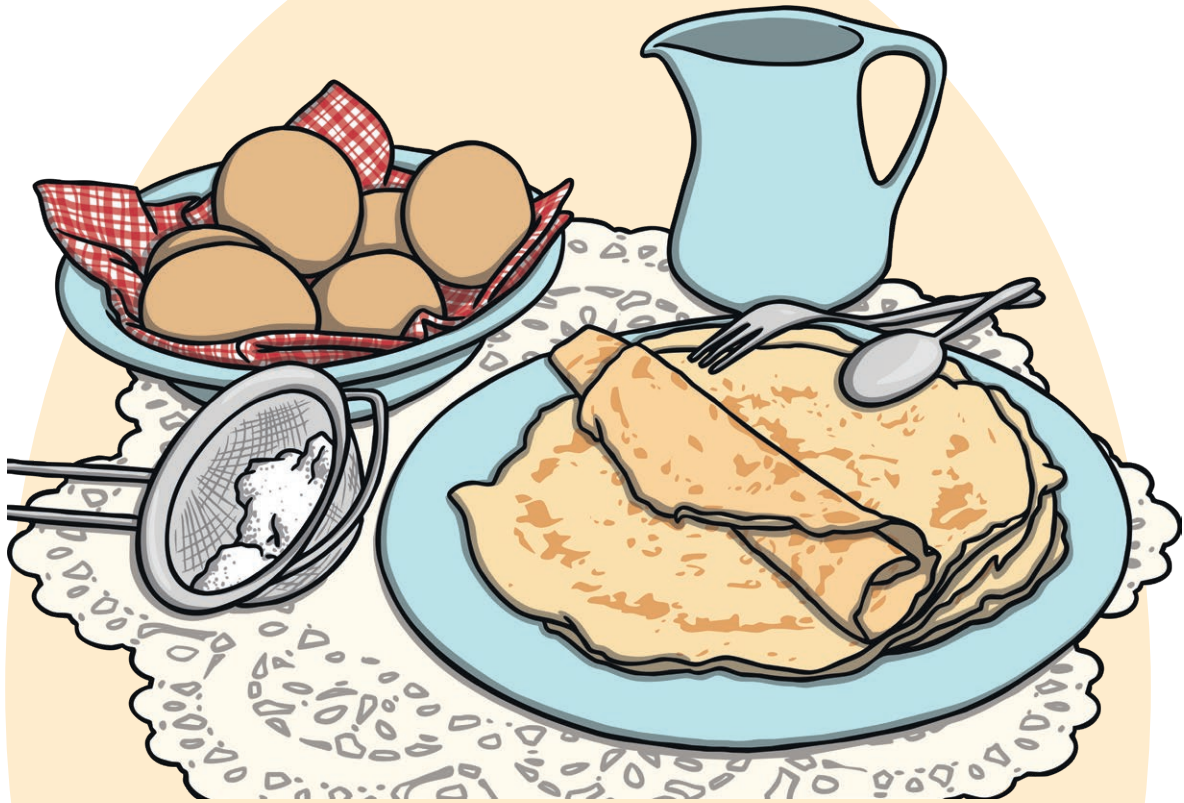
Diwali is the Hindu festival of light. Using the Hindu lunar calendar, Diwali is recognised on the 15th day of Kartik, the holiest month in the Hindu calendar. Every year, this falls in either October or November.

Ramadan



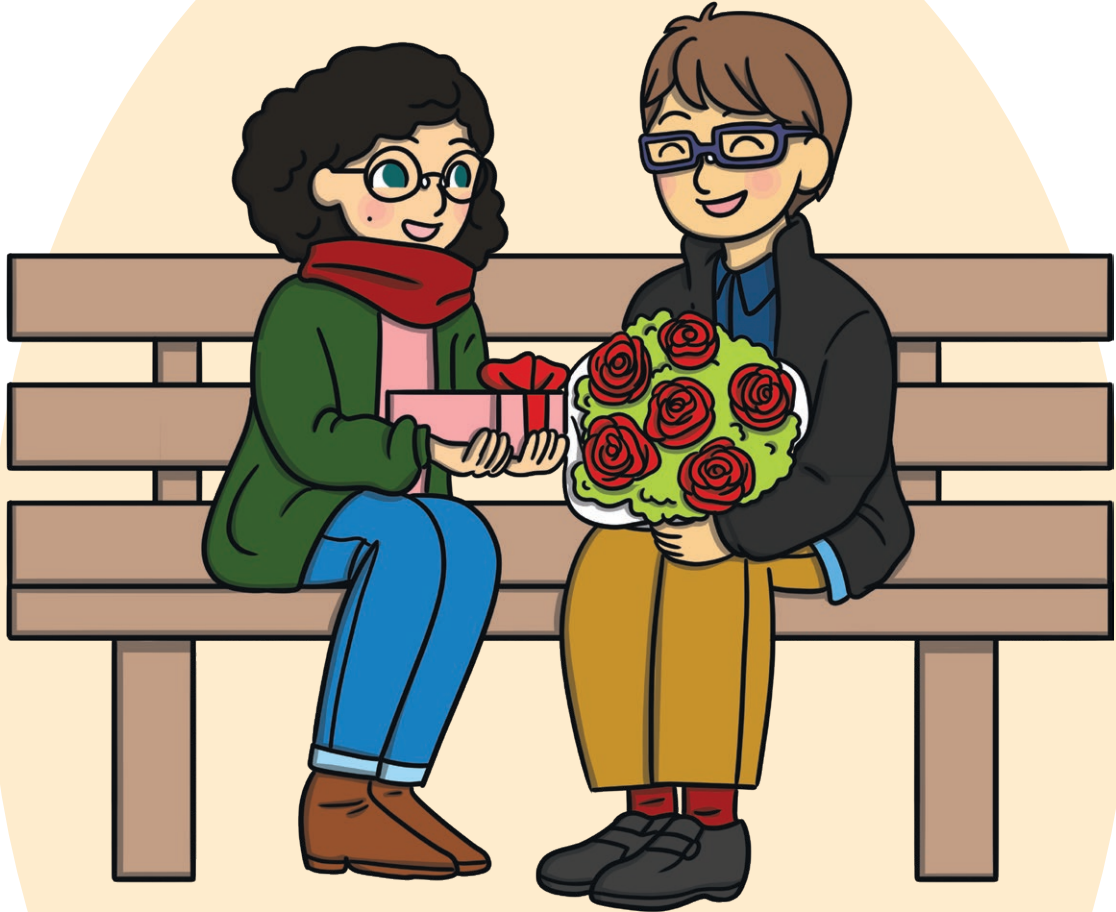
Ramadan is the Islamic month of fasting. Using the Islamic calendar, which is based around the lunar cycle, the celebration of Ramadan changes every year. Each year, Ramadan begins about eleven days earlier than the previous year.

Pancake Day



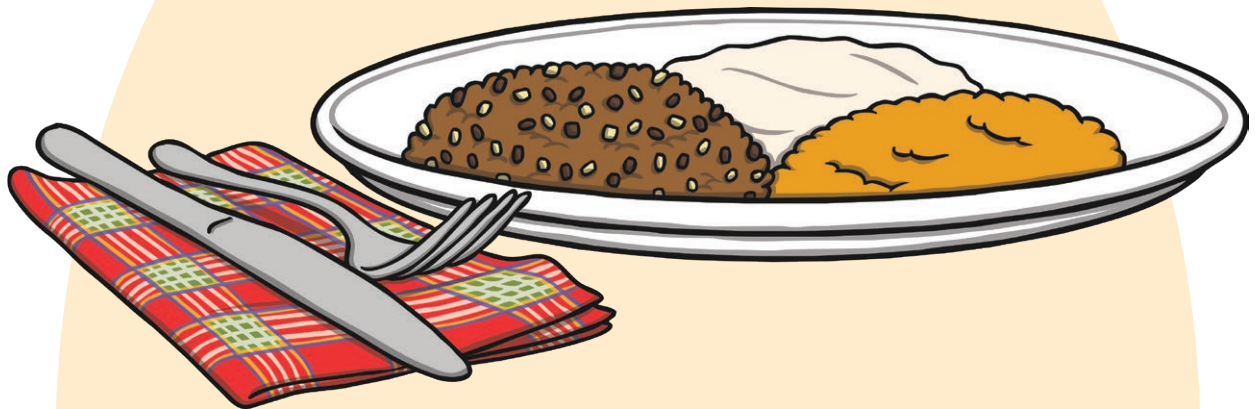
Celebrated on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Christians fast for Lent. Pancake Day changes every year as it depends on when Easter is but it is usually celebrated between 3rd February and 9th March.

Valentine's Day



Saint Valentine's Day is a celebration of love. It is on the 14th of February.

Burns Night



This is the Scottish celebration of the life and poetry of Robert Burns. Burns night is celebrated annually on 25th January, which was his birthday.

Eid



Eid is the second most important festival in the Muslim calendar. Eid is a time to remember God's love and kindness. It is a time for sharing. Eid falls on the first day of the month of Shawwal (a date from the Islamic calendar). Therefore, this date changes every year.

Cinco de Mayo



Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of the Mexican victory of the Battle of Puebla. Cinco de Mayo is celebrated every year on the 5th May.

St. Patrick's Day



This is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17th March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick.

Groundhog Day



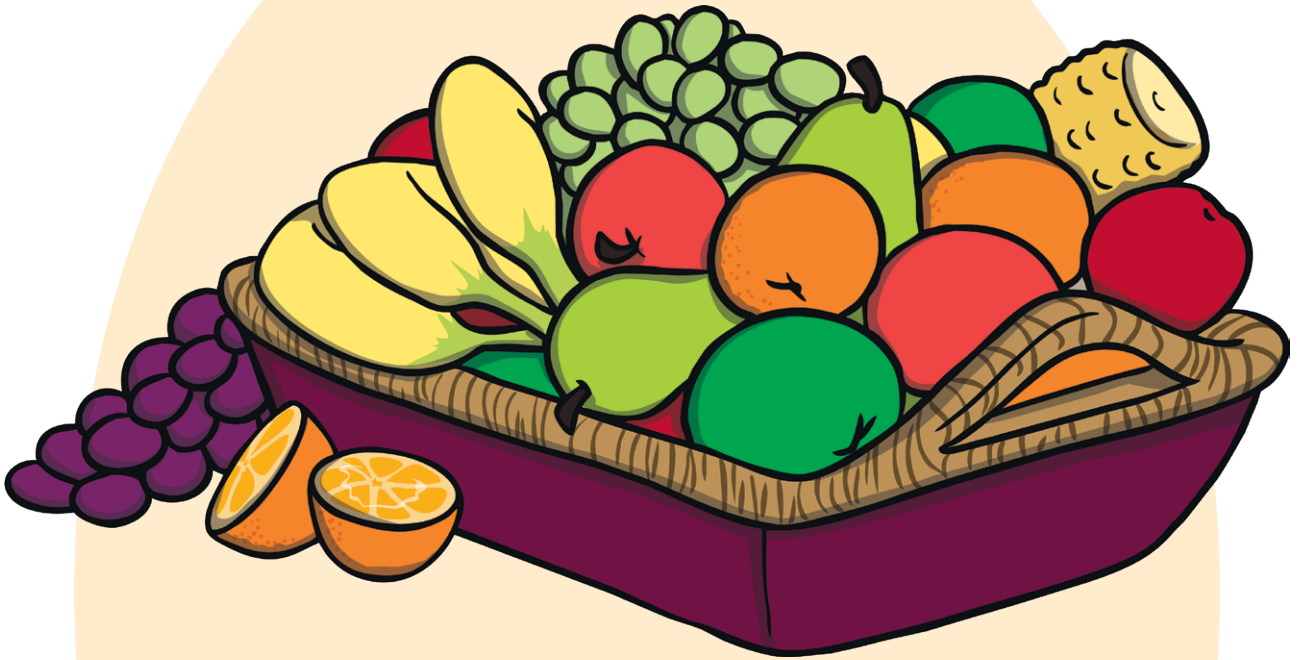
Groundhog Day is a traditional holiday originating in the United States that is celebrated on 2nd February.

Remembrance Day



This is a memorial day that marks the day the First World War ended. Every year, a two-minute silence is held at 11 a.m. on the 11th of November to remember the people who have died in the wars.

Kwanzaa



A secular festival observed by many African Americans from 26th December to 1st January as a celebration of their cultural heritage and traditional values.

Father's Day



A celebration to recognise the impact fathers and father figures have on their children's lives. Although celebrated on various dates around the world, many countries identify Father's Day as the third Sunday in June.

Canada Day



Celebrated on the 1st of July, it marks the day when the Constitution Act joined three provinces into one country: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Canada province.

Mother's Day



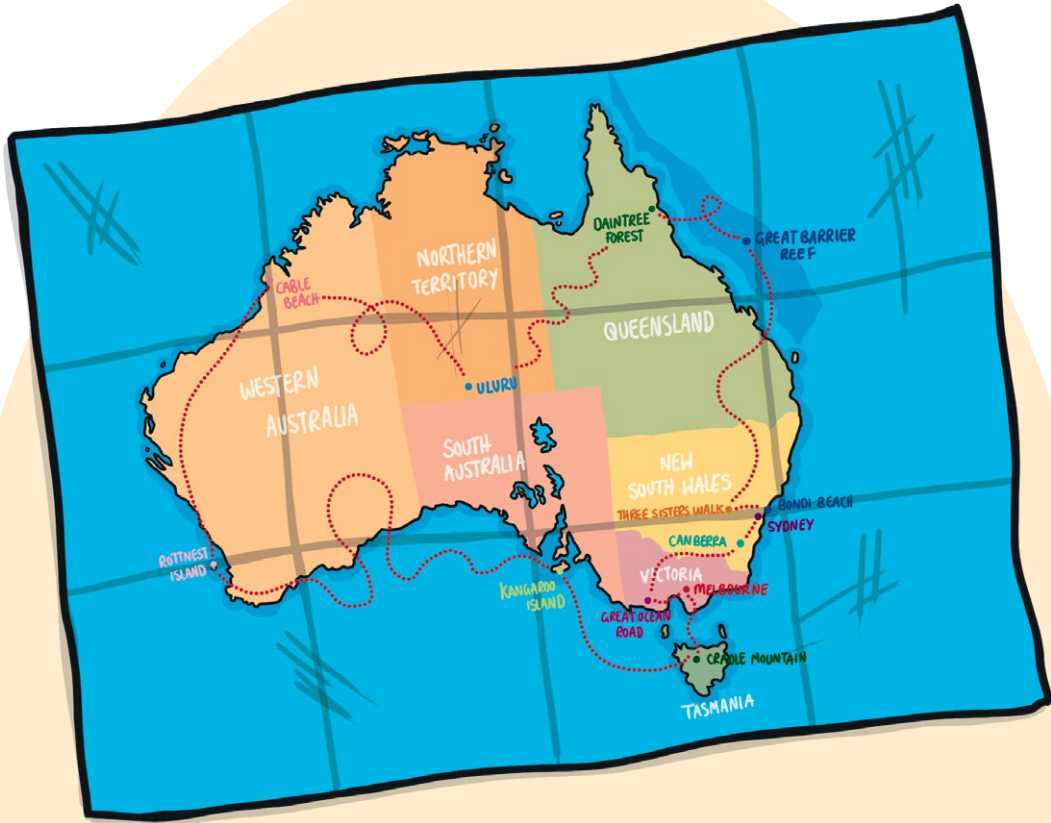
Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. Mother's Day is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent, exactly three weeks before Easter Sunday. This is usually between late March and early April.

Halloween



Halloween is a celebration observed in a number of countries on 31st October, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows' Day.

Australia Day



The official national day of Australia, celebrated annually on 26th January. There are many celebrations and, on this day every year, an important Australian is given the award of 'Australian of the Year'.

ANZAC Day



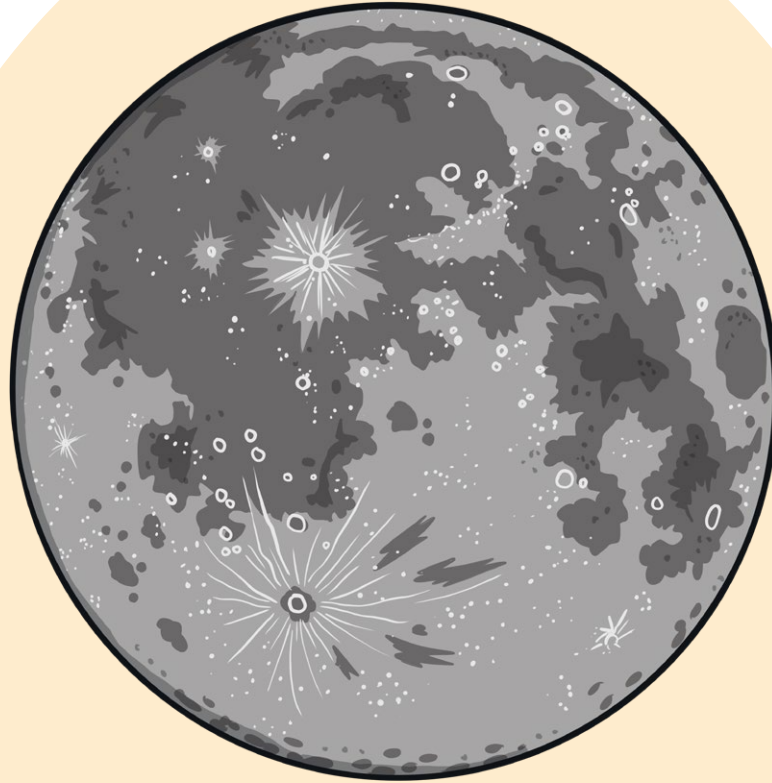
A national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand, held each 25th April. On this day in 1915, many soldiers from these countries (known as 'ANZACs') died at a place called Gallipoli. Now, this day is for remembering all Australian and New Zealand soldiers who have died during conflict.

Bastille Day



This day of freedom is celebrated in France every year on 14th July. On this date in 1789, angry protestors attacked a prison in Paris called the Bastille to protest the King of France's harsh rule. This was the start of the French Revolution.

Moon Festival



This mid-autumn day is celebrated by many people in east and southeast Asian countries, such as China, Korea and Japan, to give thanks for the harvest and to worship the moon.

National Sorry Day



This is an annual Australian event to remember the mistreatment of the country's Indigenous peoples. It is held every 26th May.

St. David's Day



Saint David is the patron saint of Wales. St. David's Day is held on the 1st March every year. People spend it celebrating Welsh history and culture, including parades, eating Welsh foods and the wearing of leeks and daffodils (Welsh symbols).

Holi



A Hindu festival also known as the 'festival of spring' or 'the festival of colours'. It celebrates the good defeating evil, new life and love. During Holi, there is lots of singing and dancing and coloured paints and water are thrown around in celebration.

Vaisakhi



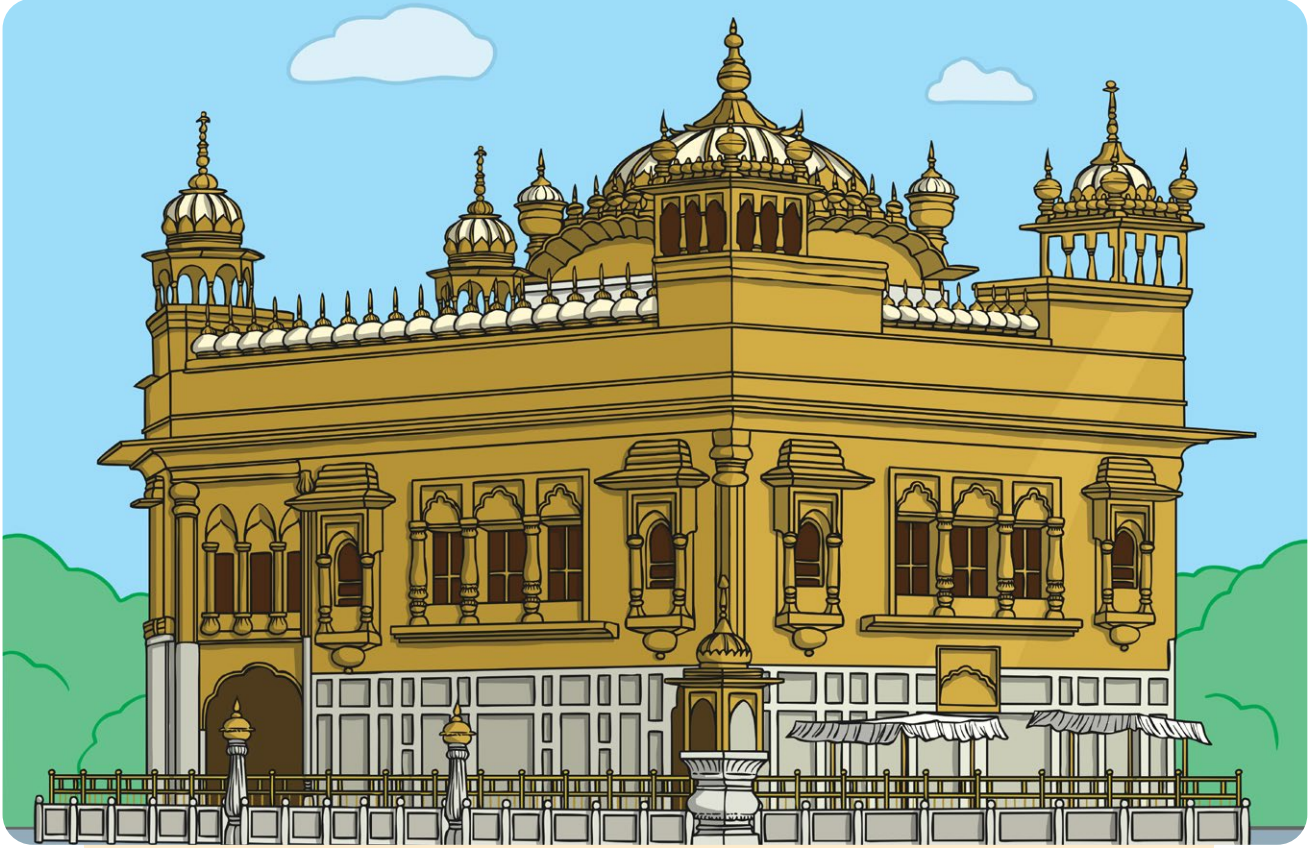
Vaisakhi is a spring-time festival, usually held on the 13th or 14th April, that marks the first day of the month of Vaisakha and celebrates the New Year. It is a colourful event and one of the most important days in Sikhism. Sikhs gather and visit Gurdwaras, hold community fairs and processions and share festive foods.

Bandi Chhor Divas



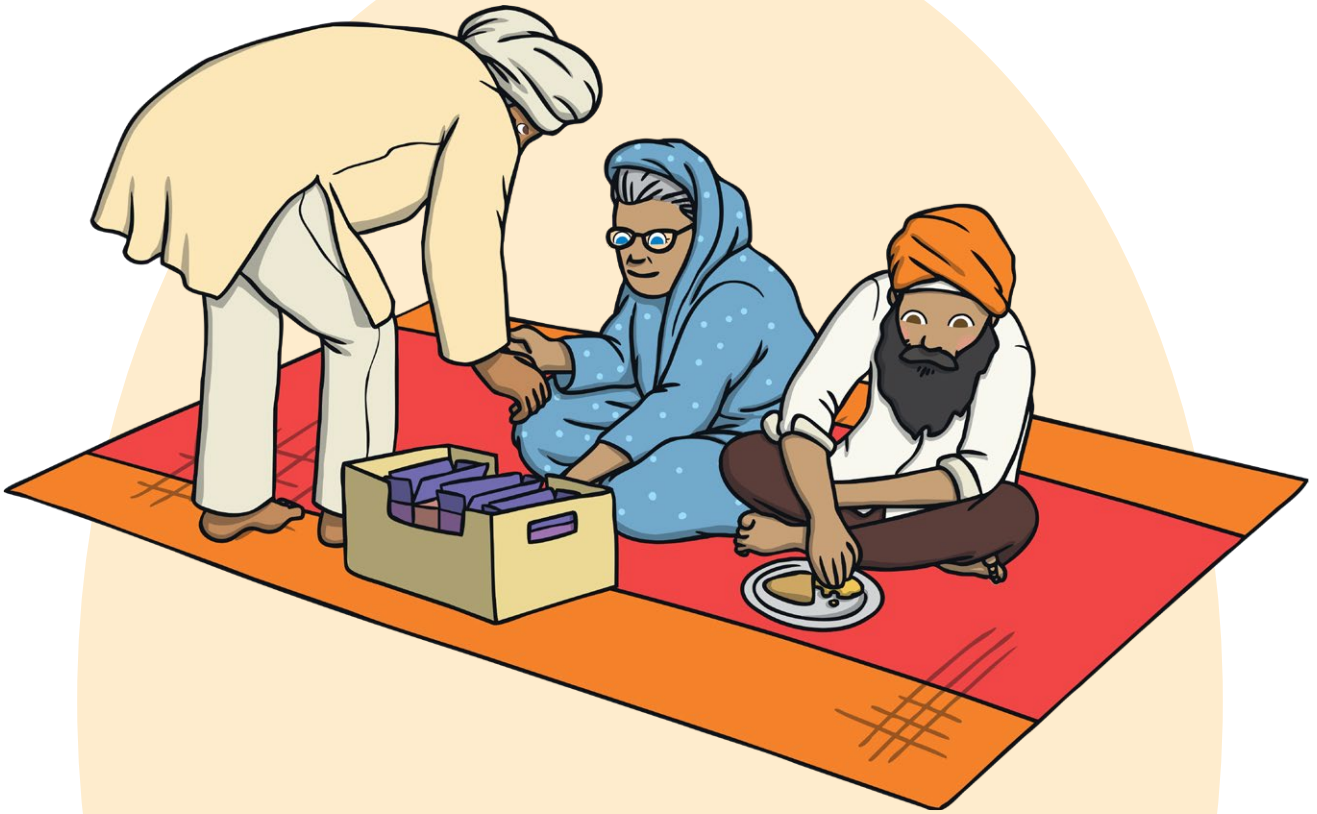
Bandi Chhor Divas is a Sikh celebration that remembers the release of the sixth Guru, Guru Hargobind, from captivity. It is an autumn festival and often overlaps with the Hindu festival Diwali. Bandi Chhor Divas is celebrated with the lighting of candles and lanterns in homes and Gurdwaras, processions and the sharing of food.

Gurpurab



Gurpurab are a series of festivals that celebrate the lives of the ten Sikh Gurus. They are among the most sacred festivals in Sikhism. Assemblies are held in Gurdwaras and the teachings of the Gurus are read. Special hymns are sung and processions are held. Langars (community meals) are held for those celebrating.

Hola Mohalla



Hola Mohalla, sometimes known as 'Hola', is a three-day festival held by Sikhs. It usually happens in March, sometimes at the same time as the Hindu festival of Holi. During Hola, a fair is held where people gather to listen to stories, music, poetry and to watch combat displays. A community meal is also eaten and at the end of the day, a procession is held.

Maghi



Maghi is a festival that is held to commemorate Sikhs who died fighting the Mughal Empire in 1705. Sikhs make a pilgrimage to the site of the war and bathe in the sacred water tanks of Muktsar and visit shrines. A fair is also held in their memory. A large march of pilgrims to the Tibbi Sahib Gurdwara, which is sacred to the 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, happens at the end of the celebrations.

Vesak



Also known as Wesak or Buddha's Day. It is celebrated by Buddhists on Buddha's birthday and for some Buddhists, marks his enlightenment (when he discovered life's meaning). People celebrate Vesak by going to the temple, performing good deeds, wearing white clothes and lighting lanterns and candles.