

## Year 3 - Why are festivals important to religious communities?

### Key Vocabulary

Festivals	A day or period of celebration.
Hindu	Believes in one God but it comes in many forms.
Jewish	Believe in one God
Christianity	Believe in one God and believe Jesus is the son of God.
Holi	The Hindu festival of colours
Hanukah	The Jewish festival of light
Christmas	A special day to celebrate the birth of baby Jesus



### Christianity

Christians celebrate Christmas because this was the day that Jesus was born.

To celebrate Christians:

- Give presents
- Go to the church
- Have a family dinner
- Decorate their home with a Christmas tree
- Have parties
- Wear their best clothes

### Judaism

Jews celebrate Hanukah because it celebrates the ancient miracle of the oil burning the candle for 8 days and nights.

To celebrate Jews:

- Light the hanukkah (this is a special candleholder with space for nine candles).
- Go to the Synagogue
- They eat doughnuts and latkes.
- Have parties
- Give presents
- Play special games

### Hinduism

Hindus celebrate Holi because it marks the beginning of spring, usually in March and celebrates new life.

To celebrate hindus:

- Hindus light a Holika bonfire on the night before Holi. This is to remember the story of Holika and Prahlad.
- Hindus go out into the streets for a carnival of colour.
- Colour is thrown on people.
- Hindus sing and dance.
- Old rubbish is burnt to mark a fresh start.