



Year 2 – Autumn Term 2  
RE: Festivals of Light

**Diwali**   **Hanukkah**   **Advent**

**Christingle**



## Prior Knowledge

### EYFS:

I can talk about my own experiences and can link these to the communities to which I belong.

I have explored how people have different beliefs and celebrate in different ways and made comparisons.

### What do Hindus believe about God?

There is one God (Brahman) but Hindus also worship deities which are different parts of that one God.

### What do Jewish people believe about God?

There is one God who created the world.

### Who is Jesus?

Christians believe Jesus is God's son and that he lived on earth a long time ago.



## New Knowledge

### What does light represent?

Light is one of the oldest and most important symbols. It represents hope and being good.

### What is Diwali and what special story is remembered?

Diwali is the **Hindu** festival of light. It marks the beginning of new year for Hindus. The story of Rama and Sita is remembered. This story represents good winning over evil.



### How is Diwali celebrated?

Lakshmi, goddess of wealth, is honoured.

Diya lamps are lit, lights and decorations are put up in people's homes, firework displays. Friends and families get together, cards and gifts are exchanged.

### What is the story of Hanukkah and why is it special?

Hanukkah is the **Jewish** festival of light.

In the story of Hanukkah, a king destroyed a beautiful Jewish temple.. A miracle happened and the menorah in the temple burned for 8 days and 8 nights. The light enabled the Maccabees to repair the temple. It helps Jewish people remember that God can help them.



### How is the Jewish festival of Hanukkah celebrated?

The festival lasts for 8 days. One candle is lit each night on a special menorah called a hanukiah. People remember the miracle of the oil by eating fried foods such as doughnuts.

### What does a Christingle represent?

A Christingle service is a joyful Christian celebration of 'Jesus as the light of the world'.

Orange – world    Red ribbon – unending love    Sweets – God's creation  
Candle – hope

### What do Christians mean when they say 'Jesus is the light of the world'?

Christians believe Jesus can bring hope and guidance to people just like a light.

