

**What we already know (KS1):**

- Some people belong to different religions and celebrate special festivals.
- Religious stories can teach us lessons and show beliefs.
- Belonging, celebration and symbols are important in many faiths.

## Blue Class RE

### Term 1 Cycle A – Religious Festivals

**What's next (UKS2)?**

- Explore similarities and differences between Diwali and other religious festivals.
- Learn more about Hindu beliefs and teachings.
- Investigate how faith and values influence daily life and moral decisions.

**RE Golden Concepts**

Recognising symbols and their relation to religion

Understanding the fundamental features of religion

Knowledge of religious figures and stories

Interpreting how religion affects the lives of believers

Recognising similarities and differences between religions

**Key Vocabulary**

Hinduism	A religion from India. People who follow it are called <b>Hindus</b> .
Festival	A special time of celebration.
Diyas	Small clay oil lamps used during Diwali.
Rama and Sita	Hindu heroes whose story is remembered during Diwali.
Ravana	The demon king defeated by Rama.
Lakshmi	The Hindu goddess of wealth and good fortune.
Puja	A Hindu act of worship or prayer.
Good vs Evil	The main theme of Diwali – good winning over bad.
Light over Darkness	Symbol of hope and truth overcoming fear or ignorance.

**What I will know by the end of the unit:****What can we learn from Diwali about light, goodness and new beginnings?**

<b>What is Diwali?</b>	Diwali means 'row of lights'. It is one of the most important festivals in Hinduism and is also celebrated by Sikhs and Jains. Diwali celebrates the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.
<b>Why is Diwali important to Hindus?</b>	Diwali celebrates the story of Rama and Sita. Diwali is the start of the New Year for many Hindus – a time for fresh starts, family gatherings, prayers and giving thanks. People clean and decorate their homes, wear new clothes, and share food and sweets. Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity, is worshipped during Diwali.
<b>What can we learn from Diwali?</b>	Goodness and Kindness can overcome challenges and wrongdoing. Light represents hope, truth, and guidance – we can be a 'light' for others. The festival teaches about forgiveness, fresh starts, and thankfulness. We can reflect on how to make positive choices and bring joy to others in our own lives.
<b>How is Diwali celebrated in the UK compared to India?</b>	In both the UK and India, Hindus celebrate Diwali by lighting diyas, decorating their homes, and enjoying time with family. India - Diwali is a national holiday celebrated by millions, large firework displays, street decorations, and shops closing for the festival. Temples are filled with people offering prayers, and whole towns are decorated with lights. UK - Diwali is celebrated mainly in Hindu communities. Towns and cities like Leicester and London hold large public celebrations with parades, music, and fireworks. Families still light diyas, exchange sweets, and visit temples.

