

Easter – A comprehension exercise

Easter is thought to be the most important Christian religious festival. It is known as the 'movable feast' because it can be on any day between 22nd March and 25th April.

Easter is based on the lunar calendar, which means that it is related to the moon. Easter Day falls on the first Sunday after the full moon following the 21st March. In 2020, Easter Day will be on April 12th.



On Good Friday, Christians believe that Jesus was crucified on the cross. He died and was placed in a guarded tomb. On the third day he rose from the dead. The rising of Jesus is said to offer the promise of eternal life to everyone, if they follow his teachings. These can be found in the Holy Bible.

Christians celebrate Easter Sunday with a church service. Churches are often full of flowers and some have an Easter garden. Worshippers sing songs and hymns to the Lord.

At Easter time, cards and gifts may be given. Traditional food associated with Easter is: lamb, Easter biscuits, simnel cake, custard tarts, hot cross buns and chocolate. It is customary to give children chocolate eggs at Easter. The egg is a symbol of new life. The first eggs to be given were thought to be brightly painted birds' eggs. Nowadays the chocolate eggs can be any size up to that of an ostrich egg.

The tradition of the Easter egg hunt is thought to be Pagan in origin. This is a game where the 'Easter bunny' hides chocolate eggs and the children search for them. It continues to delight children around the world today.

