River Bank Primary Knowledge OrganiserYear 4Autumn 1What are the deeper meanings of
festivals?Key VocabularyImportant FactsFestivals - commemorating events from the past.Important FactsCelebrations - to be happy for a significant event.Diwali is the five-day festival of lights, celebrated by millions of Hindus and Sikhs across the world.Allah - God, a supreme being.The festival, which coincides with the Hindu New Year, celebrates new
beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.

Diwali - Hindu festival of light.

Ramadan - is a month of fasting for Muslims.

Vaisakhi - is the festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community.

Lakshmi - represents good fortune and prosperity.



Rama and Sita





The festival, which coincides with the Hindu New Year, celebrates new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness. Hindus interpret the Diwali story based upon where they live: In northern India they celebrate the story of King Rama's return to Ayodhya after he defeated Ravana by lighting rows of clay lamps. Southern India celebrates it as the day that Lord Krishna defeated the demon Narakasura.

Eid al-Fitr (Ramadan) Ramadan is an entire month during which Muslims focus on purifying themselves, getting closer to God, and growing in their knowledge/faith.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. This fasting includes refraining from food and drink. The focus is on rebirth and starting again as the best possible person they can be. Muslims generally read an entire chapter of the Qur'an each day (it has 30 chapters) By fasting Muslims believe people become more sympathetic to those less fortunate than ourselves as they feel what it is like to go without food or drink, Muslims feel what it's like to be without. It also helps to bring Muslims together with family, friends, and neighbours as they break their fasts together.

Vaisakhi -This is the festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community, the **Khalsa**, in 1699. It takes place on 13^{th} or 14^{th} April. It is a spring harvest celebration. As part of the festival, Sikhs bathe in sacred rivers like the Ganges, visit temples, meet friends and take part in festivities.



