

Year 1 Assembly

(Come into the hall accompanied by music and using sticks)

Welcome to Year 1 assembly.

(Reporter sitting in chair reading the newspaper)

Editor: Don't just sit here, there is going to be a festival you need to go and find out what the festival is about and why people celebrate it. Come on come on get to it.

Reporter: Hello there I'm from Roman Road Times, I hear there is a festival that is about to begin.

Person 1: Yeah!

Reporter: Could you tell me what the name of the festival is?

Person 2: It's called Diwali the festival of light.

Reporter: Who celebrates this festival?

Person 1: The Hindu community. Hinduism is one of the oldest religions in the world. Hinduism began in India many centuries ago.

Reporter: What is the festival about?

Person 3: Like other religions Hindus have special festivals during the year. Diwali is one of the best-known Hindu festivals. It is a New Year festival and takes place in the autumn around October and November.

Person 4: The festival has different parts to it. As a New Year Festival it is about new beginnings it lasts for 5 days.

Reporter: What happens in this festival?

Person 5: Before the festival the house is cleaned from top to bottom. It is then decorated with different coloured glitter and tinsel.

(Some children pretend to decorate house with tinsel)

Person 6: Little clay lamps called divas are lit and placed in the windows and outside the front door.

Person 7: This is to attract the attention of Lakshmi and to welcome her to the house

(Show picture of Lakshmi).

Person 8: Lakshmi is the Hindu goddess of wealth and all Hindus hope she will visit their homes and bless them with a prosperous new year.

(Show some Divas)

Person 9: The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps'.

Person 10: Children and adults create special designs called Rangoli and mendhi patterns.

Person 11: look at these patterns we have designed.

(Show patterns).

Reporter: Does anything else take place during the celebration of Diwali?

Person 12: Yes, gifts are exchanged and we have displays of fireworks.

Reporter: What do you do during Diwali?

Person 13: First I get up early and dress in a sari my traditional dress. Then we say some prayers and make an offering of fruits and sweets. We receive blessings from our parents, and then we go to the temple. We go to friends and family wishing them a happy diwali.

Person 14: We light our homes with candles and lights that's what Diwali is about, banishing the dark and bringing in the light.

Reporter: what do you mean?

Person 15: It's about good over coming evil. Let us tell you the story of Rama and the ten headed demon.

(Perform play)

We are now going to sing you a song called, 'my favourite things'.

Diwali Style

Thank you for coming to our assembly we hope you enjoyed it.