

ROSH
HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah

‘The Head Of the Year’

- For Jewish people, the New Year is not on the 1st of January.
- It is in late September.

- Rosh Hashanah is the birthday of the world.



- During the festival Jews recall how God created the world in 6 days and rested on the seventh.



- Rosh Hashanah
Is a day of rest and a day for new beginnings.

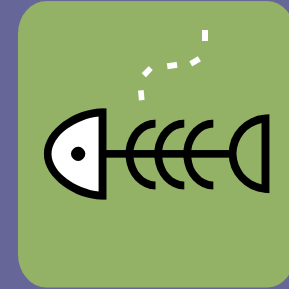
Rosh Hashanah is also the start of the most solemn part of the year, which last for 10 days. These ten days are called the Days of Repentance.

Like all Jewish Festivals, Rosh Hashanah starts at sunset.



At homes Jews have a special evening meal.

- Sometimes this is fish.
- A special part of the meal is eating apple dipped in honey.



Just before these are eaten the following prayer is recited.

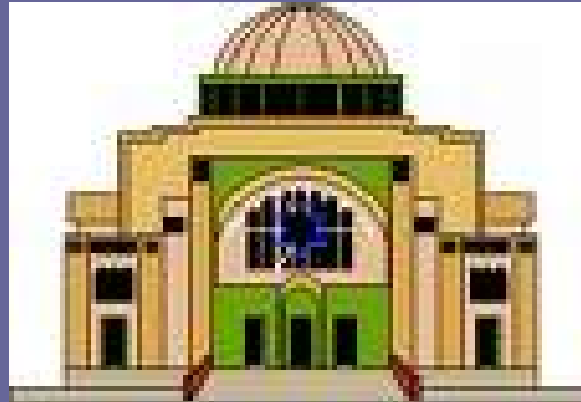
- ‘Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the tree. May it be your will, God of our fathers, to renew us in a good and sweet year.

To reinforce the idea of God as King, some Jewish families bake bread in the shape of a crown.



A special synagogue service is held during the daytime during Rosh Hashanah

- It is like a Sabbath service, but there are extra songs and prayers that help people think about their lives.
- One of the readings is the story of creation.



There is also a part of the service where a horn, called a Shofar, is blown many times.



- The Shofar is made from the horn of an animal that is cleaned and hollowed out with a mouthpiece cut into the narrow end. It can produce a very loud note, which reminds people that god is very powerful, and they must listen to him.

At Rosh Hashanah, Jews greet
each other with

‘L’ Shanah Tovah!’

Which means

‘Have a good year!’