

Hola **Ciao**
SALUT Sa lam
 Konichiwa **NI HAO**



Discover Ireland's Past through English

Elementary

Festivals

Hi! Welcome to the National Museum of Ireland.

Go to Level C and find the section called 'Life in the Community'.

If you can't find it ask one of the museum attendants.

A festival is a day (or days) when all the people in a country have a holiday. For example, most people in Europe and other Christian countries have a holiday on 25th December because this is the day of the Christmas festival. On these festival days people celebrate - they eat special food, play special games or wear special clothes.

In the past in Ireland there were many festivals when people celebrated with their family or with the people in their area.

Task 1

Look around the section 'Life in the Community' and match the festival days on the left with the dates on the right. The first two are examples.

Christmas Day	—————→	25th December
Easter	—————→	March or April
May Day		1st February
Saint Patrick's Day		26th December
Óiche Shamhna		23rd June
Harvest Time		31st October
Saint Briget's Day		1st May
Saint John's Eve		17th March
Saint Stephen's Day		start of September

If you aren't sure **don't worry** - just ask one of the museum attendants.

Task 2

Now read the information a little more carefully and answer these questions.

1: Which festivals are religious?

2: Which festivals celebrate the seasons?

3: At which festival do we remember dead people?

4: What is this festival called today?

5: Which festival celebrates Ireland and Irish people?

What do you think?

Which festivals are celebrated in Ireland today?

What are the colours of the Irish flag?

Why does the flag have these colours?

If you don't know... ask!

Homework

Use your dictionary to find the meaning of these words:

A feast
A parade
A mask
A bonfire

Write about a festival in your country and prepare to tell your friends about it in the next class.

Think about:

The name and date of the festival.

Why do people celebrate this day?

Do the people wear special clothes?

Do they eat special food?

Do they play games, sing or celebrate in a special way?
