

Significant Events (Y3 & Y4)

Key Vocabulary

Baptism	A Christian ritual, using water to symbolise a person's entry into the faith.
Birth	A time of new life and the beginning of a child's journey in the world.
Communion	A Christian ritual where they re-enact the Last Supper using bread and wine.
Conformation	A special time in their faith journey where they publicly affirm their Christian beliefs and vows.
Ceremonies	A special event where people do things in a specific way to mark an important event .
Event	Something that happens, during an important or special time.
Future	The time that comes after the present .
Initiation	Being entered formally into a religion.
Marriage	A legal union between two people.
Milestones	A special moment or achievement in your growth or development.
Past	The time that has already happened.
Present	The time that is happening right now.
Rite of passage	An event when a person moves from one stage of life to another.
Vows	Promises made between two people at a marriage ceremony.

Bar Mitzvah

Once a Jewish boy has reached the age of 13, he has the same rights as an adult. He is now responsible for his own decision and actions.

Bat Mitzvah

A Jewish girl who has turned 12 years old. She is now responsible for her own decisions and actions.

Is life a journey? Life can be viewed as a journey where certain events are 'marked' and celebrated such as birth, first day at school, last day at school, graduation from college/university, first job, first home, marriage, family, end of life etc. For religious people, see life as a journey, from the gift of life given by God at birth to Judgement Day where hopefully eternal life will be granted. Many of the significant events along the way are marked as commitments to the religious way of life.

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Christian Weddings



They take place in a church.

The bride usually wears a white wedding dress and a veil. The groom usually wears a suit.

The bride and groom say vows in front of God and their guests.

They sign a register.

The bride and groom exchange rings which show their eternal love.

When the couple are pronounced husband and wife this shows that they are now united in the eyes of God.



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Hindu Weddings



The bride and groom take seven steps around a holy fire as they say their vows.

A Hindu wedding is called Vivaha, where the two families are joined together.

The bride has her hands and feet painted with henna designs.

The celebrations are very colourful and can last for a few days. They include dancing, blessings and prayers.

Hasta Melaap is when the bride's and groom's right hands are joined together with a white cloth.



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Islamic Weddings



Muslims are people who follow the Islam religion. The weddings are different depending on which country the people or their families originally come from.

Many Muslims have an Islamic ceremony at a mosque and a confirmation at a registry office.

Many marriages are arranged with the help of the parents.

The wedding is called a Nikah.

The couple don't have to be in the same room when they marry.

The husband pays an agreed money gift to the bride called a mahr.

Brides wear a white wedding dress or a bright red and gold outfit.



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Jewish Weddings



The bride and groom don't eat on the day, which is called fasting.

The bride and groom stand under a wedding canopy called a chuppah during the ceremony. The ceremony can be anywhere, some happen in a synagogue.

The Jewish marriage contract Ketubah is signed and sometimes the man still pays a dowry.

The groom breaks some glass at the end of the ceremony and people usually shout "Mazel Tov!"

The couple exchange rings and traditional Jewish music is often played. There is also usually some lively circle dancing.

A rabbi must be at the wedding and the food must be Kosher.



Initiation ceremonies:

Christians can be **baptised** using water to symbolise cleansing from sin and being born again in Christ. **Confirmation**, confirms the promises made during infant baptism and is where they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Jewish girls, aged 12 have a **Bat Mitzvah** initiation ceremony and become a 'daughter of the commandment'. Boys have their **Bar Mitzvah** aged 13, taking on the responsibilities associated with being a Jew.