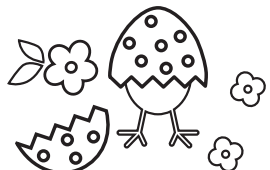
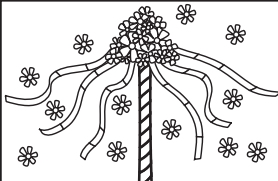
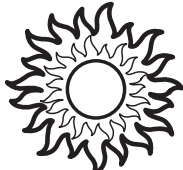


Pagan Festivals

	Samhain 31st October	Pagans believe that the veil between this world and the spirit world is at its thinnest. Pagans light fires and burn candles as protection against the walking dead. All Halloween customs originate from Samhain traditions.
	Yule Winter Solstice 21st December	Pagans celebrate the shortest day of the year with family and friends. They light fires to bring light and warmth into the home. The sun child is re-born and the days become longer.
	Imbolc 2nd February	This is the beginning of the farming year when Pagans light fires to warm up the sun and help their seeds grow. Pagans also make candles, tell stories and read poetry.
	Easter Spring Equinox 20th March	This is the Spring Equinox, when day and night are the same length. Pagans celebrate the birth of new life and the fertility of the land.
	Beltane 1st May	This festival celebrates romance. Pagans light fires to mark the start of summer and lead cattle between two fires to ensure the fertility of the herd. May Day customs originate from Beltane traditions.
	Midsummer Solstice 21st June	The longest day of the year. Pagans honour the life-giving sun with fire. Bees make honey, which Pagans believe is divine and healing, so they call the midsummer full moon the "Honey Moon".
	Lughnasadh 1st August	This is sometimes called Lammas and is the beginning of the harvest festival. Pagans make corn dollies in celebration. This time lasts until the festival of Samhain.
	Mabon Autumn Equinox 22nd September	This the Autumn Equinox, when night and day are the same length. After this festival, the days grow shorter and shorter until the Winter Solstice.