

Yusuhara a Home from Home: 17. Easter!

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Continuing on from the last newsletter about pancake day and the period of lent we reach Easter. It should be mentioned that there are many different religious holidays during this period of early spring in addition to Easter for example, the Jewish celebration of Passover and the Islamic celebration of Ramadan. However I am more familiar with Easter.

Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ exactly three days after his crucifixion at the hands of the Romans. Many historians believe in different origins for the term "Easter" but is generally accepted to mean something new. There are many ways to celebrate Easter, these fall into two categories religious and non religious. Religious people will observe the period of fasting called Lent and begin official celebrations of Easter the Sunday before the holiday. This is called Palm Sunday, it commemorates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, when followers laid palm leaves across the road to greet him. These celebrations end on Easter Sunday.

You may be more familiar with the non religious celebrations of Easter eggs and other events such as egg decorating. These have origins that pre date Christianity and may have been incorporated into the event as it is believed that eggs

represent fertility and birth similar to how Jesus was reborn. Even the food people eat is steeped in tradition and religious meaning. A traditional Easter dinner is focused around the main meat of lamb. Lamb was a common sacrificial animal in Jewish traditions and followed its way to Christianity.

Whether people celebrate for religious or non-religious reasons Easter is celebrated as a time for new life and hope!



Chocolate Easter Eggs are a common way of celebrating in the UK!