HALLOWEEN

What is it and what should I do?
History

Halloween is fun celebration for children and young people on the evening of 31 October. It is not a religious or public holiday. Halloween originated in ancient Celtic times when people marked the end of summer, lighting bonfires to keep evil spirits away. To celebrate, decorate with ghosts, witches, and pumpkins. Carve a spooky pumpkin, dress up, go trick-or-treating for candy, and have a party with games and treats.

Trick or Treat

Recently, the American tradition of 'trick or treat' got popular in Britain. On October 31st, kids dress up in scary costumes, go door to door, and ask for candy. If they don't get treats, they might play a trick. Your kids can join in by dressing up and going out in groups with an adult if they're young. They just need to say 'trick or treat' in English!"

How to not celebrate Halloween?

If you don't want to take part, follow these steps:

Keep Outside Lights off: This tells people you're not giving out candy.
No Pumpkins or Decorations: Do not put up any Halloween things outside.
Keep Curtains Closed: This makes your house look quiet.
Put Up a Simple Sign: Write "No trick-or-treat here, thank you" on a paper and put it on your door.
Stay Inside: If you can, stay inside your house when children are trick-or-treating outside.
Quiet Time: If there's a lot of noise outside, you can listen to music or watch a movie inside.
Tell Your Neighbours: If you talk to your neighbours, tell them you're not giving out candy.
Candy Bowl Option: If you want, you can leave a bowl of candy outside with a note. This stops lots of knocking.
Be Kind: If someone still knocks, just smile, and say you're not giving out candy.

Stay Safe

Halloween this year is a Tuesday and a school night; it will be dark from about 17:30, so most of the 'action' will be early evening, definitely before 8pm. Don't invite trick-or-treaters inside. Kids, with an adult, can knock on houses with lit pumpkins and decorations. Stay safe!