**Other festivals celebrated around the 25th December**

**Kwanzaa**  
A cultural festival, Kwanzaa, is when African Americans celebrate and reflect upon their heritage as the products of two worlds. It lasts for seven days and starts on the 26th December.

**Hindu**  
The 25th December is considered to be the birthday of the Hindu god, Krishna, as well as Mithra, the Greek god of light.

**Wicca  
Wicca is an annual (yearly) Tree Festival which is celebrated in Northern Europe. This festival has been celebrated since before the Christian era and is still celebrated among nature-based faiths.**

**Madmen**  
The Festival of Madmen used to be held on Christmas day. On this day, servants became masters and masters became servants for the day.

**Festival of the ass**  
During the Middle Ages, the Festival of the Ass was held on Christmas Eve, to recall Joseph and Mary’s journey into Egypt. A young girl, carrying a baby, would enter the church riding an ass or donkey. During the service, all the prayers ended with “hee-haw.” The Catholic Church has since banned the festival.

1. What is the root word in cultural?
   1. Using this, explain how a cultural festival is different to a religious festival
2. Which god is believed to have been born on the 25th December?
3. Why has Greek got a capital G?
4. Why were brackets used around the word ‘yearly’?
5. Is the Festival of Madmen still held? How do you know?
6. Using your knowledge of the Nativity, why would a young girl enter a church on an ass or donkey?