**Halloween Facts**

1. The owl is a popular Halloween image. In Medieval Europe, owls were thought to be witches, and to hear an owl's call meant someone was about to die
2. Halloween is Oct. 31 – the last day of the Celtic calendar. It actually originated in Ireland as a pagan holiday honoring the dead and is in more Irish in origin than St. Patrick’s Day
3. Halloween is correctly spelt as Hallowe'en. It also has variously been called All Hallows’ Eve, Witches Night, Lamswool, Snap-Apple Night, Cabbage Night, Samhaim, and Summer’s End.
4. Jack-o'-lanterns were once made out of turnips, beets and potatoes -- not pumpkins.
5. According to tradition, if a person wears his or her clothes inside out and then walks backwards on Halloween, he or she will see a witch at midnight.
6. Mexico celebrates the Days of the Dead (Días de los Muertos) on the Christian holidays All Saints’ Day (November 1) and All Souls’ Day (November 2) instead of Halloween. The townspeople dress up like ghouls and parade down the street
7. Halloween is thought to have originated around 4000 B.C, making it one of the oldest celebrations in the world
8. The word “witch” comes from the Old English wicce, meaning “wise woman.”
9. In North America, black cats are associated with witches, spookiness, and bad luck. But in Japan and Germany, black cats symbolise good luck and are particularly lucky to sailors to ensure a safe journey

1. There are many urban myths about strangers slipping poison or dangerous items into candy. But in reality, almost every case of poisoned candy has been done by a family member of the victim.