Halloween, All Saints Day, and All Souls Day: A Spooky and Sacred Trio

Halloween, All Saints Day, and All Souls Day are three special days that fall at the end of October and the beginning of November. They bring a mix of spooky fun and solemn remembrance, making this time of year truly unique.

Halloween

Halloween is all about costumes, candy, and fun. On the night of October 31st, kids and also adults dress up as witches, superheroes, ghosts, and ghouls. They go *trick-or-treating*, knocking on doors to collect delicious treats. It's also the time for haunted houses, scary movies, and pumpkin carving. Halloween's **roots** go back to old Celtic traditions, where people believed that on this night, the **border** between the living and the dead was the thinnest.

All Saints' Day

November 1st is All Saints Day, a day celebrating all the saints who have lived and passed away. It's a time to celebrate the good and holy people who have set examples for us. In some parts of the world, it's a day to go to church and remember lives of these saints. Many people visit **cemeteries** to remember their loved ones who have passed on. Halloween and All Saints Day are connected - Halloween is "the evening before All Hallows" - and so it's seen as a beginning to the more serious and solemn day of All Saints Day.

All Souls' Day

Following All Saints Day is All Souls Day on November 2nd. This day is **dedicated** to remembering and praying for all souls who have left this world. It's a time to honour our **ancestors** and loved ones who are no longer with us. Many people visit cemeteries to clean and decorate graves and light candles in memory of the dead. It's a day to reflect on the cycle of life and death, remembering those we've lost.

So, as the end of October and the beginning of November approach, remember that this season is not just about costumes and candy. It's also a time to remember our past, both the saintly and the dearly departed. Whether you're having a blast on Halloween or taking a moment for reflection on All Saints Day and All Souls Day, this time of year is a special blend of fun and respect that brings people together in their own unique ways.

Vocabulary: **spooky** - strašidelný; **solemn** - vážný; **roots** - kořeny; **border** - hranice; **cemetery** - hřbitov; **dedicated** - zaměřený, oddaný; **ancestors** - předkové; **have a blast** - užít si něco; **blend** - spojení, směs

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QUESTIONS

1. When is All Saints' Day celebrated?
2. What is trick-or-treating?
3. What do people do on All Souls' Day?
4. What does "Halloween" mean?

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