



THE FESTIVAL OF KINDERDANK

Kinderdank is a special day in the Kinder calendar.


On the morning of Kinderdank, the day starts with a communal breakfast. The kinder sit at an exquisitely laid table, adorned with flowers and candles. Kinder biscuits are carefully scattered all over the table.

When everyone is sat, the eldest Kinder lights the candles and leads everyone in singing the Kinderdank song.

There is a short pause, and silence while everyone meets the eyes of those sat around the table with them. Then led again by the eldest, each kinder takes it in turns to pick up a biscuit, look at a fellow kinder, and say what they appreciate about them. When they have finished saying their kind words, they give the biscuit they are holding to that kinder, as a token of their words.

Each Kinder does this for everyone at the table. So, in the end each kinder ends up with a pile of delicious sweetness to enjoy over the coming weeks.

It is rude in Kinder culture to eat Kinderdank biscuits in a hurried manner. One must find a quiet spot and savour the sweetness, and absorb the kind words that came with it.



After breakfast the children gather baskets and run about the house and gardens. They are hunting for painted hearts that the adult Kinder have hidden for them. Each heart has a different colour. The colours represent different kinds of love/gratitude

Red- Love for yourself

Orange - love for memories

Yellow - Love for friends

Green - Love for your surrounding and nature

Blue - love for family

Purple - love for hobbies and interests.

When the children have gathered their basket of hearts, they go back to the castle and find a special grown up of their choice. Together they empty the hearts one at a time. With each colour they try and think of a thing of that type of love that they appreciate in their lives.

Many of the children string their hearts up, and hang them in a special place, but some Kinder children store theirs in a special box, or a secret little place. This is so should they be sad or come across difficult times they can go back to their hearts and remember.