## Seasonal Shopping (Autumn/Winter) - UK - April 2016

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

"The value of autumn events rose by an estimated $5.8 \%$ in 2015, driven by increased spend on Halloween among young families and Millennials, and continued high purchasing levels for back-to-school. Overshadowed by these events and the Christmas build-up, the retail boost from Bonfire Night is relatively small."

This report looks at the following areas:

- What are the prospects for the back-to-school market?
- What is driving growth in the Halloween market?
- How have the supermarkets fared? What are the opportunities and challenges facing them?

The events covered in this Report were worth a combined $£ 916$ million in 2015, an increase of $5.8 \%$ on the previous year, we estimate. The supermarkets dominate the market, yet the discounters and the pureplays are a growing force. A third of shoppers bought Halloween products from a discount retailer in 2015 and Amazon ranks third in terms of shopper numbers for back-to-school.

Back-to-school is the second largest seasonal event behind Christmas; some $80 \%$ of parents make a purchase for their child in time for the school term. The market remains highly price-sensitive, yet a willingness to trade up suggests potential for future growth. The retail boost from Bonfire Night is relatively small, overshadowed by Halloween and the pre-Christmas build-up. Millennials have emerged as a key consumer group driving spend on Halloween.

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## Seasonal events market size <br> Favourable economic conditions <br> Change to school leaving age legislation

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