



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDUM

TITLE: Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances, School Year 2019-2020

NUMBER: MEM-5466.9

ISSUER: Pia V. Escudero
Executive Director
Student Health and Human Services

DATE: August 2, 2019

ROUTING
All Schools
All Employees

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Memorandum is to assist in the planning of school and work events. The increasingly pluralistic population of the United States creates diverse working and learning communities. L.A. Unified offers this Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances as a tool to enhance mutual understanding, respect, awareness and sensitivity among various religious, ethnic and cultural groups, to be a resource for schools to incorporate these dates into their instructional activities, and for reference in scheduling school activities.

BACKGROUND: The Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances draws from multiple sources, including the California Education Code 37220-37222.5, L.A. Unified Board Rule 1102, and specific Board of Education resolutions identifying the events, and cultural, religious, and community calendars. This calendar is based on information available at the time of production. Ultimately, some events may differ from what was available at the time of authorship. Inclusion does not imply official endorsement by L.A. Unified. Similarly, omissions are not intended to be exclusionary in nature.

Lessons are to be age and grade level appropriate, and taught in a historical and social studies context, as set forth in the California History/Social Science Framework. It is important to recognize the responsibility to teach about any religion in a neutral, prudent and objective manner. The 1963 Supreme Court clarified public schools' role in the objective teaching about religion, "... it might well be said that one's education is not complete without a study of comparative religion or the history of religion and its relationship to the advancement of civilization," *School District of Abington Township, Pennsylvania v. Schempp* (No. 142) (1963) 374 U.S. 203, 225.

MAJOR CHANGES: This memorandum replaces MEM-5466.8 Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances, School Year 2018 – 2019.



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDUM

INSTRUCTIONS: Schools shall commemorate the events as noted by California Education Code and L.A. Unified Board Rule 1102. Schools may recognize the holidays and dates with culturally relevant and responsive lessons, activities, projects, and assemblies that connect to the core curriculum. When the dates fall on non-school days or conflict with school activities (such as during testing), observances may be held on an alternate day.

RELATED RESOURCES:

- Board Rule 1102, Observance of Certain Events
- L.A. Unified Codes §§37220-37223, Calendar of School Holidays and Commemorative Dates
- California Education, Framework for Multicultural and Human Relations
- California Education Code §51511, References to Religion and use of Religious Literature
- California Government Code §6700, State Legal Holidays
- California History Social Science Framework
- BUL-5298.2 Guidelines For Halloween Activities, dated September 26, 2016, issued by Office of the Division of District Operations
- BUL-5479.2 Guidelines for Teaching About Religions, dated April 11, 2016, issued by School Operations and Office of Educational Services
- REF-5464.6 Initial Notification of Truancy (1st NOT) Report Central Automation and School Generated (2nd and 3rd NOT) Procedures, published August 3, 2018, Student Health and Human Services
- BUL-6204.2 Holiday Displays and Programs, dated November 21, 2017, issued by the Division of District Operations
- BUL-6285.0 Guidelines for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Inclusive Education, dated May 12, 2014, issued by the Office of the Superintendent-School Operations
- MEM-5415 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day (updated annually)
- MEM-6843 Good Friday (updated annually)
- MEM-6544 Observance of Constitution Day (updated annually)

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A- Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances

ASSISTANCE: For assistance or further information, please contact Student Health and Human Services - Human Relations, Diversity and Equity at (213) 241-8719.

CALENDAR OF COMMEMORATIVE DATES AND OBSERVANCES
ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020

This calendar is provided to assist in the planning of school and work calendars. There are ten federal holidays:

Set by date:

- **New Year's Day**, January 1
- **Independence Day**, July 4
- **Veterans Day**, November 11
- **Christmas Day**, December 25

Fourth Thursday of November:

- **Thanksgiving**

Typically celebrated on Mondays:

- **Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday**, third Monday in January
- **Washington's Birthday**, third Monday in February
- **Memorial Day**, last Monday in May
- **Labor Day**, first Monday in September
- **Indigenous People's Day** (f.k.a., Columbus Day), second Monday in October

Anniversaries of historical events, special commemorative occasions, and ethnic, cultural and religious celebrations are offered to assist schools that wish to incorporate these dates into their instructional activities. Religious events and observances are coded to indicate the faith(s) with which they are commonly associated.

B= Buddhism

Ba= Bahá'í

H= Hinduism

I= Islam

J= Judaism

Ja= Jainism

O= Orthodox Christian

P= Protestant

RC= Roman Catholic

S= Sikhism

Sh= Shinto

Many dates have both secular and religious connotations. Christmas, for example, is widely celebrated as a secular holiday unrelated to its religious significance. The observation of some events may vary in accordance with the calendar being used, regional customs, group preferences and lunar/solar cycles.

This document uses symbols to indicate events whose observation has calendaring variations:

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

+ Some religious holidays are solar-based and begin at sundown of the preceding day and end at sunset of the day listed. These events are identified with a plus symbol (+).

* The occurrence of some events is adjusted to fall on a standard workday or week, on a designated day rather than a designated date, or to adhere to a calendar other than a Gregorian calendar. For example, *No Name Calling Week* always occurs on school days, *Thanksgiving* always occurs on the fourth Thursday in November, and Jewish holy days follow the Jewish calendar. These events are indicated with an asterisk (*).

^ Other observances have local or regional variations. These events are marked with a caret (^).

When the commemoration of non-Federally recognized events conflicts with scheduled school activities (such as during the testing period), schools may opt to honor the event on an alternate date.

This Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances is based on the information available at the time of production. Ultimately, the recognition of some events may differ from what has been anticipated at the time of authorship. Sources of information include, but are not limited to: California Education

Code, Los Angeles Unified School Board Rule 1102, National Conference for Community and Justice, Interfaith Calendar, Educational Research Service, Resources for Planning the School Calendar, the Anti-Defamation League, www.adl.org, www.timeanddate.com, www.interfaith-calendar.org and www.chabad.org. For additional resources, visit the L.A. Unified's Human Relations, Diversity and Equity website at <http://achieve.lausd.net/human-relations>.

Errors of omission or commission should be directed to Judy.Chiasson@lausd.net.

July 2019		
Park and Recreation Month recognizes the National Recreation and Park Association's strives to advance parks, recreation and environmental conservation efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people. www.nrpa.org		
July 4 Schools closed	Independence Day Government Code Sec. 6701, Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	The federal holiday celebrating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.
July 9+*	Martyrdom of the Báb (Ba)	The day is in observance of the martyrdom of the Báb, the forerunner of the Prophet and the founder of the Bahá'í Faith. One of the nine Holy days during which Bahá'ís do not work.
July 11	World Population Day	World Population Day was established by the United Nations to raise awareness of global population issues. http://www.un.org/en/events/populationday
July 13-15*^	Obon (B)	Three-day festival during which Japanese and Japanese/American honor their ancestors.
July 16*^	Asalha Puja Day – Dharma Day (B)	The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching after his enlightenment. <i>Observed on the first full moon in July.</i>
July 18	Nelson Mandela International Day	Mandela devoted his life to the service of humanity – as a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, an international peacemaker and the first democratically elected president of a free South Africa.
July 24	Pioneer Day	Commemorates the Mormon pioneers' passage into the Salt Lake Valley from Emigration Canyon in 1847.
July 26	Americans with Disabilities Day	The American with Disabilities Act was signed in 1990 to guarantee equal opportunity for people with disabilities.
July 28*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.

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August 2019		
<p>Children's Eye Health and Safety Month inspires parents to make their child's vision health a priority.</p> <p>National Immunization Awareness Month is an annual observance to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages.</p> <p>National Truancy Prevention Month recognizes that chronic truancy causes serious harm to young people in America.</p>		
August 1	Lammas (P)	Lammas is a harvest holiday of Christian or Pagan significance. It can either be used to celebrate the coming harvest or the god Lugh – the master of skills.
August 6	National Night Out	An annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. https://natw.org/about
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous People	The celebration of the richness of indigenous cultures and the recognition of the challenges to indigenous peoples today.
August 12	International Youth Day	International Youth Day celebrates the role of young women and men as essential partners in change and raises awareness of the challenges and hardships facing the world's youth.
August 12-15**	Eid al Adha (I)	Eid al-Adha lasts for up to three days and is a time to seek mercy from God. It is also known as the Feast of Sacrifice, marking the end of the Pilgrimage to Mecca.
August 15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (RC)	The largely Catholic belief that at the end of her life, Mary, the mother of Christ, was taken body and soul into heaven to live with her son.
August 15*	Raksha Bandhan (H)	The Hindu festival that celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters. On this day, sisters tie sacred threads on their brother's wrists and brothers vow to protect their sisters against all odds.
August 15*	Ullambana, The Buddhist Ghost Festival (B)	The unsettled spirits of the dead ancestors are calmed with chanting and offerings to enable them to pass peacefully into the next world.
August 15*	Dormition of the Theotokos (O)	The Orthodox Christian feast of the Dormition or Falling-asleep of the Theotokos (Virgin Mary) is preceded by a two-week fast.
August 19*	World Humanitarian Day	World Humanitarian Day is in recognition of and tribute to humanitarian workers who have risked and lost their lives in humanitarian service. <i>The 2019 theme is #notatarget.</i>

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August 23	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	The memorialization of the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade coincides with the 1791 anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo that initiated its abolition. http://www.unesco.org .
August 24*	Krishna Janmashtami (H)	The Hindu commemoration of the birth of Krishna, the eighth incarnation of god Vishnu, who took the form of Krishna to destroy the evil king Kansa.
August 24*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
August 26	Women's Equality Day	The commemoration of the 1920 passage of the 19 th Amendment which gave women full voting rights. www.nwhp.org
August 27- September 3**	Paryushana Parva(Ja)	The most important Jain festival consists of eight (Swetambra) or ten (Digambara) days of intensive fasting, repentance and reflection.
August 30* Schools closed	California Admission Day, <i>Observed</i> Board Rule 1102	California was admitted as the 31 st state on September 9, 1850.
August 31 – September 1	Al-Hijra New Year's (I)	The month of Muharram marks the beginning of the Islamic liturgical year.

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September 2019

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is a time to honor and remember children and families affected by these devastating diseases and rally support to give kids with cancer better outcomes. <http://childrenscancer.org>

Latino Heritage Month celebrates the rich cultural heritage of Latino Americans and the many contributions they have and continue to make to American culture. The month-long celebration from September 15 - October 15 was designated by presidential proclamation (36 United States Code 126).

Library Card Sign Up Month serves as a reminder to ensure all children have library cards. Information and materials available from American Library Association. www.ala.org

National Preparedness Month reminds us that we all must take action to prepare for emergencies that could affect us where we live, work, and also where we visit. <https://www.ready.gov/september>

National School Success Month is a time to encourage students and teachers to continue to reach for the stars.

Suicide Prevention Month is a time for mental health advocates, prevention organizations, survivors, allies, and community members to unite and promote suicide prevention awareness. <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

September 2* Schools closed	Labor Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	The federal holiday was first celebrated in 1882 to recognize U.S. workers. <i>Occurs on the first Monday in September.</i>
September 2*	Ganesh Chaturthi (H)	The birthday of Lord Ganesha, the elephant deity is one of the most popular of Hindu festivals.
September 8	International Literacy Day	There are close to four billion literate people in the world. However, literacy for all is still an unaccomplished goal and an ever-moving target.
September 8	National Grandparents Day	A day to affirm the identity and importance of grandparents and the vital roles they play. It is also a day of giving – giving of self; sharing hopes, dreams, and values; and setting an example, and advocating for future generations. https://grandparentsday.org
September 8-14*	National Suicide Prevention Week	Suicide is never the answer. National Suicide Prevention Week surrounds World Suicide Prevention Day, September 10 th to increase suicide prevention awareness. www.suicidology.org
September 9	California Admission Day Board Rule 1102 <i>Observed August 30*</i>	California was admitted as the 31 st state on September 9, 1850. <i>Often observed on an alternate date in L.A. Unified.</i>
September 9*	Ashura (I)	A day of fasting that occurs on the tenth day of Muharram to celebrate Moses' exodus from Egypt.
September 10	World Suicide Prevention Day	Suicide is never the answer. Increase suicide prevention awareness. www.suicidology.org
September 11	Patriot Day 36 United States Code 144	An annual observance for those who were injured or died during the September 11 th terrorists attacks. Flags are flown at half-mast. www.911memorial.org

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September 16	Mexican Independence Day Celebration of Mexican History and Culture Board Rule 1102	September 16 marks the beginning of Mexico's struggle for independence from Spain in 1810.
September 16	National Stepfamily Day	A day to celebrate blended families.
September 17- 23*	Constitution and Citizenship Week Ed Code 37221	The Constitutional Convention ended its work of framing the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787. www.constitutionday.com
September 19	Talk Like a Pirate Day	It is a fun day to talk and dress like pirates. Talk Like a Pirate Day is celebrated in more than 40 countries.
September 20	Installation of the Guru Granth Sahib as Eternal Guru (S)	The Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh Scripture, is a compilation of the divine revelations to the Sikh Gurus and saints of other faiths reaffirming the fundamental unity of all religions.
September 21*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
September 23	Bi Visibility Day	Also known as International Celebrate Bisexuality Day, has been marked each year since 1999 to highlight biphobia and help people find the bisexual community.
September 23- 27*	Ally Week	Ally Week serves to identify, support and celebrate allies against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender biased-language, bullying and harassment. www.allyweek.org
September 25*	See You at the Flag Pole	National event of students praying together, usually before school at the school's flagpole. Occurs on the fourth Wednesday in September. www.syatp.com
September 27- 28*	Character Day	The mission is to use film, technology, discussion materials, and events to engage a 21st century audience in conversation and action around complicated subjects that are shaping our lives. www.letitripple.org
September 27*	Native American Day Ed Code 37220.7	A day to recognize the role and contributions of American Indians to American culture and society. <i>Occurs on the fourth Friday in September.</i>
September 29*	Gold Star Mother's Day	Gold Star Mother's Day recognizes and honors those who have lost a child while serving in the Armed Forces. <i>Observed on the last Sunday of September.</i>
September 29- October 1+*	Rosh Hashanah (J)	Jewish New Year is a time of inner renewal and divine atonement.
September 29- October 8*^	Navratri (H)	The nine nights symbolize the triumph of good over evil and mark the start of autumn.

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October 2019

Blindness Awareness Month was established to help people understand the realities of living without sight. www.blindness.org

Bully Prevention Month unites communities nationwide to raise awareness of bullying prevention. During the event—and throughout the year—we are encouraged to engage, educate and inspire others to end bullying by promoting positive more affirming schools. www.stopbullying.gov

California School Bus Safety Awareness Month encourages parents, students, teachers, motorists, and school bus drivers to promote the importance of school bus safety.

College Awareness Month promotes college-going culture, including early awareness through GEAR UP 4 LA and other programs.

Crime Prevention Month was established in 1984 to spread the word about crime prevention and personal safety. <https://www.nnw.org/publication/october-crime-prevention-month>

Daniel Pearl World Music Days is an international network of concerts that use the power of music to reaffirm our commitment to tolerance and humanity. www.danielpearlmusicdays.org

Disability Awareness Employment Month increases awareness of the contributions and skills of American workers with disabilities. Board Rule 1102

Dyslexia Awareness Month brings awareness of those who struggle with dyslexia and other related reading differences so that they may have richer, more robust lives and access to the tools and resources they need.

Filipino American History Month celebrates and honors Filipino Americans and their contributions in the U.S. and globally. www.fanhs-national.org

Girls Empowerment Month introduces girls in public schools across Los Angeles County to different career opportunities, especially those in schools focusing on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). <http://girlsbuildla.weebly.com/girls-empowerment-month.html>

Latino Heritage Month celebrates the rich cultural heritage of Latino Americans and the many contributions they have and continue to make to American culture. The celebration from September 15 - October 15 was designated by presidential proclamation. Board Rule 1102

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) History Month marks and celebrates the achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. www.glsen.org

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month increases awareness of the disease and raises funds for research into its cause, prevention and cure. The campaign also offers information and support to those affected by breast cancer. www.nationalbreastcancer.org

National Cyber Security Awareness Month raises awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and reminds us to do our part to make sure that our online lives are kept safe and secure. <https://www.dhs.gov/national-cyber-security-awareness-month>

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month connects advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. <https://www.nrcdv.org/dvam>

National Energy Awareness Month encourages government and organizations to raise awareness of the importance of sustainably managing the nation's energy resources.

National Substance Abuse Prevention Month focuses on the role substance abuse prevention plays in promoting safe and healthy communities. <https://youth.gov/feature-article/national-substance-abuse-prevention-month>

October 2	International Day of Non-Violence	The United Nations established the International Day of Non-Violence on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.
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October 2	National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day	This day is set aside to show appreciation to those who keep our schools and workplaces running smoothly.
October 5	World Teachers' Day	The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Foundation (UNESCO) created this day in 1966.
October 7*	National Child Health Day 36 U.S. Code Section 105	Child Health Day focuses attention on issues related to children's development and well-being. <i>Occurs on the first Monday in October.</i>
October 7 -13*	National Fire Prevention Week	Established to commemorate the 1871 Great Chicago Fire that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2000 acres.
October 8+*	Yom Kippur (J)	The Day of Atonement marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.
October 8*	Dasara/Vijayadashami (H)	The day signifies victory and valor. Lord Rama slew the evil Ravana and emerged victorious on this day.
October 10	World Mental Health Day	The World Health Organization raises awareness and provides assistance to advocacy campaigns about mental health concerns. www.who.int
October 11	National Coming Out Day	An international event established in 1987 to promote the vision of a country where lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals could live truthfully and openly. www.hrc.org
October 13-20+*	Sukkot (J)	The weeklong Feast of Booths commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.
October 14*	Indigenous People's Day, fka Columbus Day and as Discoverers' Day Board Rule 1102	The federal holiday that honors all explorers and commemorates Christopher Columbus' sighting of the New World on October 12, 1492. <i>Occurs on the second Monday in October.</i>
October 14-18*	Week of the School Administrator Ed. Code 44015.1	Honor the administrators who make our schools great. <i>Occurs the second full week in the month of October.</i>
October 14-20*	American Indian Awareness Week Board Rule 1102	This week was signed by President Gerald Ford in 1976, making it the first national recognition for the American Indian. <i>Occurs the second week in October.</i>
October 14-20*	National School Lunch Week	Highlights the importance of school lunch. <i>Occurs the second week in October.</i>
October 15	White Cane Safety Day 36 United States Code 142	The date is set aside to celebrate the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired and the important symbol of blindness and tool of independence, the white cane.

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October 16	World Food Day	Promotes worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all.
October 16	International Pronouns Day	International Pronouns Day seeks to make asking, sharing, and respecting personal pronouns commonplace. Referring to people by the pronouns they determine for themselves is basic to human dignity.
October 17	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	This day is a call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.
October 17*	The Great California Shake Out	The Great California Shakeout drill is held at 10:17 a.m. to help Californians prepare for a major earthquake. <i>Occurs on the third Thursday in October.</i> www.shakeout.org
October 18**^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
October 18*	Spirit Day	Established in 2010 to show support for LGBTQ+ youth and take a stand against bullying. Wear purple as a visible statement against bullying. <i>Occurs on the third Thursday in October.</i> www.glaad.org/spiritday
October 19-26*	Digital Citizenship Week	Digital Citizenship Week is the perfect time to reflect on the role technology plays in our lives, to share positive experiences, build positive online habits, and learn about digital safety and responsibility.
October 20-22**	Shmini Atzeret (J)	The Eighth Day of Assembly occurs immediately following Sukkoth.
October 20-26*	National Safe Schools Week	Activities draw attention to the continuing problem of school violence and educate everyone about how schools can be safer and more secure. <i>Occurs during the third full week in October.</i> www.schoolsafety.us/safe-schools-week
October 20-26*	National School Bus Safety Week	National School Bus Safety Week is an excellent time to join forces and address the importance of school bus safety. <i>Occurs during the third full week of October.</i> www.napt.org/nsbsw .
October 22**	Simchat Torah (J)	Simchat Torah celebrates and marks the conclusion of the annual cycle of public Torah readings and the beginning of a new cycle.
October 23-31*	Red Ribbon Week	Red Ribbon Week is an alcohol, tobacco and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign. The 2019 theme is “Life is Your Journey, Travel Drug Free” www.redribbon.org

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October 24	United Nations Day	The commemoration of the founding of the United Nations in 1945.
October 26*	Make a Difference Day	The day dedicated to the helping others and of neighbors helping neighbors. <i>Occurs on the fourth Saturday in October.</i> www.makeadifferenceday.com
October 27*^	Diwali (H, Ja, S)	The most popular of the Hindu festivals, Diwali celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance.
October 30+*	Baha'u'llah Birthday (Ba)	The day that commemorates the birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet Founder of the Bahá'í Faith. One of the nine Holy days during which Bahá'ís do not work.
October 31	Halloween	The Eve of All Saints' Day, traditionally an occasion for masquerading and pumpkin carving.
October 31	Reformation Day (P)	This day commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.

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November 2019

Alzheimer’s Awareness Month draws awareness to the common neurodegenerative disease in the United States. www.alz.org

Epilepsy Awareness Month raises public awareness of seizures. <https://www.efepa.org/get-involved/neam>

Gang Awareness and Prevention Month encourages cities and constitutions to take steps to prevent future gang activity and honor those who lost their lives due to gang activity. AB 134 of 2018

National American Indian/Alaskan Native Heritage Month remembers the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives and honors the heritage of our continent’s first inhabitants. <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov>

National Child Safety and Protection Month is dedicated to recognizing the unique potential dangers many children face in their everyday lives and taking tangible steps of prevention against those challenges.

National Family Literacy Month addresses education and literacy needs by engaging family members in learning--from the classroom to the community to the digital frontier. <http://familieslearning.org>

National Homeless Youth Awareness Month provides an opportunity to bring attention to the experiences of over 13,700 homeless students attending L.A. Unified schools.

Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month promotes awareness and appreciation of the Sikh community in cities throughout California.

November 1	All Saints' Day (RC, P)	The Roman Catholic and Anglican holiday celebrating all saints, known and unknown.
November 1	Samhain Beltrane	Samhain is a Gaelic harvest festival linked to festivals held around the same time in other Celtic cultures and is now popularized as the Celtic New Year.
November 1–2	Dia de los Muertos (RC)	An occasion to remember dead ancestors and celebrate the continuity of life.
November 2	All Souls' Day (RC, P)	Commemoration of all faithful Christians who have died.
November 3*	Standard Time begins Daylight Saving Time ends	The beginning of all U.S. time zones. At 2 a.m., clocks move back one hour.
November 3*	Change Your Clock Change Your Batteries	The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission urges us to stay safe by changing the batteries in our smoke and carbon-monoxide alarms when we change our clocks. www.cpsc.gov
November 3-4	Bunka No Hi	This public Japanese holiday was established to promote appreciation of peace and culture.
November 5*	Election Day	The day that elections are held in many states and cities. <i>Usually occurs on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November.</i>
November 9	Kristallnacht (J)	Commemorates the 1938 pogrom against Jews throughout Germany and Vienna.

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November 9 ⁺ *	Mawlid al-Nabi (I)	The celebration of the birthday of Muhammad, the founder of Islam.
November 11* Schools closed	Veterans Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	Also known as Remembrance Day and Armistice Day, Veteran's Day marks the anniversary of the end of World War I and celebrates all U.S. military veterans. <i>Occurs on November 11 unless the date falls on a weekend.</i>
November 11-15*	American Education Week	This week profiles the accomplishments and needs of public schools. Sponsored by the National Education Association and the American Legion. www.nea.org
November 12*	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib (S)	This is the celebration of the first Sikh Guru.
November 13*	Education Support Professionals Day	The day dedicated to the recognition of educational support personnel. <i>Occurs on Wednesday of American Education Week.</i>
November 14*	National Parental Involvement Day	The day dedicated to the recognition of parental involvement. <i>Occurs on the third Thursday in November.</i> www.projectappleseed.org
November 14 ^{*^}	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
November 15	Substitute Educators Day	This day honors the educators who are called upon to replace regularly employed teachers. http://www.nea.org/grants/61042.htm
November 16	International Day for Tolerance	The day that focuses attention on the dangers of intolerance and encourages respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures and people.
November 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance	The day that recognizes activities that memorialize those who were killed due to transgender prejudice. www.glaad.org
November 21	Feast of the Entrance into the Temple of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos (O)	The Feast commemorates when as a young child, the Virgin Mary entered the Temple in Jerusalem.
November 21*	Great American Smoke Out	The American Cancer Society encourages smokers to take an important step toward a healthier life by quitting smoking – even for one day. <i>Occurs on the third Thursday of November.</i> www.cancer.org
November 24	Martyrdom of Guru TegBahadur (S)	The day that honors Guru TegBahadur as the ninth of the ten Gurus who founded Sikhism. He is honored as a man who died for religious freedom.

⁺ Observation begins at sunset

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November 24-30*	National Family Week	The day is dedicated to promote family strength and integrity.
November 28* Schools closed	Thanksgiving Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	The federal holiday established by an Act of Congress in 1941, the first such national proclamation, issued by President Lincoln in 1863. <i>Occurs on the fourth Thursday in November.</i>
November 26+*	Day of the Covenant (Ba)	The festival that commemorates Bahá'u'lláh's appointment of his eldest son, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, as the center of his covenant.
November 28	Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá (Ba)	The commemoration of the passing of the son of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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December 2019		
<p>Universal Human Rights Month promotes action that advances respect for human rights at home and abroad. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948. http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/</p>		
December 1	World AIDS Day	The international day of action focused on HIV and AIDS. www.worldaidsday.org
December 1*	First Sunday of Advent (RC, P)	The Christian time of preparation for observing the birth of Jesus Christ. The four Sundays before Christmas are marked by special church services.
December 2	Special Education Day	Special Education Day marks the anniversary of our first federal special education law, signed by President Gerald Ford in 1975. http://www.specialeducationday.com/
December 3*	GivingTuesday	GivingTuesday is a global day of charitable giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. <i>Occurs the Tuesday following Thanksgiving.</i>
December 3	Persons with Disabilities	The day that promotes the raising of awareness about persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.
December 7	National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	Observation to honor the 2,403 people who were killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941, during World War II.
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception (RC)	The Roman Catholic holy day commemorates the Virgin Mary's freedom from original sin.
December 9-15*	Computer Science Education Week	Computer science plays a crucial role in transforming our society, enabling innovation and creating economic opportunities. The week is dedicated to inspiring students to take interest in computer science. www.csedweek.org
December 10	Human Rights Day	The anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.
December 11*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
December 12	Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe (RC)	The celebration of the patron saint of Mexico.
December 15	Bill of Rights Day	The anniversary of the adoption of the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1791.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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December 16-24	Las Posadas (RC)	A period of nine days in which the journey of Mary and Joseph is replayed. A time of religious ceremonies and festivities.
December 21*	Winter Solstice	The shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. Marks the first day of the season of winter.
December 22-30+*	Hanukah Festival of Lights (J)	Celebrates the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the ancient temple in Jerusalem.
December 23	Festivus	Festivus is a zany offbeat holiday popularized by the television show Seinfeld for those seeking an alternative to the commercialism and pressures of the Christmas holiday season.
December 25 Schools closed	Christmas (RC, P) Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	A widely celebrated holiday with secular and religious connotations. The religious observance marks the birth of Christ with centuries old customs.
December 26 - January 1	Kwanzaa	Created in 1966, this African American seven-day spiritual festival is dedicated to the values of unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.
December 29	Wounded Knee Day	The memorialization of the massacre of more than 200 Lakota Sioux by US troops at Wounded Knee, South Dakota in 1890.
December 31	New Year's Eve	Countries across the world celebrate the last day of the year.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

15

January 2020		
<p>National Blood Donor Month is a time when blood organizations like the American Red Cross pay tribute to the nearly 11 million people who give blood each year and encourage others to start the New Year off right by giving the gift of life. www.redcrossblood.org</p> <p>National Braille Literacy Month honors Louis Braille, who developed the Braille code nearly 200 years ago.</p> <p>National Mentoring Month focuses national attention on increasing the number of mentors to help ensure positive outcomes for our young people. www.mentoring.org</p> <p>National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month calls upon all Americans to recognize the vital role we can play in ending all forms of modern slavery. www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/resource/preventionmonth</p>		
January 1 Schools closed	New Year's Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	The federal holiday with origins in Roman times when sacrifices were offered to Janus, the two-faced Roman deity who looked back on the past and forward to the future.
January 1	Gantan-sai (Sh)	Gantan Sai is the Shinto New Year festival observed with prayers for inner renewal. The holiday lasts seven days during which observers visit shrines to pray for good health and prosperity.
January 2*^	Bodhi Day - Enlightenment of Buddha (B)	The Buddhist celebration of the Enlightenment of founder Shakyamuni Buddha, ca 596 BCE.
January 6	Epiphany (RC, P)	The visit of the three kings to baby Jesus is celebrated twelve days after Christmas. One of the three major Christian festivals.
January 6	Nativity of Christ, Christmas (O)	A widely-celebrated centuries-old holiday with secular and religious connotations that marks the birth of Christ. The day celebrated by the Armenian Apostolic Church, also known as the Armenian Orthodox Church.
January 7	Feast of the Nativity, Christmas (O)	The religious observance on the Orthodox Christian calendar marks the birth of Christ with centuries old customs.
January 8*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
January 10-12*	Mahayana New Year (B)	The new year celebrated by Mahayana Buddhists on the first full moon day in January.
January 11	Human Trafficking Awareness Day	National campaign to raise awareness on human trafficking and modern-day slavery.
January 15*	Makar Sankrant (H)	Makar Sankrant is one of the most important Hindu festivals and celebrates the sun's journey into the northern hemisphere.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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January 16	Religious Freedom Day	The 1786 Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom stopped the practice of taxing people to pay for the support of the local clergy and protected the civil rights of people to express their religious beliefs without suffering discrimination.
January 19*	World Religion Day (Ba)	The day that fosters the interfaith understanding and harmony by emphasizing the common characteristics found in all religions. <i>Occurs on the third Sunday in January.</i>
January 20* Schools closed	Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	What are you doing for others? Transform Dr. King's life and teachings into service that helps empower and strengthen local communities. <i>Occurs on the third Monday in January.</i> www.nationalservice.gov
January 20-24*	No Name Calling Week	Celebrate kindness while working to create safe schools free of name-calling, bullying and bias. For activities and lesson plans, visit www.glsen.org
January 23	National Handwriting Day	Celebrates and commemorates the practice of handwriting with a pen or pencil.
January 23	Ed Roberts Day Ed Code 37222.17	Recognizes the life, accomplishments and contributions of Ed Roberts and other Californians with disabilities.
January 25*	Lunar New Year (B)	Lunar New Year is the longest and most important celebration in many Asian countries. Festivities traditionally start on the first day of the lunar month and continue for two weeks. 2020 is the Year of the Rat .
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day aka Yom Hashoah	This international memorial day commemorates the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during World War II.
January 28	Data Privacy Day	Create awareness about the importance of privacy and protecting personal information. https://staysafeonline.org
January 30	Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution Ed Code 37222.15	Commemorates the contributions of Fred Korematsu and other civil rights advocates for Japanese American redress. First U.S. holiday named after an Asian American. http://korematsuinstitute.org

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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February 2020		
<p>American Heart Month raises awareness about heart disease and how people can prevent it. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-topics/education-and-awareness/american-heart-month</p> <p>Black History Month was created in 1926 as a month-long celebration to reflect on the history, teachings and achievements of African Americans. Board Rule 1102. www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov</p> <p>Children's Dental Health Month raises awareness about the importance of oral health. www.ada.org</p>		
February 1	National Freedom Day	The day that commemorates the signing of the 13 th Amendment that abolished slavery in 1865.
February 2	Groundhog Day	Legend has it that if the groundhog sees his shadow on this day and returns to his burrow, winter will continue for six more weeks. www.groundhog.org
February 2-6	National School Counseling Week	Highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.
February 4	Rosa Parks Day	An American holiday in honor of the civil rights leader Rosa Parks.
February 4* [^]	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
February 6	Ronald Reagan Day	Schools and educational institutions are encouraged to remember the life of Ronald Reagan and recognize his accomplishments and contributions to this state.
February 7	#NoOneEatsAloneDay	Teaches everyone how to make friends at lunch, often the most difficult part of the school day. Created and organized by students. http://www.nooneeatsalone.org/
February 9* ⁺	TuB'shvat (J)	The Jewish Arbor Day.
February 9*	Race Relations Sunday	Created in 1922 by the National Council of Churches to recognize the importance of interracial relations. <i>Falls on the Sunday nearest Lincoln's birthday of February 12 because of his involvement in freeing enslaved people.</i>
February 12*	Lincoln Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	This day was first observed in 1866 when both houses of Congress gathered for a memorial address in tribute to the assassinated president. <i>Observed as the federal holiday Presidents' Day on the third Monday in February.</i>
February 13	Galentine's Day	Observed on the day before Valentine's Day, Galentine's Day celebrates platonic friendships, usually among women.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

[^] Regional variations of the observation date

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February 14	Valentine's Day	A day that many exchange cards, candy, gifts or flowers as a sign of caring.
February 15 [^]	Parinirvana - Nirvana Day (B)	The Mahayana Buddhist festival celebrates the day when the Buddha achieved Nirvana upon the death of his physical body.
February 15	Susan B. Anthony Day Ed Code 37221, Board Rule 1102	The anniversary of the birthday of Susan B. Anthony calls for instruction on the political and economic status of women.
February 17	National Parent Teacher Association Founders Day	Celebrate the legacy and work of PTA's founders—Alice McLellan Birney, Phoebe Apperson Hearst and Selena Sloan Butler—to better the lives of every child in education, health and safety.
February 17* Schools closed	Presidents' Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	Presidents' Day is the recognition of Washington's Day (February 22) and Lincoln's Day (February 12). <i>Occurs on third Monday in February.</i>
February 19	Day of Remembrance	The anniversary of Executive Order 9066 that authorized the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II. Programs seek to educate the public about the fragility of civil rights during wartime.
February 20	World Day of Social Justice	The United Nations established World Day of Social Justice to promote efforts to tackle issue such as poverty, exclusion and unemployment.
February 21*	Maha Shivaratri (H)	The Great Festival of Shiva is celebrated annually in reverence of the god Shiva. It is the day Shiva was married to the goddess Parvati.
February 22	Washington Day Ed Code 37220, Board Rule 1101	The holiday that celebrates the birthday of George Washington, the first president of the U. S. <i>Observed as the federal holiday Presidents' Day on the third Monday in February.</i>
February 25 ^{*^}	Mardi Gras or Shrove Tuesday (RC)	The celebrations surrounding the Three Kings Day and culminating before Ash Wednesday. The traditions vary from city to city.
February 25 – 29**	Ayyám-i-Há or Intercalary Days (Ba)	This day begins a four-day period (five in leap year) devoted to spiritual preparation for the Bahá'í fast, celebration, hospitality, charity and gift giving.
February 26*	Ash Wednesday -Beginning of Lent (RC, P)	Lent is a 40-day period of fasting and penitence observed by Christians.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

[^] Regional variations of the observation date

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March 2020

American Red Cross Month provides a chance to honor and celebrate the everyday heroes who help fulfill the mission of the American Red Cross. <http://www.redcross.org/about-us/red-cross-month>

Arts Education Month based on the words of President Kennedy “To further the appreciation of culture among all people, to increase respect for the creative individual, to widen participation by all the processes and fulfillments of art – this is one of the most fascinating challenges of these days.”

Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month promotes an understanding of the scope of the disease. <https://mymsaa.org>

Music in Our Schools Month communicates the importance of music in the learning experience. Sponsored by The National Association for Music Education, <https://nafme.org>

National Middle Level Education Month encourages middle schools to focus on the educational needs of early adolescents. Sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. www.nassp.org

National Nutrition Month focuses on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits. www.eatright.org

National Save Your Vision Month promotes eye health, awareness around digital eyestrain and the importance of receiving regular, comprehensive eye exams from a doctor of optometry. <https://www.aoa.org>

National Social Work Month is an opportunity for social workers across the country and their allies to turn the spotlight on the profession and highlight the important contributions they make to society. <https://www.socialworkers.org>

National Women's History Month celebrates the rich and inspiring heritage of the contributions of women to the United States. For information and materials, visit National Women’s History Project at www.nwhp.org Board Rule 1102.

We Are One: Standing with Immigrant Families Awareness Month was designated by the LA School Board through 2020 to increase and improve resources for students, staff, and families, and develop supports for post-graduate college and career opportunities for undocumented students.

March 1 -19 ⁺	Nineteen Day Fast (Ba)	The period during which the Bahá’ís fast from sunrise to sunset.
March 2	Read Across America	Guest readers celebrate the importance of reading by sharing books with students on Dr. Seuss’ birthday. www.readacrossamerica.org
March 2 [*]	Clean Monday (O)	The beginning of Great Lent for Eastern Christian churches which starts 40 days before Orthodox Easter (Pascha).
March 2-6 [*]	National School Breakfast Week	Promotes the benefits of a healthy school breakfast. https://schoolnutrition.org
March 2-6 [*]	Newspaper in Education Week	Newspapers in Education is a joint effort to promote the use of the newspapers as an educational resource in the classroom. <i>Occurs the first full week of March.</i>
March 3	National Anthem Day	Celebrate the national anthems of the world, from the obscure and forgotten to the ones that ring out every day.

⁺ Observation begins at sunset

^{*} Observation date or theme may change annually

[^] Regional variations of the observation date

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March 4	National Grammar Day	Established by the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar. www.nationalgrammarday.com
March 5	Black American Day Ed Code 37221, Board Rule 1102	The anniversary of the death of Crispus Attucks, the first Black American martyr, in the Boston Massacre.
March 7	California Conservation, Bird and Arbor Day Ed Code 37221, Board Rule 1102	A day to promote a spirit of protection and conservation toward birds, trees, and other natural resources.
March 8	International Women's Day aka United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace	Celebrate women's achievements throughout history and across nations.
March 8*	Daylight Saving Time begins Standard Time ends	The beginning of all U.S. time zones. At 2 a.m., clocks move forward one hour.
March 8*	Change Your Clock Change Your Batteries	The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission urges us to stay safe by changing the batteries in our smoke and carbon-monoxide alarms when we change our clocks. www.cpsc.gov
March 9*^	Magha Puja aka Sangha Day (B)	This day commemorates the spontaneous assembly of 1,250 arahants (completely enlightened monks) in the historical Buddha's presence.
March 9-10*^	Holi (H)	The Holi spring festival in India featuring bright colors and bonfires.
March 10**	Purim (J)	Purim is one of the most joyous holidays of the Jewish calendar, commemorating the saving of the Jewish people from a conspiracy to destroy them.
March 10	National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day	National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day raises awareness about how women can protect themselves and their partners from HIV. www.womenshealth.gov
March 11	World Day of Muslim Culture, Peace, Dialogue and Film	The goal of this event is to use culture, art, and film to create bridges and dialogue of understanding.
March 14	Pi Day	Pi Day celebrates the mathematical symbol Pi (Greek letter "π") which represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159. www.piday.org
March 17	St. Patrick's Day	The patron saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick, has been honored in America since the first days of the nation. A notable observance is the annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade in New York City and the wearing of green.

+ Observation begins at sunset

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^ Regional variations of the observation date

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March 15-21*	National Poison Prevention Week	Learn more about the dangers of accidental poisonings and take appropriate preventative measures. <i>Occurs on the third week of March.</i> http://www.aapcc.org
March 19*	Vernal Equinox	The date when night and day are nearly the same length. It marks the first day of the season of spring.
March 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	The call to action to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination, worldwide, adopted in 1979 by the United Nations.
March 23-27*	National Tsunami Preparedness Week	Recommit to learn about and prepare for tsunamis on the anniversary week of the 1964 great Alaska tsunami and earthquake. <i>Occurs during the week of March 27.</i> http://nthmp.tsunami.gov
March 29	Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Ed. Code 37222.14	On Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day, educational institutions are encouraged to recognize the contributions of all those involved.
March 30*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
March 31*	Cesar Chavez Day	This day commemorates and directs attention to the history of the farm labor movement in the United States and particularly the role therein of Cesar Chavez. <i>Observed on April 1 most LAUSD schools; some have alternate observation dates.</i>

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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April 2020

Autism Awareness Month highlights the need for education and awareness about autism and issues within the autism community. www.autism-society.org

Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 reminds us that no one is immune to unethical and inhumane treatment. Awareness and recognition of all crimes against humanity is an important step for all human beings to take. Through education and dialogue, we can ensure similar atrocities are not carried-out in the future.

Jazz Appreciation Month shines the spotlight on the extraordinary history of jazz and its importance in American culture.

Mathematics Awareness Month increases public understanding of and appreciation for mathematics. www.mathaware.org

Month of the Military Child underscores the important role of the 1.3 million school children in the Armed Forces community. <https://www.dodea.edu>

National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month recognizes that bilingual/multilingual learners are one of the fastest growing student populations and that this group of students brings multiple assets to schools and adds to the rich diversity among students.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month calls upon all people to recognize the alarming rate at which children are abused and neglected, the need to prevent child abuse and to assist families affected by maltreatment. <https://www.childwelfare.gov>

National Poetry Month increases awareness and appreciation of poetry. <https://www.poets.org>

National Financial Literacy Month highlights the importance of financial literacy and healthy financial habits.

Parkinson Awareness Month draws awareness to Parkinson's disease, the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States, second to Alzheimer's disease. www.pdf.org

School Library Month celebrates the essential role that strong school library programs play in transforming learning <http://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/slm>

Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls upon all people to share responsibility for protecting each other from sexual assault, supporting victims when it does occur and bringing perpetrators to justice. www.nsvrc.org/saam

Stress Awareness Month is a national, cooperative effort to inform people about the dangers of stress, successful coping strategies and harmful misconceptions about stress that are prevalent in our society.

April 1	April Fools' Day	The day for pranks and placing people in situations that make them look like an "April fool."
April 2	National Walking Day	People are encouraged to lace up their sneakers and take at least a 30-minute walk. It's a great way to raise awareness of the importance of physical activity and to get started on a healthier way of life.
April 2	International Children's Book Day	This day occurs on or around Hans Christian Andersen's birthday to inspire a love of reading and to call attention to children's books.
April 2*	Rama Navami (H)	The celebration of the birthday of Rama, the seventh incarnation of the God Vishnu. It is a major Hindu

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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		festival that is celebrated all over the India.
April 3 ^{*^} Schools closed	Cesar Chavez Day <i>Observed</i>	March 31 st commemorates and directs attention to the history of the farm labor movement in the United States and particularly the role therein of Cesar Chavez. <i>Some L.A. Unified schools have alternate observation dates.</i>
April 5 [*]	Palm Sunday (RC, P)	The day commemorates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Occurs on the Sunday before Easter.
April 6	California Poppy Day Ed Code 37222, Board Rule 1102	Honors the California poppy by providing instruction about the economic and aesthetic value of wildflowers and native plants, and promotes responsible behavior toward our natural resources.
April 6-10 [*]	Adult Education Week	Honor teachers, administrators, classified staff, and students of adult education programs for their efforts, persistence and accomplishments. AB 38 of 2017.
April 7	World Health Day	Draw global attention to the health of different human populations and the diseases that may impact these populations.
April 7-9 ^{^*}	Theravada New Year (B)	New Year festival for Theravada Buddhists, celebrated for three days from the first full moon in April.
April 8	Buddha Day (B)	Also known as Vesak or Visakha Puja, it marks the occasion of the birth, spiritual awakening and death of the historical Buddha.
April 8-16 ^{+*}	Passover (Pesach) (J)	The Jewish festival marking the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt.
April 9	National Library Workers Day	A day for library staff, users, administrators and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.
April 10 [*]	Day of Silence	Participants across the country take a vow of silence to bring attention to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender biased name-calling, bullying and harassment. https://www.glsen.org/day-silence
April 10 [*]	Day of Dialogue	The Golden Rule Pledge calls on people of faith to affirm the safe and respectful treatment of all persons and to build bridges with GLBTQ+ people. <i>Occurs on the same day as Day of Silence.</i> www.goldenrulepledge.com
April 10 [*]	Good Friday (RC, P)	Good Friday commemorates the end of Lent and Christ's crucifixion, death and entombment.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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April 12*	Easter Sunday (RC, P)	Holiday with secular and religious connotations. The religious observance marks the resurrection of Christ. <i>Occurs on the first Sunday following the first full moon on or after the vernal equinox.</i>
April 12*	Palm Sunday (O)	The day commemorates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. <i>Occurs on the Sunday before Easter.</i>
April 13	Thomas Jefferson's Birthday	Thomas Jefferson, the U.S.'s third president, is known as one of the country's founding fathers and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence.
April 13^*	Mahavira Jayanti (Ja)	The birth anniversary of Lord Mahavira, the 24 th Tirthankar and the founder of modern Jainism.
April 13-15^	Songkran (B)	Songkran is the traditional Thai New Year, known for its iconic water festival. Celebrants participate in this tradition by splashing water on each other.
April 13-17*	National Library Week	The week that promotes the use and support of libraries. Sponsored by American Library Association. <i>Occurs during the second full week of April.</i> www.ala.org .
April 13-17*	Week of the Young Child Board Rule 1102	The week promotes activities that honor young children and thank all those who make a difference in children's lives. Sponsored by National Association for the Education of Young Children. www.naeyc.org
April 17 *	Good Friday (O)	Good Friday commemorates the end of Lent and Christ's crucifixion, death and entombment.
April 19*	Easter Sunday (Pascha) (O)	The Christian celebration of the resurrection of Christ. The Orthodox Easter follows Passover.
April 20*	Patriots Day	Commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord which were fought near Boston in 1775. <i>Occurs on the third Monday of April.</i>
April 20*	Yom Hashoah (J)	Holocaust Remembrance Day memorializes the martyrdom of six million Jews who perished in the Nazi Holocaust.
April 20-24*	Administrative Professionals Week	Remember the important role of administrative professionals. <i>Occurs during the last full week in April.</i>
April 20-24*	Public School Volunteer Week	Honors and highlights the contributions of parents and caregivers to support student success. Sponsored by Project Appleseed. <i>Occurs during the third full week of April.</i> www.projectappleseed.org
April 20-24	National Environmental Education Week	Celebrates environmental education and stewardship

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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		among K-12 students.
April 20-24*	Administrative Professionals Week	Remember the important role of administrative professionals. <i>Occurs during the last full week in April.</i>
April 21	John Muir Day Ed Code 37222.11	Educational institutions are encouraged to stress the importance of ecologically sound natural environment in the quality of life and of John Muir's significant contributions to the fostering of that awareness and the indelible mark he left on California.
April 22	Earth Day	A day in which various events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection.
April 22*	Administrative Professional Day	Remember the important role of administrative professionals. <i>Occurs on the Wednesday of the last full week in April.</i>
April 23*	Take Our Children to Work Day a.k.a. Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day® MEM-5415	Take Our Children to Work Day creates an opportunity for children to share and communicate their expectations for the future. https://daughtersandsonstowork.org/ <i>Occurs on the fourth Thursday in April.</i>
April 22+*	NISF Shabaan (I)	Night of Repentance in preparation for the fast of Ramadan. Fixed as the 15 th day or middle (nisf) of the eighth month of Shabaan in the Islamic calendar.
April 24- May23+**^	Ramadan (I)	The commemoration of the first revelation of the Qur'an. Marks the beginning of a month long fast that all Muslims must keep during daylight hours.
April 24	Armenian Martyrs Day Commemoration of Armenian Genocide	The commemoration of 1.5 million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire who perished between 1915 and 1923.
April 25*^	Chaitra Sukhladi (H)	Chaitra is the first month of the year according to the lunar religious calendars.
April 26*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
April 26	Lesbian Visibility Day	Annual day to celebrate, recognize, and bring visibility to lesbians.
April 26*	Akshaya Tritiya (H)	A day of fasting and pilgrimage. Those who fast are rewarded with sugar cane juice.
April 27+	Ninth Day of Ridvan (Ba)	The ninth day of the Ridván Festival. One of the nine Holy days during which Bahá'ís do not work.

+ Observation begins at sunset

* Observation date or theme may change annually

^ Regional variations of the observation date

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April 27 ^{^*}	Mahavira Jayanti (Ja)	The birth anniversary of Lord Mahavira, the 24 th Tirthankar and the founder of modern Jainism.
April 27-May 1 [*]	Children's Book Week	The annual celebration of children's books and reading. Established in 1919, it is the longest-running national literacy initiative. http://everychildareader.net/
April 28 [*]	School Bus Drivers Appreciation Day	In appreciation to the school transportation community who provides safe, effective, efficient and healthy transportation of our students.
April 28 ^{+*}	Yom Haatzma'ut (J)	Israel Independence Day celebrates the establishment of the state of Israel on May 14, 1948.
April 29 [*]	Denim Day –Peace Against Violence	Denim Day is a rape prevention and education campaign that asks community members to wear jeans as a visible protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault. <i>Occurs on the fourth Wednesday in April.</i> http://denimdayinfo.org
April 30 ⁺	Twelfth Day of Ridvan (Ba)	The twelfth day of the Ridván Festival is one of the nine holy days during which Bahá'ís do not work.

⁺ Observation begins at sunset

^{*} Observation date or theme may change annually

[^] Regional variations of the observation date

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May 2020		
<p>Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Month celebrates the collective accomplishments of Asian Pacific Americans who comprise many ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, histories, languages and cultures. Board Rule 1102. http://asianpacificheritage.gov/</p> <p>Foster Care Month shines a light on the experiences of youth in foster care. https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth</p> <p>Labor History Month encourages schools to make pupils aware of the role the labor movement has played in shaping California and the United States. Ed Code 51009.</p> <p>Mental Health Awareness Month is designated to provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support people with mental illness and their families. https://www.thenationalcouncil.org</p> <p>National Physical Fitness and Sports Month encourages all Americans to take part in regular physical activity and increase their knowledge about the health benefits of exercise. http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/</p> <p>Safe Jobs for Youth Month informs young workers of their rights and responsibilities as they enter the workforce. http://youngworkers.org/</p>		
May 1	International Workers' Day	The worldwide celebration of the social and economic achievements of workers.
May 1	May Day	May Day is a traditional spring holiday with dancing, singing and cake as part of the celebration.
May 1	Law Day	Law Day helps people appreciate their liberties and affirm their loyalty to the United States, especially regarding equality and justice. It also aims to cultivate respect for the law, which is vital to the democratic way of life.
May 1	Loyalty Day	A day when the nation's founders are remembered and people celebrate their freedom while remembering their responsibilities to continue the legacy of liberty.
May 1	School Principals Day	In appreciation of the educational leaders of schools who assume the commitment to lead our young people to a prosperous future.
May 3	World Press Freedom Day	This date informs the public of violations of the right to freedom of expression and reminds us of the many journalists who brave death or jail to bring us the news.
May 3-9*	Be Kind to Animals Week	Americans come together to voice their concern for and improve the wellness, welfare, and well-being of the nation's animals. <i>Occurs during the first full week of May.</i> www.americanhumane.org

+ Observation begins at sunset

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^ Regional variations of the observation date

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May 3-9*	Teacher Appreciation Week	Celebrate teachers and deliver thanks and gratitude for the inspiration, motivation they give to students. <i>Occurs during the week containing the Day of the Teacher.</i> www.nea.org
May 4	Star Wars Day	May the Fourth Be With You on this popular holiday to celebrate all things Star Wars.
May 4-10*	Screen-Free Week	Formerly known as National TV-Turnoff Week, rediscover the joys of life beyond the screen. Unplug and spend time playing, reading, daydreaming, creating, exploring, and connecting with family and friends. http://www.screenfree.org/
May 4-8*	School Nutrition Employee Week	A week to showcase the difference school nutrition professionals make for every child who comes through the cafeteria. https://schoolnutrition.org
May 5	Cinco de Mayo Board Rule 1102	The anniversary of the 1862 Mexican victory over the French army in the Battle of Puebla.
May 5*	Day of the Teacher Ed Code 37222.10, Board Rule 1102	This commemorates teachers and the teaching profession. <i>Occurs on the second Wednesday in May.</i>
May 5	California Day of the Teacher	The California Day of the Teacher is co-sponsored by the California Teachers Association and the Association of Mexican American Educators.
May 6*	Bike to School Day	Take the first step toward changing community culture and to creating options for getting around that are more inviting for everyone. www.walkbiketoschool.org
May 6	National School Nurse Day	Honors all school nurses who care for students every day. https://www.nasn.org
May 6*	National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy	Help teens postpone parenting until they are through school and in stable, committed relationships. <i>Occurs on the first Wednesday in May.</i> www.thenationalcampaign.org
May 10	Mexican Mother's Day	Reflect on and rejoice the greatness of motherhood. Mexicans participate in the custom of giving gifts to their mothers.
May 10*	Mother's Day	Mother's Day was established in 1914. <i>Occurs on the second Sunday in May.</i>
May 10-16*	National Women's Health Week	The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health encourages women to take steps to improve their physical and mental health. www.womenshealth.gov

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May 10-16	National Police Week	Recognize the service and sacrifices by law enforcement.
May 11+*	Lag B'Omer (J)	This date celebrates the end of a divine-sent plague and Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiv'as lifetime.
May 15	National Peace Officers Memorial Day	Pay tribute to the local, state and federal peace officers who have died or become disabled, in the line of duty.
May 17	International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia	The International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia raises awareness of LGBT rights violations worldwide.
May 17	Anniversary of School Desegregation Ruling, Brown v. Board of Education	Racial segregation in public schools was unanimously ruled unconstitutional in 1954 by the Supreme Court in Brown v. Board of Education.
May 17-23*	Classified Employee Week	Recognize the important contributions of classified school employees. <i>Occurs the third full week of May.</i> http://www.csea.com
May 19+*^	Lailat Al-Qadr (I)	The Night of Power marks the night in which God first revealed the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad.
May 18	Armed Forces Day	Thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country; replaces separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days.
May 21*	Ascension Day (RC, P)	The ascension of Jesus took place in the presence of his apostles forty days after the Resurrection, thought to have occurred on Mount Olive in Bethany.
May 22	Harvey Milk Day Ed Code 37222.13	Recognize the life, accomplishments and contributions of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man elected to public office in California.
May 23+	Declaration of the Bab (Ba)	The commemoration of the day in 1844 when the Báb announced the imminent appearance of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet founder of the Bahá'í Faith. One of the nine holy days during which Bahá'ís do not work.
May 23*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
May 23-24 +*^	Eid Al-Fitr (I)	The Feast of the Breaking of the Fast marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting from dawn until dusk.

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May 25	National Missing Children's Day	Spotlight the threat of child abduction, inform families about ways to keep their children safe, and support victims' families. https://www.ojjdp.gov/missingchildrensday/
May 25* Schools closed	Memorial Day fka Decoration Day Ed Code 37220	Pay homage to all who died in war. The U.S. flag is quickly raised to the tops of flagpoles, slowly lowered to half-mast, and then raised again to full height at noon. The time at half-mast honors the million+ fallen U.S. soldiers who have died for their country. Re-raising the flag symbolizes the resolve of the living to carry on the fight for freedom so that the nation's heroes will not have died in vain. <i>Occurs on the last Monday in May.</i>
May 28+*	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh (Ba)	The day that marks when Baha'u'llah passed away in 1892. One of the nine holy days during which Bahá'ís do not work.
May 28*	Ascension Day (O)	The ascension of Jesus took place in the presence of his apostles forty days after the Resurrection, thought to have occurred on Mount Olive in Bethany.
May 28-30+*	Shavuot, Festival of Weeks (J)	A festival commemorating the giving of the law (Torah) to Moses on Mount Sinai.
May 31*	Pentecost – Whitsunday (RC, P)	Considered the birthday of the Church, Pentecost is celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter to commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and disciples of Jesus.
May 31	World No Tobacco Day	Generate awareness about the health risks of tobacco use and to advocate for more effective policies that can help reduce worldwide tobacco use.

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June 2020		
<p>Fireworks Safety Month educates those using fireworks on the dangers and injuries that can result from careless behavior. https://www.consumersafety.org</p> <p>Immigrant Heritage Month celebrates of our shared heritage as a nation of immigrants and a time to reflect on how immigrants boost our economy. http://immigrationimpact.com</p> <p>National Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Month encourages families eat more fruit and vegetables every day, every month of the year. https://healthyforgood.heart.org</p> <p>National Safety Month focuses on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road and in our homes and communities. https://www.nsc.org/events</p> <p>Pride Month honors the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, which was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. Pride Month is celebrated internationally. https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/</p>		
June 5	World Environment Day	The UN's World Environment Day encourages worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment.
June 7*	Pentecost – Whitsunday (O)	Considered the birthday of the Church, Orthodox Pentecost is celebrated fiftieth day after Pascha (Orthodox Easter) to commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and disciples of Jesus.
June 12	Loving Day	Observes the anniversary of the 1967 Supreme Court decision <i>Loving v. Virginia</i> that struck down the miscegenation laws barring interracial marriage.
June 12	Anne Frank Day	The birthday of a young Jewish girl whose diary described her family's experiences hiding from the Nazis through the assistance of Gentile friends.
June 13-14 [^] *	Christopher Street West Anniversary of Stonewall Rebellion	Pride events around the world recognize the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion which was a turning point in the struggle for equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. <i>Occurs during the second weekend of June in Los Angeles.</i>
June 14*	Race Unity Day (Ba)	The Bahá'í-sponsored observance promotes racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity. <i>Occurs on the second Sunday in June.</i>
June 14	Flag Day	The Continental Congress adopted the stars and stripes as the nation's official flag on June 14, 1777. A day for patriotic observances. www.nationalflagday.com
June 14*	All Saints Day (O)	The day in Orthodox churches commemorating all known and unknown Christian saints. <i>Occurs on the first Sunday after Pentecost.</i>
June 19	Juneteenth	The observance of the 1865 emancipation of African Americans in Texas by General Granger.

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June 20*^	Rohini Vrat (Ja)	Rohini Vrat is one of 12 days that Jains fast. It is believed that those who observe Rohini fasting can get rid of sorrows and poverty.
June 20	World Refugee Day	This date raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.
June 20*	Summer Solstice	Summer solstice marks the longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere and is the first day of summer.
June 21*	Father's Day	A celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. <i>Occurs on the third Sunday in June.</i>

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