



Eid al-Fitr (Islam)

8 August

Literally means "Festival of Breaking the Fast" and marks the end of Ramadan. [Link above.](#)

Eid ul Adha (Islam)

15 October

Festival of Sacrifice, commemorating the willingness of Abraham to obey God. [Link above.](#)

Yom Kippur (Judaism)

14 September

Brings the Days of Repentance to a close - those who have properly repented will be granted a happy New Year. [Link above.](#)

World Food Day

16 October

Highlights world food problem and aims to strengthen solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty. [Link above.](#)

Sukkot (Judaism)

19 September

Commemorates the years spent in the desert on the way to the Promised Land under God's protection. [Link above.](#)

Diwali (Hinduism / Sikhism)

Festival of Lights, celebrating the victory of good over evil and light over darkness. [Link above.](#)

Autumn Equinox

22 September

Solar festival celebrated when day and night are of equal duration.

Ethos Conference TBC

Teachers discuss and debate methodologies, content and resources to do with the Learn Together!

World Teachers' Day

5 October

'A Call for Teachers' is this year's slogan! [Link above.](#)

Universal Children's Day

20 November

Marks UN's adoption of Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959 and Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989. [Link above.](#)

World Mental Health Day

Tree Day

10 October

International day highlighting the importance of mental health. [Link above.](#)
National day celebrating trees! [Link above.](#)

Hanukkah (Judaism)

27 Nov - 5 Dec

Festival of Lights, marking the recapture and rededication of the temple in Jerusalem. [Link above.](#)

International Day of Persons with Disability

3 December

Highlights rights of people with disability, including the right to be active and involved in all aspects of life. [Link above.](#)

Human Rights Day

10 December

Marks the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. [Link above.](#)

International Mountain Day

11 December

Highlights importance of sustainable mountain development and biodiversity in mountain areas. [Link above.](#)

Winter Solstice

21 December

Day with least daylight (Northern Hemisphere). Solstice at Newgrange. [Link above.](#)

Christmas (Christianity)

25 December

Marks the birth of Jesus, the son of God. [Link above.](#)

Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikhism)

5 January

Guru Gobind Singh was the last of the ten Sikh Gurus. He instituted the 5 Ks. [Link above.](#)

Martin Luther King Day

20 January

Celebrates the life and achievements of Dr Martin Luther King Jr., an influential American civil rights leader. [Link above.](#)

Holocaust Memorial Day

27 January

Honours the memory of six million Jews and five million other victims, persecuted because of their ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, religious or political affiliations. [Link above.](#)

Chinese New Year

31 January

Year of the Horse

St Brigid's Day (Christianity)

1 February

Marks the first day of Spring. Also associated with ancient, pagan beliefs.

Darwin Day

12 February

Commemorates anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin in 1809 - highlights Darwin's contribution to science. [Link above.](#)

Parinirvana (Buddhism)

15 February

Commemorates the death of the Buddha when he reached Nirvana at the age of 80. Also known as Nirvana Day. [Link above.](#)

Fairtrade Fortnight

24 Feb - 10 March

Aims to raise awareness of fairtrade issues and promote fairtrade shopping. [Link above.](#)

One Day Together

27 February

Celebrating the Educate Together movement! [Link above.](#)

National Tree Week **2 - 8 March**

Celebrating trees! Link above.

International Women's Day
8 March

Celebrates women's achievements through history. Link above.

Holi (Hinduism) **17 / 18 March**

Originally a spring festival of fertility and harvest - also marks a number of Hindu legends. Link above.

Spring Equinox
International Day of Happiness
20 March

Day and night of equal duration. Link above to UN Day of Happiness.

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
21 March

Combatting racial discrimination. Link above.

World Water Day **22 March**

Highlights water's importance in environment, agriculture and health. Link above.

World Health Day **7 April**

Marks anniversary of founding of WHO. Highlights importance of public health. Link above.

Vaisakhi / Baisakhi (Sikhism) **13 April**

Commemorates foundation of Sikhism. Link above.

Passover / Pesach (Judaism)
15 - 23 April

Commemorates the liberation of the Children of Israel who were led out of Egypt. Link above.

Easter Sunday (Christianity)
20 April

Commemorates the resurrection of Jesus. Link above.

Earth Day **22 April**

Aims to broaden, diversify and activate the environmental movement worldwide. Link above.

Bealtaine **May (Entire Month)**

Month long celebration of creativity in older age – challenges stereotypes. Link above.

Digital Art Week TBC **5 - 10 May**

Organised by Simon Lewis, Carlow ETNS. Link above.

Traveller Pride Week TBC
12 - 16 May

Celebrates contribution of Travellers. Link to Yellow Flag programme. Information on week available closer to date.

Wesak (Buddhism)

14 May

Celebrates the Buddha's birthday - also marks his enlightenment and death. [Link above.](#)

International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia

Highlights discrimination against LGBT community. [Link above.](#)

Family Day

18 May

Celebrates the diversity of family units. [Link above.](#)

World Oceans Day

8 June

Highlights crucial role the sea plays as source of food, oxygen and medicine. [Link above.](#)

World Refugee Day

20 June

Honours those who are forced to flee their homeland under threat of persecution, conflict and violence. [Link above.](#)

Summer Solstice

21 June

World Humanist Day

Day with most daylight (Northern Hemisphere). [Link above for information on Humanism.](#)

Have a great school year from all in the Educate Together national office!



Educate
Together