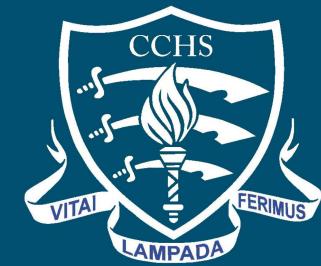


# Diversity Calendar 2026



# January 2026

Holocaust Memorial Day  
27 January



# January 2026

## Special dates this month

**Cervical Health Awareness Month**

**World Braille Day**  
**4 January**

**World Religion Day**  
**18 January**

**Martin Luther King Day**  
**19 January**

**Blue Monday**  
**19 January**

**International Day of Education**  
**24 January**

**Holocaust Memorial Day**  
**27 January**

**Parent Mental health Day**  
**30 January**

January						
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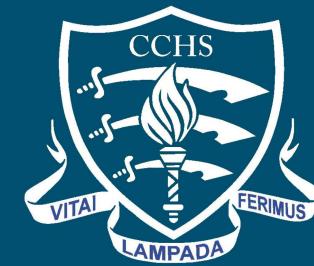
\* Begins at sunset on previous day

## Faith/Cultural Days in January

<b>1</b>	New Year's Day (BANK HOLIDAY)
<b>1</b>	Gantan-sai (Shinto) - Shinto New Year
<b>3</b>	Mahayana New Year - Buddhist
<b>5</b>	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
<b>6</b>	Epiphany (Christian)
<b>7</b>	Christmas Day (Orthodox Christian)
<b>13</b>	Maghi – Harvest Festival and commemoration of the martyrdom of 40 Sikhs who died fighting the Mughal Empire army in 1705 (Sikh)
<b>13</b>	Lohri – Harvest Festival (Sikh)
<b>16*</b>	Lailat al Miraj – Islam
<b>23</b>	Vasant Panchami (Hindu) - Festival that welcomes spring
<b>27</b>	Holocaust Memorial Day
<b>31</b>	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh



**International Day of  
Women and Girls in Science**  
**11 February**



# February 2026

## LGBTQ+ History Month

**World Hijab Day**  
1 February

**World Interfaith Harmony Week**  
1–7 February

**GM Hate Crime Awareness Week**  
2–6 February

**Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week**  
2–8 February

**Race Equality Week**  
5–11 February

**Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation**  
6 February

**National Apprenticeship Week**  
9–15 February

**International Day of Women and Girls in Science**  
11 February

**World Day of Social Justice**  
20 February

**Stand Up to Bullying Day**  
27 February

February						
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\* Begins at sunset on previous day

### Ramadan

People may want to rearrange their working day to accommodate the timing of the fast.

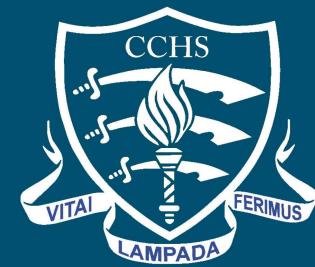
## Faith/Cultural Days in February

2*	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) - The Jewish New Year for trees
3	Rissun (Setsubun) (Shinto) - Spring festival marking the end of Winter and beginning of Spring
3*	Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) - The Night of Forgiveness
15	Nirvana day (Buddhist) - Festival marking the anniversary of Buddha's death
15	Shivaratri (Hindu) - Day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva
17	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
18*	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) - Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting (ends 18 March)
18	Ash Wednesday (Christian) - The first day of Lent.



# March 2026

Gender Equality Month



# March 2026

## Women's History Month

## Gender Equality Month

## Bisexual Awareness Month

World Hearing Day  
3 March

International Women's Day  
8 March

Neurodiversity Celebration Week  
16-22 March

Down Syndrome Awareness Week  
16-22 March

Global Recycling Day  
18 March

World Down Syndrome Day  
21 March

Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day  
21 March

Remembrance Day for the Victims of  
Slavery and Transatlantic Slave Trade  
25 March

Transgender Day of Visibility  
31 March

March						
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\* Begins at sunset on previous day

## Faith/Cultural Days in March

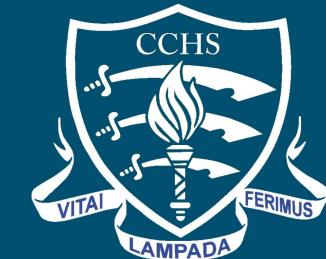
1	Nineteen Day Fast (start) (Bahai) Bahais go without food or drink from sunrise to sunset (ends 20 March)
3	Magha Puja (Buddhist)
3*	Purim (Jewish) - Commemorates when Jewish people were saved by Esther.
4	Holi (Hindu) - Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
16*	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) - The holiest night in the Islamic calendar.
19	Bali/Ugadi - Hindu New Year
20*	Eid-Ul-Fitr (Muslim) - End of Ramadan. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting
21*	Naw-Ruz (Bahai, Zoroastrian) - New Year
26	Khordad Sal - Birthday of Zoroaster
26	Rama Navami (Hindu) - Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama
29	Palm Sunday - Beginning of Holy Week
31	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain) - The most important religious holiday for Jains

# INTERNATIONAL ROMANI DAY



8TH APRIL

**April 2026**  
International Romani Day  
8 April



# April 2026

## Autism Acceptance Month

### Stress Awareness Month

Autism Acceptance Day

2 April

World Book Day

2 April

World Health Day

7 April

International Romani day

8 April

International Day for  
Spirituality and Service

16 April

Lesbian Visibility Week

20–26 April

Stephen Lawrence Day

22 April

National Earth Day

22 April

Day for Health and Safety at Work

28 April

April						
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27	28	29	30			

\* Begins at sunset on previous day

### Passover

Working is not permitted on the first 2 days nor the final 2 days of Passover

## Faith/Cultural Days in April

2*	Passover (1st day) (Jewish) (ends 9 April)
3	Good Friday (BANK HOLIDAY)
5	Easter Sunday (Christian) - Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
6	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
7	Birthday Guru Tegh Bahadur – Sikh
9	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (Sikh)
13	Theravada (Buddhist) New Year
14	Vaisakhi – Sikh New Year
14	Bengali New Year (Pôhela Boishakh)
18	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (Sikh)
19	Akshaya Tritiya (Hindus and Jains) - Spring time festival
21*	Ridvan - first day (Bahai) (ends 2 May)
29*	Ridvan - ninth Day (Bahai)
30	Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Sikh)

# #WeStandTogether

Celebrating Diversity  
Challenging Hatred  
For a Stronger & Safer UK

May 2026

#WeStandTogether Month



# May 2026

#WeStandTogether Month

Mental Health Awareness Month

International Workers' Day

1 May

Maternal Mental Health Week  
4–10 May

Deaf Awareness Week  
4–10 May

Mental Health Awareness Week  
11–17 May

Vascular Birthmark Day  
15 May

International Day Against  
Homophobia, Biphobia and  
Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)  
17 May

World Day for Cultural Diversity  
Dialogue and Development  
21 May

Accessibility Awareness Day  
21 May

May						
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\* Begins at sunset on previous day

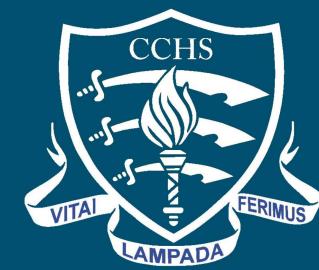
## Faith/Cultural Days in May

1	Vesak (Buddha day) (Buddhist) - The most important Buddhist festival.
2	Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh)
2*	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
4	Early May BANK HOLIDAY
14	Ascension Day (Christian) – marks the last earthly appearance of Christ after his resurrection.
22*	Shavuot (Jewish) - Shavuot marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple (ends 23 May)
24*	Declaration of the Bab (Bahai) - Bab was the Forerunner of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith.
24	Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) – The birth of the Christian Church.
25	Spring BANK HOLIDAY
27*	Eid-Ul-Adha (Islam) - Festival of Sacrifice, the most important day in the Hajj ritual.
29*	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)



June 2026

Pride Month



# June 2026

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Gypsy, Roma & Travellers History Month

Volunteers Week  
1-7 June

Carers Week  
8-14 June

Race Unity Day  
14 June

Refugee Week  
15-21 June

Learning Disabilities Week  
15-21 June

International Day of Countering Hate Speech  
18 June

World Refugee Day  
20 June

Windrush Day  
22 June

School Diversity Week  
22-26 June

June						
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\* Begins at sunset on previous day

## Faith/Cultural Days in June

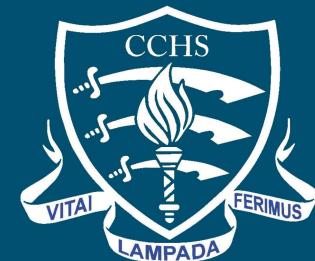
4*	Eid al-Ghadir (Islam) - Shi'a festival celebrating the appointment of Ali ibn Abi Talib, as the Prophet's successor
16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) - fifth Sikh Guru and first Sikh martyr.
16*	Al-Hjira - Muharram (Islam) - New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet from Mecca to Medina
21	Summer Solstice - Litha (Pagan) - Longest day of the year
26*	Ashura (Islam) - Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.
29	St Peter and St Paul's Day (Christian) - The martyrdoms of both are observed on this day



# South Asian **HERITAGE** Month

**July 2026**

South Asian  
Heritage Month



# July 2026

## South Asian Heritage Month

World Population Day  
**11 July**

Non-Binary People's Day  
**14 July**

Disability Awareness Day  
**14 July**

World Youth Skills Day  
**15 July**

Nelson Mandela Day  
**18 July**

International Friendship Day  
**30 July**

World Youth Day  
**30 July**

World Day against Human Trafficking  
**30 July**

July						
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27	28	29	30	31		

\* Begins at sunset on previous day

## Faith/Cultural Days in July

<b>5</b>	Birthday Guru Hargobind Singh (Sikh)
<b>10</b>	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) - Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850 in Tabriz, Iran.
<b>23*</b>	Tisha B'Av (Jewish)- A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years,
<b>23</b>	Birthday of Guru Har Krishan Singh (Sikh)
<b>23</b>	Birthday of Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Emperor of Ethiopia.
<b>29</b>	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) (Buddhist) -The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching - his first sermon, "The Wheel of Truth", after his enlightenment.

Celebrating

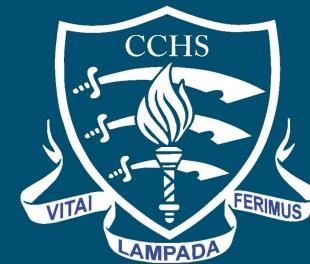
# WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

AUGUST 26



**August 2026**

Women's Equality Day  
26 August



# August 2026

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

9 August

International Youth Day

12 August

World Humanitarian Day

19 August

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

23 August

Women's Equality Day

26 August

Manchester Pride Event

28-31 August

International Day for People of African Descent

31 August

August						
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\* Begins at sunset on previous day

## Faith/Cultural Days in August

13	Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto) – “Ghost Festival,” during which people celebrate their dead loved ones
15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - A Roman Catholic festival celebrating their belief that Mary, was taken body and soul into heaven.
25*	Milad un Nabi (Sunni Muslim) - Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
28	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) - celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.
31	Summer BANK HOLIDAY

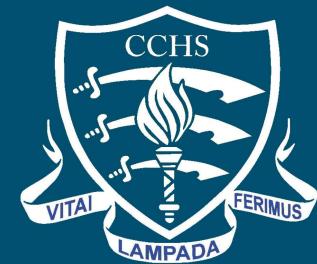


# WORLD ALZHEIMERS DAY

**21 SEPTEMBER**

**September 2026**

World Alzheimer's Day  
21 September



# September 2026

## East and South Asian Heritage Month

**World Sexual Health Day**  
4 September

**Suicide Prevention Day**  
10 September

**National Inclusion Week**  
14-20 September

**International Equal Pay Day**  
18 September

**World Alzheimer's Day**  
21 September

**International Day of Peace**  
21 September

**Bi Visibility Day**  
23 September

**World Day of Sign Languages**  
23 September

**National Teaching Assistants' Day**  
25 September

September						
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28	29	30				

\* Begins at sunset on previous day

### Rosh Hashanah

Work is not permitted on the two days of Rosh Hashanah

### Yom Kippur

Work is not permitted

### Sukkot

Work is not permitted on first and last two days

## Faith/Cultural Days in September

<b>1</b>	Installation of Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh) the central holy religious script of Sikhism
<b>4</b>	Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu) – Celebration of the birth of Krishna
<b>8</b>	Paryushan – (Jain) The most important festival of the year (ends 15 Sep)
<b>8</b>	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
<b>12*</b>	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) - Jewish New Year (ends 13 September)
<b>14</b>	Ganesh Chaturthi - Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity.
<b>21*</b>	Yom Kippur (Jewish) - Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.
<b>26*</b>	Sukkot (Jewish) - commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land (ends 2 Oct)



October 2026

Black History Month



# October 2026

**Black History Month**

**Breast Cancer  
Awareness Month**

**ADHD Awareness Month**

**International Day of Older People**

**1 October**

**Day of Non-Violence**  
**2 October**

**World Mental Health Day**  
**10 October**

**National Coming Out Day**  
**11 October**

**Anti-Slavery Day**  
**18 October**

**World Menopause Day**  
**18 October**

**ACE Week**  
**25 - 31 October**

October						
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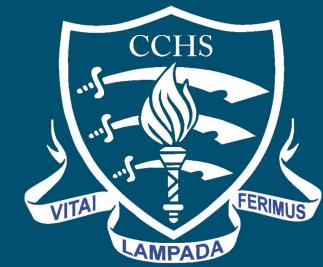
## Faith/Cultural Days in October

<b>9</b>	Birthday of Guru Ramdas (Sikh) - The fourth of the Sikh Gurus.
<b>11</b>	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) - Navaratri symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn (ends 19 October)
<b>20</b>	Dasara (Hindu) - Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.
<b>22</b>	Birth of the Bab (Bahai) - Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Bahai' faith.
<b>23</b>	Guru Granth Sahib Guryai Diwas - a celebration of the sacred hymns in the Guru Granth Sahib



# November 2026

Remembrance Day  
11 November



# November 2026

Islamophobia Awareness Month

Disability History Month

Men's Health Awareness Month

Intersex Day of Solidarity

8 November

Inter-Faith Week

8-15 November

Anti-Bullying Week

9-15 November

Remembrance Day

11 November

Transgender Awareness week

13-19 November

International Day of Tolerance

16 November

Transgender Day of Remembrance

20 November

Elimination of Violence against Women

Day (White Ribbon Day)

25 November

November						
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\* Begins at sunset on previous day

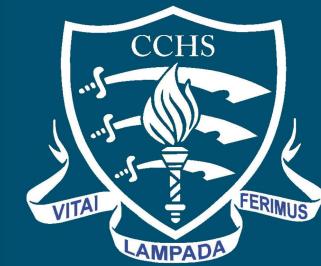
## Faith/Cultural Days in November

2	Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia.
8	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) - the festival of lights
10*	Birth of the Báb, predecessor of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)
11*	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Bahai) - This day celebrates the birth in 1817 of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh) - Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth Sikh Guru
24	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji Sahib (Sikh) - Founder of the Sikh religion
29	Advent Sunday (Christian) - The beginning of the ecclesiastical year



# December 2026

Christmas  
25 December



# December 2026

## Special dates this month

- World AIDS Day  
1 December
- International Day for the Abolition of Slavery  
2 December
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities  
3 December
- Pansexual Pride Day  
8 December
- Human Rights Day  
10 December
- International Migrants Day  
18 December

December						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

\* Begins at sunset on previous day

## Faith/Cultural Days in December

5*	Hanukkah (Jewish) - Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple (ends 12 Dec)
8	Bodhi Day (Buddhist) - Buddhists celebrate Gautama's attainment of enlightenment under the Bodhi tree at Bodhgaya, India.
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic) - Celebrated by Roman Catholics who remember Mary's conception as being without sin
25	Christmas Day (Christian). Birth of Jesus Christ. BANK HOLIDAY.
26	Zarathosht Diso - Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zoroaster.
28	BANK HOLIDAY (Boxing Day)



Equality and Diversity UK  
[www.equalityanddiversity.co.uk](http://www.equalityanddiversity.co.uk)

**Equality and Diversity UK are a specialist training company focusing on equality and diversity in the private, public and voluntary sectors.**

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**Email: [info@equalityanddiversity.co.uk](mailto:info@equalityanddiversity.co.uk)**

**Website: [www.equalityanddiversity.co.uk](http://www.equalityanddiversity.co.uk)**