

## 2021-2022 Religious and Cultural Observances

**Chart One: Religious Days of Highest Impact During the School Week –**

*(Dates to avoid scheduling events or activities on. Pay special attention to dates marked SD because events and activities should also not be scheduled the night before the date listed. Expect some student observers to be out of school.)*

Representational of the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Islamic, Baha’i, Buddhist, Sikh, Non-Denominational Christian, and Neo Pagan religions.

Date	Name of Observance	Religion	Notes SD = Starts at sun down the night before the date listed, ends at sun down on the date listed.
8/19/2021	Ashura	Islamic	*Date not fixed, but often stays within 1 to 2 days of the date listed
<b>9/7/2021 - 9/8/2021</b>	Rosh Hashanah	Jewish	SD
9/8/2021	Feast of Trumpets	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
<b>9/16/2021</b>	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	SD
9/21/2021- 9/27/2021 (High Days are first, last, and Sabbath)	Feast of Tabernacles (first and last days, and Sabbath)	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
10/7/2021	Birth of Baha’u’llah	Baha’i	SD
<b>11/04/2021</b>	Diwali	Hindu	
12/24/2021	Christmas Eve	Christian	During Winter Break
12/25/2021	Christmas Day	Christian	During Winter Break
2/1/2022	Chinese New Year	Chinese	
3/22/2022	Naw-Ruz (Baha’i New Year)	Baha’i	SD
4/16/2022 - 4/23/2022	Passover	Jewish	SD
4/23/2022	Feast of Unleavened Bread (Last Day)	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
<b>5/3/2022</b>	Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan)	Islamic	*Date not fixed, but often stays within 1 to 2 days of the date listed

**Chart Two: Days of Fasting During the School Week**

*(Dates to acknowledge and be sensitive to student observers' needs due to fasting)*

Representational of the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Islamic, Baha'i, Buddhist, Sikh, Non-Denominational Christian, and Neo Pagan religions.

Date	Name of Observance	Religion	Notes SD = Starts at sun down the night before the date listed, ends at sun down on the date listed.
8/19/2021	Ashura	Islamic	SD
8/20/2021	Janmashtami	Hindu	SD
9/10/2021	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	SD
9/16/2021	Yom Kippur	Jewish	SD
9/16/2021	Day of Atonement	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
3/2/2022- 3/20/2022	The Baha'i Fast	Baha'i	SD
3/2/2022- 4/16/2022	Lent	Christian	
3/11/2021	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	
3/21/2022	Naw Ruz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	SD
4/3/2022- 5/2/2022	Ramadan	Islamic	*Dates not fixed, but often stay within 1 to 2 days of the dates listed.
4/22/2022	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian	

**Chart Three: Full Religious and Cultural Observances Calendar**

*(A working document for education and awareness)*

Representational of the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Islamic, Baha'i, Buddhist, Sikh, Non-Denominational Christian, and Neo Pagan religions

(SD) for observances starting at sundown the night prior

Day of fasting for observers

Day of highest impact for observers

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
7/18/2021- 7/22/2021	Hajj	Islamic	Pilgrimage to Mecca
7/19/2021 (SD)	Day of Arafat	Islamic	Second day of the pilgrimage to Mecca
7/20/2021	Eid al-Adha *dates not fixed	Islamic	Marks the sacrifice feast, honors Ibrahim's sacrifice of his son on Allah's orders, festival takes place

8/10/2021	Muharram	Islamic	Day to mourn and remember Hussein ibn Ali
8/30/2021	Janmashtami	Hindu	Celebrates the birth of Krishna, celebrated in evening, most observers fast the whole day and eat after midnight
8/19/2021 (SD) 8/19/2021 (SD)	Ashura	Islamic	Tenth day of Muharram, Sunni Muslims fast, some students will not go to school
9/6/2021	Labor Day	U.S. Culture	Dedication to working people across the U.S.
9/7/2021 - 9/8/2021 (SD)	Rosh Hashanah	Jewish	Celebrate the New Year, celebrate with family gatherings, non-work day for observers, some students do not go to school
9/8/2021 (SD)	Feast of Trumpets	Christian	First of the Fall Holy Days, depicts the day Christ will return to this world, non-work day for observers, some students do not go to school
9/10/2021	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	Honor Ganapathi, Parvati, and Shiva; observers fast for the day until the next morning after they have offered prayers, ten day festival takes place
9/11/2021	Enkutatash	Ethiopian Culture	Celebrate the first day of the new year
9/16/2021 (SD) 9/16/2021 (SD)	Yom Kippur	Jewish	The Day of Atonement, special service in synagogue, 25 hour fast, non-work day for observers, majority of students will not be at school
9/16/2021 (SD)	Day of Atonement	Non-Denominational Christian	Day of fasting, portrays the human race finally

			becoming at one with God
9/20/2021- 9/22/2021	Chuseok	Korean Culture	Celebrate Korean Thanksgiving Day
9/21/2021 - 9/29/2021	Mabon	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the second harvest and the changing of seasons
9/21/2021	Tet Trung Thu	Vietnamese Culture	Celebrate the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival
9/21/2021	Moon Festival	Chinese Culture	Celebrate harvest, gathering, giving, and praying
9/21/2021- 9/27/2021 (SD)	Sukkot	Jewish	Honor the time that Jewish people spent in the desert on their journey, celebrating God's protection, during this time some students will not go to school
9/21/2021- 9/27/2021 (SD) (High Days are first, last, and Sabbath)	Feast of Tabernacles	Non-Denominational Christian	Pictures the future 1,000-year rule of Jesus Christ on earth, non-work days for observers, some students do not go to school
10/4/2021	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi	Christian	Practice gratitude, spend time with an animal, pray, church service
10/6/2021- 10/19/2021	Dashain Festival	Nepalese Culture	Celebrate the Gods' victory over demons, fifteen day festival
10/7/2021- 10/15/2021	Navaratri/Dussehra	Hindu	Honor Goddess Durga over a span of nine nights
10/7/2021 (SD)	Birth of Bab	Baha'i	Celebrate and honor Bab, students may not go to school
10/7/2021 (SD)	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	Celebrate and honor Baha'u'llah, students may not go to school

10/11/2021	Dia de la Raza	Latin American Culture	Celebrate Latina/o/x heritage and culture
10/11/2021	Indigenous Peoples' Day	U.S. Culture	Honor Indigenous people, histories, and cultures
10/19/2021 (SD)	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islamic	Celebrate the birth of the Prophet Muhammad
10/20/2021	Birth of the Guru Granth	Sikh	Celebrate the birth of Guru Granth Sahib
10/31/2021	Halloween	U.S. Culture	Cultural observance with activities
11/1/2021 (SD)	Samhain	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the year's third and last harvest festival
11/1/2021- 11/2/2021	Dia de los Muertos	Mexican Culture	Celebrate the Day of the Dead, honor those who have passed
11/1/2021	All Saints' Day	Christian	Celebrate all Saints, remember all those who have gone to heaven, church service
11/2/2021	All Souls' Day	Christian	Day to honor the dead, church service
11/11/2021	Veteran's Day	U.S. Culture	Honor military veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces
11/04/2021	Diwali	Hindu	Celebrates light and new beginnings, five day festival takes place
11/24/2021	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib	Sikh	Honor the passing of Guru Tegh Bahadur
11/25/2021	Thanksgiving	U.S. Culture	Honor family and friends, honor Indigenous histories
11/28/2021	First Sunday of Advent	Christian	The beginning of the Christian year, celebrate the coming of Jesus for the four weeks to follow

11/29/2021- 12/6/2021 (SD)	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	The Festival of Lights spanning across eight days
12/8/2021	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Christian	Celebrate the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary
12/8/2021	Buddhist Enlightenment Day	Buddhist	Day for observers to be reborn and find out the truth about life
12/12/2021	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexican Christian)	Christian	Celebrate when Juan Diego saw the Virgin Mary
12/16/2021- 12/24/2021	Simbang Gabi (Fillipino Christian)	Christian	Series of nine masses at dawn, celebrate the birth of Jesus
12/16/2021- 12/24/2021	Las Posadas	Mexican Culture	Celebrate Joseph & Mary's travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem
12/21/2021	Winter Solstice	Neo Pagan	Honor the new solar year
12/24/2021	Christmas Eve	Christian	Midnight Mass, celebrate the birth of Jesus
12/25/2021	Christmas Day	Christian	Celebrate the birth of Jesus
12/26/2021- 1/1/2022	Kwanzaa	African Culture	Celebrate African culture and history
1/1/2022	New Year's Day	U.S. Culture	Celebrate the first day of the new year
1/6/2022	Dia de los Reyes (Mexican Christian)	Christian	Honor the Three Wise Men, exchange gifts
1/6/2022	Epiphany	Christian	Honor the Three Wise Men, exchange gifts
1/7/2022	Orthodox Christmas Day	Christian	Celebrate the birth of Jesus
1/9/2022	Birth of Guru Gobind Singh	Sikh	Celebrate the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh

1/13/2022	Lohri	Hindu	Lohri is a New Year celebrated by Punjabi and people from many other North Indian regions. The festival is celebrated mid-wintertime with new harvest and bonfires.
1/14/22	Makara Sankranti/ Pongal	Hindu	Makara Sankranti/Pongal is a harvest festival celebrated by South Indian States
1/14/2022	Orthodox New Year	Christian	Celebrate the New Year
1/17/2022	Martin Luther King Day	U.S. Culture	Honor Dr. King's voice and legacy
1/17/2022 (SD)	Tu B'Shvat/Tu B'Shevat	Jewish	Celebrate connection to the earth and environment, trees often planted
1/27/2022	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Jewish	Commemoration of the Holocaust
2/1/2022	Chinese New Year	Chinese Culture	Celebrate the new year
2/2/2022 (SD)	Imbolc	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the Winter Cross-Quarter
2/14/2022	Valentine's Day	U.S. Culture	Celebrate relationships and friendships
2/15/2022	Nirvana Day	Buddhist	Honors the passing of Buddha
2/19/2022	Day of Observance (Japanese Internment)	U.S. Culture	Commemorate the Internment of Japanese Americans during World War II
2/21/2022	Presidents' Day	U.S. Culture	Remember all U.S. presidents
2/25/2022- 3/1/2022 (SD)	Ayyam-i-Ha	Baha'i	Celebrate God and devote themselves to charity and giving
2/28/2022 2/28/2022	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	Honors the Lord Shiva, fasting takes place for the whole day and night

3/2/2022	Ash Wednesday (Christian)	Christian	First day of Lent
3/2/2022- 4/16/2022	Lent	Christian	Some observers fast through Lent
3/1/2022 (SD)	Isra and Mi'raj	Islamic	Celebrate the night Allah took Muhammad to Jerusalem from Mecca
3/2/2022- 3/20/2022	The Bahai'i Fast	Baha'i	Observers fast during this time
3/17/2022	Purim	Jewish	Day of exchanging food and gifts
3/18/2022	Holi	Hindu	Celebrates the arrival of spring, love, fertility, and good over evil, spans over 2 days
3/21/2022 (SD) 3/21/2022 (SD)	Naw-Ruz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Celebrate the first month in the Baha'i calendar, age 15+ fast sunrise to sunset the month leading up to the day, students may not be at school
3/22/2022	Nowruz	Iranian Culture	Marks the beginning of spring
3/20/2022	Ostara	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the arrival of spring
4/1/2022	Ugadi/Yugadi/Gudi Padwa	Hindu	Celebrates the traditional New Year, Spring festival
4/3/2022- 5/2/2022 (SD)	Ramadan *dates are not fixed	Islamic	Honor the first Quran revelation to Muhammad, fast sunrise to sunset for the duration of the holiday for those who have reached puberty
4/8/2022	Buddha's Birthday	Buddhist	Celebrate the birth of Buddha
4/10/2022	Palm Sunday	Christian	Honor the last days of Jesus' life



4/10/2022	Rama Navami	Hindu	Celebrates Lord Rama's birthday
4/13/22	Visu( Solar New Year)	Hindu	Visu is a Solar New Year celebrated by people of Tamil Nadu and some North Indian regions.
4/14/2022	Maundy Thursday	Christian	Remember when Jesus celebrated his last Passover with Disciples
4/14/2022	Vaisakhi	Sikh	Celebrate the founding of the Sikh community, known as Khalsa
4/14/2022-4/16/2022	Bun Pi Mai	Laotian Culture	Laos New Year
4/15/2022	Good Friday (Christian)	Christian	Honor Jesus' Passion, crucifixion, and passing
4/16/2022 - 4/22/2022 (SD)	Passover	Jewish	Celebrates journey to freedom
4/16/2022- 4/22/2022 (SD) (High Days are first and last)	Feast of Unleavened Bread	Non-Denominational Christian	Symbolizes striving to live a sin-free life, observers remove leavening (sin) from homes and eat unleavened breads to symbolize the righteousness of Christ, non-work day for observers, some students will not go to school
4/16/2022	Holy Saturday	Christian	Honor the day that Jesus' body rest in the tomb after his passing
4/17/2022	Easter (Christian)	Christian	Celebrate Jesus' resurrection
4/21/2022 - 5/2/2022 (SD)	Ridvan	Baha'i	Celebrates Baha'u'llah's time in the Rivdan garden, and the declaration of his prophecy, students may not go to school for the first and last day o

4/22/2022	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian	Events that honor and lead up to the crucifixion of Jesus, many observe with fasting
4/23/2022	Orthodox Holy Saturday	Christian	Honor the time between the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus
4/24/2022	Orthodox Easter	Christian	Honor the resurrection of Jesus
4/29/2022 (SD)	Laylat al Qadr *date not fixed	Islamic	Honor the holiest night of Ramadan on the 27 <sup>th</sup> day
4/30/2022	Dia de los Ninos	Mexican Culture	Celebrate children, family, and learning
5/1/2022	Beltane	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the May Lord, May Lady and fertility, do maypole dancing
5/3/2022 (SD)	Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan) *date not fixed	Islamic	Marks the end of Ramadan, feast of breaking the fast, students often do not go to school
5/4/2022	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev	Sikh	Celebrate the birthday of Guru Angad Dev
5/19/2022 (SD)	Lag BaOmer	Jewish	Small holiday known for weddings, getting haircuts, having bonfires
5/24/2022 (SD)	Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i	Celebrate Bab's declaration as a Messenger of God, students may not go to school
5/26/2022	Ascension Day	Christian	Honors Jesus' ascension into Heaven
5/29/2022 (SD)	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	Honors the passing of Baha'u'llah, students may not go to school
5/30/2022	Memorial Day	U.S. Culture	Honor military personnel who have passed while

			servicing in the U.S. Armed Forces
6/3/2022	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib	Sikh	Honor the passing of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib
6/5/2022 (SD)	Pentecost	Non-Denominational Christian	Feast of First Fruits, also known as Feast of Weeks, celebrate His Spirit
6/5/2022- 6/6/2022 (SD)	Shavuot	Jewish	Celebrates the Five Books of the Torah, many observers stay up all night to study the Torah and celebrate
6/5/2022	Pentecost	Christian	Celebrate the Holy Spirit
6/6/2022	Whit Monday	Christian	Continuation of celebrating the Holy Spirit
6/12/2022	Trinity Sunday	Christian	Celebrate the Trinity
6/16/2022	Corpus Christi	Christian	Celebrate Jesus' body and blood
6/19/2022	Juneteenth	African-American Culture	Celebrate the abolition of slavery in the state of Texas
6/21/2022	Summer Solstice	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the longest day of the year
7/8/2022 - 7/12/2022	Hajj	Islamic	Pilgrimage to Mecca
7/9/2022 (SD)	Day of Arafah	Islamic	Second day of the pilgrimage to Mecca
7/10/2022 (SD)	Martyrdom of the Bab	Baha'i	Honors the passing of the Bab, some students may not go to school
7/10/2022 (SD)	Eid al-Adha *date not fixed	Islamic	Marks the sacrifice feast, honors Ibrahim's sacrifice of his son on Allah's orders, festival takes place
8/11/2022	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Celebrates the unity and bond between brothers and

			sisters, sisters tie a thread around their brothers' wrists, brothers declare that they will protect their sister
8/15/2022	Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary	Christian	Celebrate Mary's assumption into Heaven by God

Sources:

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