

Culturally Responsive Calendar 2023-2024
Holley Central School District



District Mission

We, the students, parents, staff and community of the Holley Central School District, will work together to provide the opportunity and means for **all students** to acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes to become responsible and productive citizens in a **diverse and changing society**. The ideal is to instill a passion for lifelong learning.

Important Note

This calendar was created to raise awareness of specific days or months that celebrate or recognize a cultural group. Knowing this information can help us connect with our students and colleagues in new ways, help us prepare for days where students and colleagues may be disengaged or absent from school, and/or provide us opportunities for teachable moments that advance our goal of creating a welcoming and affirming environment. It is a work in progress, and as such, may be missing other important dates. This work was undertaken by a team of educators of good will and intention. As we continue to learn more about diverse cultures, we will update this calendar accordingly.

September 2023	Hispanic Heritage Month National Recovery Month	
Sept. 11	National Day of Service and Remembrance/September 11th	A day to honor those who lost their lives on the September 11, 2001 attacks.
Sept. 12	Enkutatash (Ethiopian New Year)	Celebrated as the end of the rainy season and by Rastafarians.
Sept. 15-Sept. 17	Rosh Hashanah (Judaism)	Celebration of the Jewish New Year, it begins after sundown on the 25th. It is a time for introspection.
Sept. 15-Oct. 15	Hispanic Heritage Month	This month honors the culture and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans.
Sept. 18	International Equal Pay Day	Established by the United Nations to work towards equal pay for work of equal value.
Sept. 20	He for She Day	A day established by the United Nations to promote gender equity through cooperation with allies.
Sept. 22	American Business Women Day	Recognizes the achievements of women in business.

Sept. 24- Sept. 25	Yom Kippur (Judaism)	Begins on sundown of the 24th. The holiest day on the Jewish calendar, a day of atonement marked by fasting and ceremonial repentance. Work is prohibited.
Sept. 29- Oct. 7	Sukkot (Judaism)	Seven Day Jewish Festival giving thanks for the fall harvest.

October 2023	LGBTQIA+ History Month National German American Month National Italian American Month National Polish American Month	
Oct. 4	St. Francis Day (Christian)	Feast of St Francis of Assisi, saint of animals and the environment. Celebrated by some Catholic denominations.
Oct. 9	Indigenous Peoples' Day	Formerly Columbus Day- meant to celebrate the contributions of Indigenous populations.
Oct. 10	World Mental Health Day (people with disabilities)	Promotes mental health awareness and education, and advocates against social stigma relating to mental health
Oct. 11	National Coming Out Day	Celebrating LGBTQIA+ for those who identify. Also commemorates the 1987 March on Washington.
Oct. 18	International Pronouns Day	Meant to bring awareness and make sharing, educating, and respecting everyone's pronouns common place.
Oct. 19	Spirit Day (LGBTQ+)	Wear purple on this day to support LGBTQ youth and speak out against bullying
Oct. 31	Halloween	Began as a Celtic holiday to ward off evil spirits. It is often not celebrated by many Christian denominations.
Oct. 31	Reformation Day (Christianity)	A Protestant Christian religious holiday celebrated alongside All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) during the triduum of all Hallowtide in remembrance of the onset of the Reformation.

November 2023	Diabetes Awareness Month Military Family Month Native American Heritage Month	
Nov. 2	Dia de los Muertos	Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday celebrating the day when the gates of Heaven are open and they welcome back the soul of their dead relatives.
Nov. 10	US Marine Corps Birthday	Celebrates the date in 1775 when the Marine Corps was formed in Philadelphia by the Second Continental Congress. Every year the Marines celebrate with a ball.

Nov. 11	Veterans Day/Armistice Day	Veterans Day, observed annually on November 11, is a tribute to military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.
Nov. 11-18	National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week	This week was created with the hopes of educating Americans about hunger and homelessness and encouraging service and action to work to eradicate them.
Nov. 12	Diwali (Hindu/Sikh)	The Hindu, Jain, and Sikh five-day festival of lights that celebrates new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and lightness over darkness.
Nov. 14	World Diabetes Day	Established to recognize the escalating health threat posed by diabetes.
Nov. 16	International Tolerance Day	The International Day of Tolerance is created as a way to commemorate the passing of The Declaration of Principles on Tolerance.
Nov. 16	National Rural Health Day	This day was created to celebrate rural healthcare providers and highlight the unique healthcare challenges of rural areas
Nov. 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance	This is a day to honor the memory of transgender people who lost their lives to violence as well as advocate for transgender rights.
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Day	The day is meant to celebrate the harvest season and other blessings of the year gone by.
Nov. 24	Native American Heritage Day	A civil holiday that pays tribute to Native Americans for their many contributions to the United States and recognizes them as the first people of our nation.
Nov. 30	Native Women's Equal Pay Day	Brings awareness that Native women are paid 50 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
Nov. 13-19	Transgender Awareness Week	Transgender Awareness Week is a week when transgender people and their allies educate the public about who transgender people are, sharing stories and experiences, and advancing advocacy around the issues of prejudice, discrimination, and violence that affect the transgender community.

December 2023		
Dec. 1	Rosa Parks Day	Celebrates the day in 1955 when Rosa Parks refused to move to the back of a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama.

Dec. 1	World AIDS Day	Dedicated to spreading awareness of HIV and AIDS and mourning the loss of the estimated 40 million people who have died of AIDS since 1981.
Dec. 1-7	Crohn's and Colitis awareness Week	This week is to educate people about and support people dealing with Crohn's and Colitis.
Dec. 2	Special Education Day	This day commemorates the signing of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 1975. IDEA requires public schools to provide a free appropriate public education to students with disabilities.
Dec. 3	International Day of People with Disabilities	Started by the United Nations, this day is meant to celebrate the lives of people with disabilities and raise awareness about their needs.
Dec. 3	First Day of Advent	Advent begins the season when Christians prepare for the birth of Christ. It begins the 4th Sunday before Christmas each year.
Dec. 7- Dec. 15	Hanukkah begins at sundown (Judaism)	Hanukkah celebrates the re-dedication of the temple in Jerusalem. It is an 8 day celebration that includes traditional food and games, gifts, and the lighting of the menorah.
Dec. 8	Bodhi Day	Celebrates the day when Siddhartha Gautama, the Historic Buddha, achieved enlightenment.
Dec. 15	Bill of Rights Day	This day commemorates the ratification of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1791.
Dec. 25	Christmas	Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus of Nazareth.
Dec. 26 – Jan 1	Kwanzaa	Created by Black Studies professor Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966, Kwanzaa is a celebration of African American community, family, and culture.

January 2024	Poverty in America Awareness Month	
Jan. 4	World Braille Day	World Braille Day, observed to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication for blind and partially sighted people; celebrated on the birthday of Louis Braille, the inventor of Braille.
Jan. 15	Makar Sankranti (Hindu)	Makar Sankranti is a Hindu festival that's dedicated to the Hindu religious sun god,

		Surya. It is often celebrated with morning prayer followed by kite games and competitions. Date may vary.
Jan. 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrates one of the greatest American leaders of the civil rights movement.
Jan. 24-25	Tu B'shevat (Judaism)	Jewish holiday recognizing "The New Year of the Trees." It is celebrated on the fifteenth day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. In Israel, the flowering of the almond tree usually coincides with this holiday, which is celebrated by planting trees and eating dried fruits and nuts.
Jan. 27	UN Holocaust Memorial Day	The International Day of Commemoration to remember the victims of the Holocaust; the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in 1945 and UN Holocaust Memorial Day

February 2024	Black History Month	
Feb. 1	National Freedom Day	National Freedom Day, which celebrates the signing of the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery in the United States in 1865.
Feb. 10	Lunar New Year	Lunar New Year, one of the most sacred of all traditional Chinese holidays, a time of family reunion and celebration. The Lunar New Year is also celebrated at this time in Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and Mongolia.
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day	St. Valentine's Day, a Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentinus. This holiday is typically associated with romantic love and celebrated by people expressing their love with gifts.
Feb. 14	Ash Wednesday (Christian)	Marks the beginning of Lent. It focuses the Christian's heart on repentance and prayer, usually through personal and communal confession.
Feb. 15	Nirvana Day (Buddhism)	Also known as Parinirvana, this day is the annual festival that commemorates the death of Buddha after he reached his final nirvana. Buddhists often celebrate this day by visiting Buddhist temples or monasteries and meditating. If you're not Buddhist and want to celebrate the day, spend some time in meditation!

Feb. 19	Presidents Day	Presidents' Day, or Washington's Birthday at the federal governmental level, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February to honor all persons who served as presidents.
Feb. 20	World Day of Social Justice	Social Justice Day is meant to remind people that advocacy and activism is what love and justice looks like. It is to uphold the principles of social justice by promoting gender equality, and the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants; it is meant to advance social justice by dismantling and removing barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.
Feb. 21	International Mother Language Day	It is a worldwide annual observance to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and promote multilingualism. Linguistic diversity is increasingly threatened as more and more languages disappear. One language disappears on average every two weeks, taking with it an entire cultural and intellectual heritage.

March 2024	Gender Equality Month (UN) Greek American Heritage Month Irish American Heritage Month Women's History Month	
March 8	International Women's Day	Celebrates the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.
March 10-April 9	Ramadan (Islamic)	Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam. Dates may vary.
March 17	St. Patrick's Day	Celebrates the culture and religion of the Irish, specifically St. Patrick.
March 19	Nowruz	The first month of the Iranian solar calendar.
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day	The 21st day of March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. Every year on March 21, World Down Syndrome Day is observed to create awareness about Down syndrome.
March 21	International Day of Elimination of Racial Discrimination	A day of remembering when 69 people in South Africa were shot and killed for peaceful protesting to end racism and discrimination.
March 23-24	Purim (Judaism)	Commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, an official of the Achaemenid Empire.

March 24	Palm Sunday (Christian)	Christian worshipers celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.
March 25	Holi (Hindu)	Celebrates the winter harvest and onset of spring. Date may vary.
March 29	Good Friday (Christian)	The Friday before Easter, the day on which Christians annually observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. From the early days of Christianity, Good Friday was observed as a day of sorrow, penance, and fasting.
March 31	Easter	A Christian holiday that celebrates the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
March 31	International Transgender Day of Visibility	The day is dedicated to celebrating the accomplishments of transgender and gender nonconforming people while raising awareness of the work that still needs to be done to achieve trans justice.

April 2024	Arab-American Heritage Month Autism Awareness Month Diversity Month Earth Month Month of the Military Child	
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day	A month that celebrates sharing stories and providing opportunities to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism, fostering worldwide support.
April 9-10	Eid al-Fitr (Islam)	The religious holiday is celebrated by Muslims worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan. Dates may vary.
April 13-15	Songkran	Celebrated in Thailand, this marks a solar movement. Songkran is considered to be spiritually purifying and to wash away bad luck from the previous year.
April 15	National ASL Day	A day of observance celebrating American Sign Language.
April 18	World Heritage Day	Celebration for diverse heritages around the world.
April 22	Earth Day (International)	Celebrates and supports environmental protection
April 22-April 30	Passover (Judaism)	Passover commemorates the story of the Israelites' departure from ancient Egypt.
April 25-27	Gathering of Nations (Native Americans)	More than 500 Native tribes meet and celebrate traditions and cultures.

May 2024	Asian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Better Speech and Hearing Month Jewish American Heritage Month Mental Health Month National Mobility Awareness Month	
----------	--	--

May 1	College Decision Day	This is the deadline for seniors to pick their college.
May 9	Ascension Day (Christianity)	Celebrates the departure of Christ on Earth to the presence of God.
May 17 or 19	Malcolm X Day	Malcolm X Day, also his birthday, comes as a tribute to Malcolm's fight for African Americans' rights. Sometimes celebrated the third Friday of May.
May 21	World Day for Cultural Diversity	Brings awareness to and protects the variety of cultural practices throughout the world.

June 2024	Caribbean American Heritage Month Pride Month PTSD Awareness Month	
June 1	Lei Day for Hawaiians	A day to celebrate and recognize the custom of giving and receiving a lei.
June 2	American Indian Citizenship Day	All Native Americans born in the U.S. were given the right to vote.
June 11-13	Shavout (Judaism)	Festival commemorating giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai (work restrictions).
June 14-19	The Hajj (Islam)	Annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca. Dates may vary.
June 16-19	Eid al-Adha (Islam)	It honors the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son Ismail as an act of obedience to Allah's command. Dates may vary.
June 18	Autistic Pride Day	A day dedicated to raising awareness and acceptance of those with autism.
June 19	Juneteenth	Commemoration of emancipation of enslaved African Americans.
June 20	World Refugee Day	World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe.

July 2024	Disability Pride Month French American Heritage Month	
July 4	Filipino-American Friendship Day	Filipinos celebrate Filipino-American Friendship Day on July 4 th every year to mark their historical alliance with the U.S.
July 7-8	Al-Hijri (Islam)	Start of the new year in Muslim faith. Dates may vary.
July 7-Aug. 4	Muharram (Islam)	First month of the Islamic calendar. Dates may vary.
July 11	World Populace Day	Raises awareness about the global population issues, including population control.
July 14	International Non-Binary People's Day	Occasion to shine a light on those who identify as non-binary and celebrates the rich diversity of the community.

July 15	World Youth Skills Day	Celebrates the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.
July 21	Asalha Puja, or Dharma Day (Buddhism)	An important holiday for Buddhists that commemorates the first sermon preached by the Buddha after he became awakened.
July 26	Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act	On July 26, 1990, with the signing into law of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), our Nation created the world's first comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities.
July 30	International Day of Friendship	The International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.

August 2024	Don't Be a Bully Month National Civility Month	
Aug. 7	Purple Heart Day	It's a day for Americans to remember and honor the men and women who bravely represented their country and were wounded or killed whilst serving.
Aug. 9	International day of the World's Indigenous People	A day recognizing the world's indigenous people.
Aug. 15	Feast of the Assumption	Roman Catholic; Mary assumed up to heaven.
Aug. 17	Marcus Garvey Day	Celebrating the contributions of Marcus Garvey to the Pan-Africa movement.
Aug. 19	World Humanitarian Day	"On 19 August 2003, a bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, killed 22 humanitarian aid workers, including the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello."
Aug. 21	Senior Citizen Day	Created in 1988, Ronald Reagan endorsed the day as a way to recognize seniors' continuing leadership and roles in the United States.
Aug. 23	International Day for remembrance of Slave Trade	International holiday for awareness of the horrors of the slave trade, originally celebrated in Haiti, it has been recognized by the United Nations.
Aug. 26	Women's Equality Day	Women's Equality Day is celebrated in the United States on August 26 to commemorate the 1920 adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment (Amendment XIX) to the United

		States Constitution, which prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex.
Aug. 30	<u>Grief Awareness Day</u>	A day to recognize the many ways that individuals cope with loss.