

Culturally Responsive Calendar 2024-2025
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 2024	Hispanic Heritage Month National Recovery Month Deaf Awareness Month Childhood Cancer Awareness Month	
Sept. 10	World Suicide Prevention Day Video	World Suicide Prevention Day is observed to raise awareness, focus efforts on directing treatment to those who need it most, and remember those affected by suicide.
Sept. 11	National Day of Service & 9/11 Remembrance Video Lesson Plans	A day to honor those who lost their lives on the September 11, 2001 attacks.
Sept. 11	Enkutatash (Ethiopian New Year) Video	Celebrated as the end of the rainy season and by Rastafarians.
Sept. 12	R U OK? Day Video Lessons- Elementary Lessons- Secondary	Australian day of action when people are reminded to ask one another if they are okay.
Sept. 15-Oct. 15	Hispanic Heritage Month Video 9 Lessons	This month honors the culture and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans.
Sept. 18	International Equal Pay Day Video	Established by the United Nations to work towards equal pay for work of equal value.
Sept. 20	He for She Day Video	A day established by the United Nations to promote gender equity through cooperation with allies.

Sept. 21	International Day of Peace Video	A time to lay down weapons and observe ceasefires and a time for people to see each other's humanity.
Sept. 22	American Business Women Day Video	Recognizes the achievements of women in business.

October 2024	LGBTQIA+ History Month National German American Month National Italian American Month National Polish American Month	
Oct. 1	Defender of Ukraine Day Video Lessons	Celebrate those who have fought or are still fighting for the freedom of Ukraine today.
Oct. 2-4	Rosh Hashanah (Judaism) Video	Celebration of the Jewish New Year, it begins after sundown on the 25th. It is a time for introspection.
Oct. 4	St. Francis Day (Christian) Video	Feast of St Francis of Assisi, saint of animals and the environment. Celebrated by some Catholic denominations.
Oct. 10	World Mental Health Day (people with disabilities) Video Activities & Worksheets	Promotes mental health awareness and education, and advocates against social stigma relating to mental health
Oct. 11	National Coming Out Day Video Resources	Celebrating LGBTQIA+ for those who identify. Also commemorates the 1987 March on Washington.
Oct. 11-12	Yom Kippur (Judaism) Video	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.
Oct. 14	Indigenous Peoples' Day Video Resources	Formerly Columbus Day- meant to celebrate the contributions of Indigenous populations.
Oct. 16-23	Sukkot (Judaism) Video	Seven Day Jewish Festival giving thanks for the fall harvest.
Oct. 16	International Pronouns Day Video	Meant to bring awareness and make sharing, educating, and respecting everyone's pronouns common place.
Oct. 17	Spirit Day (LGBTQ+) Video	Wear purple on this day to support LGBTQ youth and speak out against bullying
Oct. 31	Halloween Video Lessons & Activities	Began as a Celtic holiday to ward off evil spirits. It is often not celebrated by many Christian denominations.
Oct. 31	Reformation Day (Christianity) Video	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.
Oct. 31- Nov. 1	Diwali (Hindu/Sikh) Video Lessons	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.

November 2024	Diabetes Awareness Month Military Family Month Native American Heritage Month	
Nov. 1-2	Dia de los Muertos Video Resources for Spanish Resources- English	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 Video	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 Video Lesson- Secondary Resources- Elementary	Veterans Day, observed annually on November 11, is a tribute to military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.
Nov. 13-19	Transgender Awareness Week Video	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.
Nov. 14	World Diabetes Day Video	Established to recognize the escalating health threat posed by diabetes.
Nov. 16	International Tolerance Day Video	The International Day of Tolerance is created as a way to commemorate the passing of The Declaration of Principles on Tolerance.
Nov. 18-26	National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week Video	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. 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance Video	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. 21	National Rural Health Day Video	This day was created to celebrate rural healthcare providers and highlight the unique healthcare challenges of rural areas

Nov. 21	Native Women's Equal Pay Day Video	Brings awareness that Native women are paid 50 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
Nov. 24	Native American Heritage Day Video Resources	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. 28	Thanksgiving Day Video Resources	The day is meant to celebrate the harvest season and other blessings of the year gone by.

December 2024	Universal Human Rights Month HIV Awareness Month Learn a Foreign Language Month	
Dec. 1	Rosa Parks Day Video Resource Lessons- Resources	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 Video Resource Lesson	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 Video Resource	This week is to educate people about and support people dealing with Crohn's and Colitis.
Dec. 2	Special Education Day Video Resource Lesson & Resources	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 Video Resource Classroom Resources	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 Video Resource	Advent begins the season when Christians prepare for the birth of Christ. It begins the 4th Sunday before Christmas each year.
Dec. 8	Bodhi Day (Buddhism) Video Resource Lesson - Bodhi Day - BBC Teach	Celebrates the day when Siddhartha Gautama, the Historic Buddha, achieved enlightenment.
Dec. 12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Catholicism)	People in Mexico and in the United States celebrate the Feast of Our

	Video Resource - HS Video Resource - ES	Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. Mary is the Patron Saint of Mexico and Patroness of the Americas.
Dec. 13	Saint Lucia's Day (Swedish/Christian) Video Resource	St. Lucia's Day is an important holiday celebrating light during the long, dark winter—especially in Scandinavia, where some regions may see only a few hours of daylight. The holiday is celebrated on December 13, close to the winter solstice, which is the shortest day of the year.
Dec. 15	Bill of Rights Day Video Resource Lesson Plans gr 3-8 Resources- Constitution	This day commemorates the ratification of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1791.
Dec. 16 – Dec. 24	Los Posadas(Mexican/Christian) Video Resource - ES Video Resource - HS Lessons	Las Posadas, celebrated yearly from December 16-24, is a religious festival traditionally held in Mexico and parts of Latin America. Translating to 'The Inns' in Spanish, Las Posadas is an important part of the Christmas festivities.
Dec. 20	Shab-e-Yalda (Persian/Iranian) Video Resource - HS Video Resource - ES Lessons Gr 1-3	This is one of the most celebrated traditional events in Iran which marks the longest night of the year, that is, in the night of the Northern Hemisphere's winter solstice.
Dec. 25	Christmas Video Resource – HS Video Resource - ES History Lessons	Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus of Nazareth.
Dec. 25 - Jan. 2	Hanukkah begins at sundown (Judaism) Video Resource – ES Video Resource - HS Resources	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. 26 – Jan 1	Kwanzaa Video Resource - HS Video Resource - ES Resources	Created by Black Studies professor Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966, Kwanzaa is a celebration of African American community, family, and culture.

January 2025	Poverty in America Awareness Month	
Jan. 4	World Braille Day Video Resource - ES Video Resource – HS	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. 11	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day	This day brings awareness to Human Trafficking to prevent trafficking and help those impacted.
Jan. 14	Makar Sankranti (Hindu) Video Resource - ES Video Resource - HS	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 Video Resource – ES Video Resource – HS Lessons Gr k-8	Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrates one of the greatest American leaders of the civil rights movement.
Jan. 24-25	Tu B'shevat (Judaism) Video Resource – ES Video Resource - HS	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 Video Resource - HS Holocaust Lesson Plans	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
Jan. 29	Lunar New Year Video Resource - ES Video Resource - HS STEM Activities	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.

February 2025	Black History Month	
Feb. 1	National Freedom Day Video Resource - HS Lessons - Gr K-4	National Freedom Day, which celebrates the signing of the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery in the United States in 1865.
Feb. 6	International Day of Zero Tolerance of FGM Lessons	This is a movement for the rights of women and their bodies, as well as the protection of their physical health.
Feb. 11	International Women & Girls in Science Day Video Resource – ES Video Resource - HS Lesson	The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is an annual observance adopted by the United Nations General Assembly to promote the full and equal access and participation of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.
Feb. 12	Lantern Festival (East Asian) Video Resource – ES Video Resource - HS	Chinese New Year, also called Spring Festival in China, marks the beginning of the Spring season. The Chinese Lantern Festival marks the final day of these celebrations.
Feb. 13	Lailatul-Barat Starts (Iranian/Persian)	The holiday represents fortune and forgiveness and is also called Shab-e-Barat. Muslims see this night as a time of profession as Allah decides people's fortune for the year ahead and decide whether they will have the opportunity to perform Hajj.

Feb. 14	Valentine's Day Video Resource - ES Video Resource - HS	<p>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.</p>
Feb. 15	Nirvana Day (Buddhism)	<p>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!</p>
Feb. 17	Random Acts of Kindness Day Video Resource – ES Video Resource - HS	<p>The movement of Random Acts of Kindness inspires people every day. As a favorite celebration for many, people everywhere are enjoying doing these acts of kindness. Not only do the acts of kindness bring joy to the receiver, but they spread positive reactions to the giver, too!</p>
Feb. 19	Presidents Day Video Resource – ES Video Resource - HS	<p>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.</p>
Feb. 20	World Day of Social Justice Video Resource	<p>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.</p>

Feb. 21	International Mother Language Day Video Resource – HS Video Resource - ES	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 2025	Gender Equality Month (UN) Greek American Heritage Month Irish American Heritage Month Women's History Month	
Feb 28 - March 29	Ramadan (Islamic) Video - Kids Explain Ramadan Resources	Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam. Dates may vary.
March 4	Mardi Gras Video- Mardi Gras	Mardi Gras
March 5- April 19	Lent Video- What Is Lent?	Lent- Starting on Ash Wednesday
March 8	International Women's Day Video International Women's Day	Celebrates the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.
March 13-14	Purim (Judaism)	Commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, an official of the Achaemenid Empire.
March 13-14	Holi (Hindu) Video- Holi Toolkit & Lessons	Celebrates the winter harvest and onset of spring. Date may vary.
March 17	St. Patrick's Day Video- St. Patrick's Day	Celebrates the culture and religion of the Irish, specifically St. Patrick.
March 20	Nowruz- Geographic Nowruz Video- Nowruz	The first month of the Iranian/Persian solar calendar.
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day Video- Downs Syndrome	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 Video- PBS Race & Identity Video-- International Day Against Racism	A day of remembering when 69 people in South Africa were shot and killed for peaceful protesting to end racism and discrimination.
March 30-31	Eid al-Fitr (Islam) Video- PBS	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.
March 31	International Transgender Day of Visibility Video- Transgender	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 2025	Arab-American Heritage Month Autism Awareness Month Diversity Month Earth Month Month of the Military Child	
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day Video- Autism neurodiversity resources	A month that celebrates sharing stories and providing opportunities to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism, fostering worldwide support.
April 12-April 20	Passover (Judaism) Video- PBS	Passover commemorates the story of the Israelites' departure from ancient Egypt.
April 13	Palm Sunday (Christian) Video- Palm Sunday	Christian worshipers celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.
April 13-15	Songkran Festival Video- Songkran short Video- Songkran Long	Celebrated in Thailand, this marks a solar movement. Songkran is considered spiritually purifying and washing away bad luck from the previous year.
April 15	NATIONAL ASL DAY Video- history of ASL	A day of observance celebrating American Sign Language. 🇺🇸
April 18	World Heritage Day Video- World Heritage	Celebration for diverse heritages around the world.

April 20	Easter	A Christian holiday that celebrates the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
April 22	Earth Day (International)	Celebrates and supports environmental protection
April 24-26	Gathering of Nations (Native Americans) Video- Nat Geo Pow Wow	More than 500 Native tribes meet and celebrate traditions and cultures.
April 25	Arbor Day Video- PBS Arbor Day	Celebrates tree plantings and conservation on the last Friday of April.

May 2025	Asian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Better Speech and Hearing Month Jewish American Heritage Month Mental Health Month National Mobility Awareness Month	
May 1	Regular Decision Deadlines	This is the deadline for seniors to pick their college.
May 17	Armed Forces Day Video- Armed Forces Day Video- Kids Armed Forces Day	Armed Forces Day is held annually on the third Saturday of May. It is a time to honor the men and women who currently serve in the armed forces in the United States.
May 18 or 19	Malcolm X Day Video- Malcolm X Lesson	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 Video- Diversity in the Workplace (youtube.com) Resources	Brings awareness to and protects the variety of cultural practices throughout the world.
May 26	Memorial Day History of the Holidays: History of Memorial Day History (youtube.com)	Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day) is one of the federal holidays in the United States for honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. It is observed on the last Monday of May. Memorial Day is also

		considered the unofficial beginning of summer in the United States.
May 29	Ascension Day (Christianity)	Celebrates the departure of Christ on Earth to the presence of God.

June 2025	Caribbean American Heritage Month Pride Month PTSD Awareness Month	
June 1-3	Shavout (Judaism) Video	Festival commemorating giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai (work restrictions).
June 2	American Indian Citizenship Day Video Resource	All Native Americans born in the U.S. were given the right to vote.
June 4-9	The Hajj (Islam) Elementary Video MS/HS Video Lesson Plan	Annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca. Dates may vary.
June 6-7	Eid al-Adha (Islam) Video	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 Video	A day dedicated to raising awareness and acceptance of those with autism.
June 19	Juneteenth Video Lesson- Gr 6-12 Resources- NEA	Commemoration of emancipation of enslaved African Americans.
June 20	World Refugee Day Video Video-Adolescent	World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe.

June 26-27	Al-Hijri (Islam) Video	Start of the new year in Muslim faith. Dates may vary.
------------	---	--

July 2025	Disability Pride Month French American Heritage Month	
July 4	Filipino-American Friendship Day Video	Filipinos celebrate Filipino-American Friendship Day on July 4 th every year to mark their historical alliance with the U.S.
July 5	Muharram (Islam)	First month of the Islamic calendar. Dates may vary.
July 11	World Populace Day Video	Raises awareness about the global population issues, including population control.
July 14	International-non-binary-peoples-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) Video	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 Video	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 2025	Don't Be a Bully Month National Civility Month
-------------	--

Aug. 7	Purple Heart Day Video	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 Video	A day recognizing the world's indigenous people.
Aug. 9	Women's Equality Day Video	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. 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 Video	International holiday for awareness of the horrors of the slave trade, originally celebrated in Haiti, it has been recognized by the United Nations.
Aug. 30	Grief Awareness Day	A day to recognize the many ways that individuals cope with loss.

Aug. 31

[National Overdose Day](#)

It is the world's largest campaign to end overdoses, to remember those who have died without stigma, and to acknowledge the grief of their loved ones.