Hidden in Plain Sight

Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board
Equity and Diversity Calendar
2011-2012
One of the many responsibilities of a school district is to ensure fair and equitable treatment among all students and employees of diverse backgrounds. The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) believes in the power of education to change thinking, attitudes and behaviours. The Board remains committed to identifying and eliminating systemic barriers, which limit the academic success and life chances of students, and the career opportunities of employees. As such, the Board’s Equity and Diversity Committee operates with a mandate to promote and raise awareness of issues relating to equity and diversity.

For the seventh consecutive year, members of the Equity and Diversity Committee challenged schools to create art commenting on equity and diversity themes. The theme for this year’s Calendar was “Hidden in Plain Sight.” To account for a variety of learning needs and styles, school communities were encouraged to use diverse media. Their goal was to portray artistically that while people, experiences and issues may seem evident to us, they are, in fact, made up of many sides, layers and components that we may not see, perceive or understand unless carefully regarded. The Calendar reflects the Board’s commitment to the principles of equity and valuing diversity, and provides a showcase for the artistic talents of students and staff.

It represents a partnership among students, teachers, principals, the Equity and Diversity Committee, the Human Resources Department, Multimedia Services and the Communications Office. The Equity and Diversity Calendar aims to serve as a resource for educators, students and school communities. It celebrates the creativity of KPR students and provides information about:

- Significant equity and diversity dates recognized by the United Nations, Canada and Ontario.
- Bahá’í, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Islamic and Sikh holy days and feasts.
- Dates of significance to communities within the KPR district (e.g. First Nations).
- Canadian civic holidays.
- Equinox, solstice and daylight savings dates.
- The KPR Board Calendar

An electronic version with accompanying resource suggestions is available on the Board’s web site; www.kprdsb.ca.

Acknowledgments
Special thanks go to the many individuals who supported this project, including:
- Each student, teacher, volunteer and principal involved in creating artwork
- Equity & Diversity Committee Members
- Alderville, Hiawatha & Curve Lake First Nations
- Peterborough Pride Committee
- Stan Kicak, Steve Spracklin, LRC
- Joanne Gillam, Gale Ovens, Jayne Potts, Jill Ritchie, Human Resources

“Watched”
Vincent Massey P.S.

“Hidden in Plain Sight”
Otonabee Valley P.S.
Equity & Diversity at KPR

The Equity and Diversity Team, located within Human Resources, supports the advancement of equity, valuing diversity, inclusiveness and respect for the dignity of all persons within the KPR community. In collaboration with students, staff, trustees and community partners, the team facilitates student achievement while supporting just, fair working and learning environments. The Team’s work is guided primarily by the principles and practices mandated under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Ontario Human Rights Code, the Education Act, the Safe Schools Act, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

In collaboration with other departments and programs, the Team:
- implements the Board’s equity-related policies and administrative regulations.
- develops KPR’s Annual Accessibility Plan.
- involves community partners in equity and diversity initiatives.
- provides anti-discrimination education within the system.
- develops capacity among staff and students to advance equity, value diversity and create inclusive, respectful environments.
- creates/disseminates resources that enhance understanding of and across diverse communities.

The Board has an advisory Equity and Diversity Committee that consists of representatives from all employee groups. The mandate of this committee is to address equity, diversity and inclusiveness in the human resource, educational and business services of the Board and to provide leadership and direction in these areas. In addition, each year schools identify a staff member to fill the voluntary, co-curricular role of Equity Contact. Staff in this role support the coordination of equity programming and the dissemination of related information in schools and among the Board sites.

In 2010-11, the Board undertook many equity-related actions to support safety and student achievement. These include:
- providing fall/spring training to all School Equity Contacts.
- training all staff re: workplace violence and harassment.
- approving KPR’s Guidelines on Multifaith Accommodation.
- creating educational materials about bias for use by staff.
- piloting a successful Access Awareness event and creating related resource materials for use in educational programming.
- extending our ‘Creativity and Diversity of Thought’ project to include a training component.
- assisting with the development of school climate surveys for students in grades 4 through 12.
- initiating our Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) program.
- implementing the Ministry of Education’s Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy (EIE).

Community participation and involvement are critical to the success of KPR’s Equity and Diversity team. Strategic partnerships/involvement in 2010-11 included:
- Board lead, Barrie Regional EIE Network of School Boards.
- Partner, SWIS.
- Participant, Peterborough Partnership Council on Immigrant Integration.
- Participant, Durham Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council.
- Multifaith Community Meeting.
- Ontario Human Rights Commission.

In addition, to these strategic partnerships we continue to be engaged with school boards, organizations, and community agencies and members, within the Board area, provincially and nationally.

If you would like additional information about equity and diversity at KPR, please feel welcome to visit our website at: www.kprschools.ca
# September 2011

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## 2011-12 According to the United Nations

- **2003-2012** - United Nations Literacy Decade: Education for All
- **2005-2014** - United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
- **2005-2014** - Second International Decade of the World’s Indigenous People
- **2008-2017** - Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

### Index of Holy Days

- **Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)** - September 1
  - This is a celebration of the birth of Lord Ganesh, the elephant-headed God known as the Remover of Obstacles.
- **Curve Lake Pow Wow (First Nations)** - September 17-18
  - A Pow Wow is a spiritual and social gathering. First Nations peoples come together to celebrate and honour traditions through drumming, singing, and dancing.
- **Krishna Jayanti/Janmashtami (Hindu)** - September 28
  - This festival marks the birth of Krishna, the most venerated God in Hinduism.
- **Navaratri (Hindu)** - September 28 - October 6
  - A festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil, Navaratri honours God as a mother figure - an element that is unique from many other religions. Women traditionally plant nine different seeds at this time, in honour of the goddess Durga.
- **Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)** - September 29 - 30
  - Rosh Hashanah celebrates New Year as harvest ends. It is a time for reflection and self-assessment for the community and for individuals as well as a time for promoting universal peace and well-being.

### Significant Dates

- **International Day of Peace (UN)** - September 21
  - For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.
- **Peterborough Pride Parade** - September 24
  - A celebration of the history, diversity, courage and future of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, intersex and two-spirited communities.
## October 2011

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### October is...

- Learning Disabilities Awareness Month
- Islamic History Month (Can)
- Canadian Library Month
- Women’s History Month (Can)
- Autism Awareness Month

### Index of Holy Days

- **Navaratri (Hindu)** - September 28 - October 6
  
  See September Index.

- **Birth of the Báb (Bahá’í)** - October 20
  
  Observes the birth of the Báb, one of two founders of Bahá’í and Proclaimer of the faith.

- **Simchat Torah (Jewish)** - October 21
  
  Simchat Torah marks the end of Sukkot, a joyous occasion concluding with the synagogue reading of the Torah (Pentateuch).

- **Diwali (Hindu)** - October 26
  
  This festival of lights features lanterns, flowers, electric lights and oil lamps called Aarti. Gifts are also exchanged.

- **Diwali (Sikh)** - October 26 - 29
  
  Celebrates the release of Guru Hargobind from imprisonment at Gwalior as well as the Festival of Light.

### Significant Dates

- **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (UN)** - October 17
  
  For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

- **Persons’ Day (Canada)** - October 18
  
  Commemorates the date in 1829 when England’s Privy Council decided that women were indeed persons and therefore entitled to all the rights of persons under the law. This reversed the 1927 decision by Canada’s Supreme Court that the word “person” did not include women. It also created the opportunity for women to be appointed to the Canadian Senate.

- **Halloween** - October 31
  
  Stems from Celtic origins and marks a time when people believed spirits of the dead crossed over into the world of the living for one night. Many people wear costumes and children visit homes in their neighbourhoods to receive candy.

*Most Sikh festival dates are now determined by the Nanakshahi calendar, which gives fixed dates for holy days. Some significant dates are still fixed according to the solar calendar. These dates vary from year to year.*
## Index of Holy Days

**Arafat Day (Muslim)** – November 5  
Also known as the Day of Arafat, Arafat Day marks the annual pilgrimage to Mecca that Muslims are encouraged to complete at least once in their lifetime.

**Dussehra (Hindu)** - November 6  
Dussehra continues from Navaratri festivities to celebrate the triumph of good over evil. Honours the Goddess Durga.

**Eid ul-Adha (Muslim)** - November 7 - 10  
Celebrates the end of the Hajj or the holy pilgrimage to Mecca, one of the five pillars of Islam, observed by all Muslims.

**Birthday of Guru Nanak (Sikh)** - November 10  
Born in the 1400s, Guru Nanak was the founder of Sikhism.

**Birth of Bahá’u’lláh (Bahá’í)** - November 12  
Commemorates the birth of the founder of the Bahá’í faith, Bahá’u’lláh in 1817.

**Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh)** - November 24 (Nanakshahi)  
Bahadur became a martyr and hero in 1675 when he was beheaded for refusing Islam at a time when it was being enforced.

**Day of the Covenant (Bahá’í)** - November 26  
Commemorates Bahá’u’lláh’s promise about the work that his son and successor, Abdu’l-Bahá, would do in the name of the Bahá’í faith.

**Al-Hijira (Muslim)** – November 27  
The first of Muharram 1492, the Muslim New Year marks the migration of the Prophet Mohammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina.

**Ascension of Abdu’l-Bahá (Bahá’í)** - November 28  
Abdu’l-Bahá was Bahá’u’lláh’s eldest son and successor, and was famed for his 1911-1913 teachings in Europe and America, which spread the Bahá’í message to the western world.

## Significant Dates

**Canadian Aboriginal Festival** - November 25 - 27  
Observes Canada’s largest Aboriginal festival, an opportunity to share and learn about North America’s Aboriginal Peoples.
## Index of Holy Days

**Bodhi Day (Buddhist)** - December 8
Date of Siddhartha Gautama’s realization and presentation to fellow seekers of the Four Noble Truths.

**Chanukah (Jewish)** - December 20 - 28
Chanukah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over Hellenistic Greeks in the 2nd century before the Common Era. This day established the principles of religious pluralism and acceptance of the rights of religious and ethnic minorities to live according to traditional ways in the context of a larger and dominant culture.

**Christmas (Christian)** - December 25
Honours the birth of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe is the Son of God.

**Kwanzaa (African-American)** - December 26 - January 1
A holiday based on the African tradition of celebrating the harvesting of the first fruits (Kwanzaa means “first”). Kwanzaa was recreated and introduced in the U.S. by California college professor Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966. The celebration has now spread worldwide; Kwanzaa is celebrated by millions of people in Africa, the Caribbean, Europe, and America.

## Significant Dates

**International Day of Disabled Persons (UN)** - December 3
For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

**International Human Rights Day (UN)** - December 10
For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

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| National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women (Can) | White Ribbon Campaign ends |
| International Day of Disabled Persons (UN) | Bodhi Day |
| International Human Rights Day (UN) | Winter Solstice |
| Christmas (Can) | Chanukah |
| Boxing Day (Can) | Chanukah |
| Chanukah | Chanukah |
| Chanukah | Chanukah |
| Chanukah | New Year’s Eve |

**District School Board**

**Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board**

**World AIDS Day (UN)**

**International Day of Disabled Persons (UN)**

**International Human Rights Day (UN)**

**Boxing Day (Can)**

**Chanukah**

**Kwanzaa**

**New Year’s Eve**

**Schools and Board Closed**
### Significant Dates

- **International Year of Cooperatives (UN)**
  - January 1
- **International Year of Sustainable Energy for All (UN)**
- **Kwanzaa (African-American)** - December 26 - January 1
  - See December Index.
- **Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)** - January 5
  - Guru Gobind Singh instituted the five items of faith worn by Sikhs - Kesh, Kangha, Kara, Kaccha, Kirpan - and established the Order of the Khalsa.
- **Epiphany (Christian)** - January 6
  - Originates from a Greek word meaning “to show”, signifies the time when Jesus was revealed to the world.
- **Christmas (Orthodox)** - January 7
  - See December Index.
- **Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)** - January 9 - 12
  - While Buddhists all over the world celebrate the New Year at different times, Mahayana Buddhists observe it with special rituals, prayers, songs, food, and gatherings on the first full moon day in January.
- **Makar Sankrant (Hindu)** - January 14
  - Makar Sankrant observes the first Hindu festival of the solar calendar year.
- **World Religion Day (Bahá'í/Multifaith)** - January 15
  - World Religion Day was instituted by the Bahá'í community in 1950 to help foster interfaith understanding and harmony.
- **Lunar New Year** - January 23
  - Lunar New Year is celebrated among Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean populations, as well as among followers of Buddhism.

### District School Board

**Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board**

**January 2012**

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- **Lunar New Year**
- **Robbie Burns Day (Scotland)**
- **Family Literacy Day (Can)**
- **International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (UN)**

**2011 is...**

- International Year of Cooperatives (UN)
- International Year of Sustainable Energy for All (UN)

**Index of Holy Days**

See December Index.

- **Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)** - January 5
- **Epiphany (Christian)** - January 6
- **Christmas (Orthodox)** - January 7
- **Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)** - January 9 - 12
- **Makar Sankrant (Hindu)** - January 14
- **World Religion Day (Bahá'í/Multifaith)** - January 15

**January 2012**

- **Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh**
- **Schools Closed**
- **Braille Day**
- **Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh**
- **Schools Closed**
- **Epiphany**
- **Schools Closed**
- **Christmas Day (Orthodox)**
- **Mahayana New Year**
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- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- **New Year's Day**
- **Kwanzaa**
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- **Robbie Burns Day (Scotland)**
- **Family Literacy Day (Can)**
- **International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (UN)**
February 2012

**Significant Dates**

**February is...**

- **Black History Month**

**Index of Holy Days**

- **Milad un Nabi (Muslim) - February 3**
  A quiet festival marking Muhammad’s birth and death.

- **Paranirvana/Nirvana Day (Buddhist) - February 8**
  This festival marks the Buddha's death, enlightenment, and freedom from physical existence. The day is marked by special readings, meditations about loss, impermanence, and the newly deceased, visiting temples or monasteries, and exchanging food, money, household items, and clothes. It is celebrated by some on February 15th.

- **Mahashivratri (Hindu) - February 20**
  Celebrates Shiva, one of the deities of the Hindu Trinity.

- **Shrove Tuesday (Christian) - February 21**
  Marks a day of penitence, cleansing the soul, and a day of celebration before the Lent fast begins.

- **Ash Wednesday (Christian) - February 22**
  Commemorates a day of penitence and cleansing as the Lenten season begins, observing Christ’s forty day fast in the wilderness before his crucifixion.

- **Losar (Buddhist) - February 22 - 24**
  Tibetan New Year lasts for three days. People visit monasteries, make offerings, and put purification at the forefront of their appearance, feasts, and rituals to drive away evil spirits.

- **Black History Month**

- **Valentines Day - February 14**
  People pronounce or reaffirm their love for someone often by sending cards or giving gifts.

- **World Day for Social Justice (UN) - February 20**
  For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

- **Anti-Bullying Day (Can) - February 29**
  The last Wednesday of February is known as Anti-Bullying Day in Canada. It's also known as "Pink Shirt Day". Originally started as a protest against a bullying incident at a Nova Scotia high school (Central Kings Rural High School). On this day participants are asked to wear pink to symbolize a stand against bullying. Many also recognize the Day of Pink on April 11 in a similar way.
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**March 2012**

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<td><strong>International Women’s Week begins</strong> (Can)</td>
<td>Lent (Orthodox) begins</td>
<td><strong>International Women’s Day</strong> (UN)</td>
<td>Holi Purim</td>
<td>March Break All Schools Closed</td>
<td>Holi Mohalla</td>
<td>Holi Purim</td>
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<td><strong>Daylight Savings Time begins</strong></td>
<td>March Break All Schools Closed</td>
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<td><strong>Spring Equinox</strong></td>
<td><strong>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN)</strong></td>
<td><strong>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN)</strong></td>
<td>Week of Solidarity with the peoples struggling against racism &amp; racial discrimination (UN) begins Naw-Rúz</td>
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<td><strong>International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (UN)</strong></td>
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**Significant Dates**

- **Lent Begins (Orthodox)** - March 5
- **Purim (Jewish)** - March 8 - 9
  
Purim commemorates the salvation of the Jewish community, described in the Biblical Book of Esther.

- **Holi (Hindu)** - March 8 - 9
  
Honours creation and renewal as a spring festival associated with Krishna.

- **Holla Mohalla (Sikh Lunar)** - March 9
  
Holla Mohalla is the first day of a three day festival of mock battles, together with religious discussions and devotional music. This day reflects the Hindu festival of Holi.

- **Naw-Rúz (Bahá’í)** - March 21
  
The Bahá’í new year celebrates unity, joy, and hospitality with a feast of seven items beginning with the letter “s” (in Persian). A great deal of time is spent with a gift exchange and attending social gatherings.

- **St. Patrick’s Day** - March 17
  
Patron saint of Ireland credited by myths with bringing Christianity to Ireland and driving the snakes out of Ireland.

- **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN)** - March 21
  
For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

- **Earth Hour (Global)** - March 31 (8:30 - 9:30 pm)
  
A global event asking households and businesses to conserve energy by turning off non-essential lights and electrical appliances for one hour. This hour raises awareness of the need to take action on climate change.
### Index of Holy Days

**Rama Navami** (Hindu) - April 1
The Birth of Lord Rama, an incarnation of Vishnu and the hero of the Ramayana.

**Palm Sunday** (Christian) - April 1
Marks the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the start of the Holy Week.

**Good/Holy Friday** (Christian/Orthodox) - April 6 & 13
Good Friday/Holy Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

**Theravada New Year** (Buddhist) - April 6 - 8
The New Year takes place on the first full moon in April for Theravada Buddhists. Themes of reflecting on one’s karma, of purifying oneself, and hospitality are prevalent.

**Passover** (Jewish) – April 7 - 14
The start of the season of Passover commemorates the liberation of the Children of Israel who were led out of Egypt by Moses.

**Easter** (Christian/Orthodox) - April 8 & 15
The most important Christian festival, Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Vaisakhi** (Sikh) - April 14
Vaisakhi honours the Sikh New Year and the year that Sikhism became a collective faith with processions and hymns from the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book. It is also spelled Baisakhi.

**Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur** (Sikh) - April 18
Guru Tegh Bahadur (1621 - 1675) was the ninth of the Sikh Gurus.

**Yom Hashoah** (Jewish) - April 19
Yom Hashoah remembers the Holocaust and the six million Jewish people who perished. The anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

**Ridván** (Bahá'í) - April 21 - May 2
Ridván celebrates Bahá’u’lláh’s time in the garden of Ridván and his announcement that he was the prophet promised by the Báb. The most important Bahá’í festival.

### Significant Dates

**Equality Day (Can)** - April 17
For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

**Earth Day (Can)** - April 22
For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.
### May 2012

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#### Significant Dates

- **May 13:** International Day of Families (UN)
- **May 14:** Anti-Homophobia Day
- **May 15:** Hiawatha Pow Wow
- **May 16:** Education Week Begins (ON)
- **May 17:** Education Week Ends (ON)
- **May 18:** National Accessibility Awareness Week begins (ON)
- **May 19:** Victoria Day (Can)
- **May 20:** World Press Freedom Day (UN)
- **May 21:** Victoria Day (Can) Schools and Board Closed
- **May 22:** International Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (UN)
- **May 23:** Declaration of the Báb
- **May 24:** Ascension Day (Christian/Orthodox)
- **May 25:** Africa Day
- **May 26:** Aboriginal Awareness Week ends
- **May 27:** Shavuot (Jewish)
- **May 28:** National Accessibility Awareness Week ends (ON)
- **May 29:** Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh (Bahá’í)
- **May 30:** Pentecost (Christian)
- **May 31:** Shavuot

### May is...

- **Asian Heritage Month (ON)**
- **South Asian Heritage Month (ON)**

### Index of Holy Days

- **Ridván (Bahá’í) - April 21 - May 2**
- **See April Index.**
- **Wesak/Buddha Day (Buddhist) - May 5**
  - The most important Buddhist Festival, Wesak celebrates the Buddha’s birth, enlightenment, and death among Theravada Buddhists.
- **Hiawatha Pow Wow (First Nations) - May 19 - 20**
  - A Pow Wow is a spiritual and social gathering. First Nations peoples come together to celebrate and honour traditions through drumming, singing, and dancing.
- **Declaration of the Báb (Bahá’í) - May 23**
  - Starting two hours after sunset on the 22nd, the event celebrates the Báb’s official declaration of his mission to prepare the world for God’s messenger, Bahá’u’lláh.
- **Ascension Day (Christian/Orthodox) - May 24**
  - Christians believe Christ ascended into heaven.
  - Celebrated 40 days after Easter, Ascension marks the last earthly appearance of Christ after His resurrection.
- **Pentecost (Christian) - May 27**
  - Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.
- **Shavuot (Jewish) - May 27 - 28**
  - Marks the time when the first harvest was taken to the Temple. Also known as the Festival of Weeks.
- **Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh (Bahá’í) - May 29**
  - Marks the ascension of Bahá’u’lláh, second founder of Bahá’í.

### Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.

### Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.

### Anti-Homophobia Day - May 17

**Also known as the International Day Against Homophobia, this day offers an opportunity for people to get together and reach out to one another. For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.**
### June 2012

#### June is...
- National Aboriginal History Month (Can)
- Portuguese History & Heritage Month (Can)
- Senior Citizens’ Month (ON)

#### Index of Holy Days
- **Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) - June 16**
  Guru Arjan was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr. He compiled all the past Gurus’ writings into one book, now the Sikh holy scripture, the Guru Granth Sahib.
- **Alderville Pow Wow (First Nations) - June 16 - 17**
  A Pow Wow is a spiritual and social gathering. First Nations peoples come together to celebrate and honour traditions through drumming, singing, and dancing. Visit: www.aldervillefirstnation.ca to confirm dates.
- **St-Jean Baptiste Day (PQ) - June 24**
  The patron saint of French Canada and the distinct nature of French Canadian culture are celebrated with lively parades and parties.

#### Significant Dates
- **Pride Month (Can)**
  A celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) lifestyles and communities.
- **Canadian Environment Week (Can) - June 3 - 9**
  For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.
- **National Aboriginal Day (Can) - June 21**
  Celebrates Inuit, Métis, and First Nations’ cultures and heritage, coincides with the summer solstice as a time to reflect on future growth. For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.

#### Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) - June 16
Guru Arjan was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr. He compiled all the past Gurus’ writings into one book, now the Sikh holy scripture, the Guru Granth Sahib.

#### Alderville Pow Wow (First Nations) - June 16 - 17
A Pow Wow is a spiritual and social gathering. First Nations peoples come together to celebrate and honour traditions through drumming, singing, and dancing. Visit: www.aldervillefirstnation.ca to confirm dates.

#### St-Jean Baptiste Day (PQ) - June 24
The patron saint of French Canada and the distinct nature of French Canadian culture are celebrated with lively parades and parties.
Index of Holy Days

Dharma Day (Buddhist) - July 3
Dharma Day marks the beginning of the Buddha's teaching and enlightenment. Dharma day is observed as the start of the Buddhist religion. A day of gratitude towards the Buddha and other enlightened teachers; the festival is celebrated with reflection and readings from Buddhist scriptures.

Martyrdom of the Báb (Bahá'í) - July 9
This day honours the anniversary of the Báb's execution in 1850.

Ramadan (Muslim) - July 20 - August 18
Ramadan is a period of self-purification and betterment. For one month, Muslims fast daily, from dawn until sunset. Gaining self-control and contributing to charity are central features.

Significant Dates

Canada Day (Can) - July 1
Marks the anniversary of the formation of the union of the provinces in a federation. It is celebrated across the country.

Commemoration of the Great Upheaval (Can) - July 28
This day recognizes the historic facts surrounding the deportation of the Acadians between 1755 and 1763.
### Index of Holy Days

**Ramadan (Muslim)** - July 20 - August 18
Ramadan is a period of self-purification and betterment. For one month, Muslims fast daily, from dawn until sunset. Gaining self-control and contributing to charity are central features.

**Krishna Jayanti/Janmashtami (Hindu)** - August 10
This festival marks the birth of Krishna, the most venerated God in Hinduism.

**Laylat al-Qadr (Muslim)** - August 15
Also known as the Night of Power, marks the night on which the Qur’an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by Allah.

**Eid ul-Fitr (Muslim)** - August 19
Eid ul-Fitr marks the end of Ramadan. The Festival of Breaking the Fast is a time of great celebration.

### Significant Dates

**Hiroshima Day (UN)** - August 6
On August 6, 1945 the first atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Today, people recognize this event with special vigils and marches for peace.

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<td>International Day of the World’s Indigenous People (UN)</td>
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<td>Krishna Jayanti/Janmashtami Ramadan</td>
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**Index of Holy Days**

- **Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)** - September 17 - 18
  Rosh Hashanah celebrates New Year as harvest ends. It is a time for reflection and self-assessment for the community and for individuals as well as a time for promoting universal peace and well-being.

- **Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)** - September 19
  This is a celebration of the birth of Lord Ganesh, the elephant-headed God known as the Remover of Obstacles.

- **Curve Lake Pow Wow (First Nations)** - September 22 - 23
  A Pow Wow is a spiritual and social gathering. First Nations peoples come together to celebrate and honour traditions through drumming, singing, and dancing.

**Significant Dates**

- **International Day of Peace (UN)** - September 21
  For more information, and resources related to this day, please refer to the on-line version of the calendar available at www.kprdsb.ca.