

Forest Hills Public Schools 2023-2024



Faith-based and Cultural Celebrations Calendar

■ typically begins at sundown the day before this date.
 grey highlight indicates highly observed

June 2023

- June 29 Eid al-Adha – Islamic

July/August/September 2023

- July 19 Al-Hijira – Islamic
- July 28 Ashura – Islamic
- Sept. 16-17 Rosh Hashanah – Judaism
- Sept. 23 Radha Ashtami – Hinduism
- Sept. 25 Yom Kippur - Judaism

October 2023

- 1-6 Sukkot – Judaism
- 6-8 Sh'mini Atzeret – Judaism
- 8 Simchat Torah - Judaism
- 15-24 Navaratri – Hinduism
- 17 Birth of Baha'u'llah – Baha'i
- 20-24 Durga Puja – Hinduism
- 24 Dussehra – Hinduism
- 31 Halloween (Cultural Holiday)

November 2023

- 1 All Saints Day – Christian
- 1-2 Dia de los Meurtos (Latin Am. Cultural)
- 2 All Souls' Day – Christian
- 11 Veteran's Day (National Holiday)
- 12 Bandi Chhor – Sikh
- 12 Diwali – Hinduism
- 24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur – Sikh
- 27 Birthday of Guru Nanak – Sikh

December 2023

- 3 Advent Sunday – Christian
- 8 Bodhi Day – Buddhism
- 8-15 Hanukkah – Judaism
- 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – Christian
- 24 Christmas Eve – Christian
- 25 Christmas – Christian
- 26-Jan. 1 Kwanzaa (Cultural)

January 2024

- 6 Epiphany – Christian
- 7 Feast of the Nativity – Orthodox Christian
- 13 Maghi – Sikh
- 15 Martin Luther King Day (National Holiday)
- 17 Guru Gobind Singh Birthday – Sikh
- 21 World Religion Day – Baha'i
- 25 Mahayana New Year – Buddhism

February 2024

- 10 Chinese New Year – Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist
- 14 Ash Wednesday – Christian
- 14 Valentine's Day (Cultural Holiday)
- 14 Vasant Panchami – Hinduism

- 15 Nirvana Day (Parinirvana) – Buddhist
- 19 President's Day (National Holiday)
- 24 Magha Puja Day – Buddhist
- 25 Lailat al Bara'ah – Islam
- 26-29 Intercalary Days – Baha'i

March 2024

- 1-19 Nineteen Day Fast – Baha'i
- 11 Ramadan begins – Islamic
- 17 St. Patrick's Day (Cultural Holiday)
- 18 Great Lent Begins – Orthodox Christian
- 20 Naw Ruz – Baha'i
- 20 New Year – Hindu
- 24 Purim – Judaism
- 24 Palm Sunday – Christian
- 25 Holi – Hinduism
- 27 Hola Mohalla – Sikh
- 28 Maundy Thursday – Christian
- 29 Good Friday – Christian
- 31 Easter – Christian

April 2024

- 5 Palm Sunday – Orthodox Christian
- 8 Annunciation Blessed Virgin – Catholic
- 13 Baisakhi-New Year – Sikh
- 9-17 Ramayana Week – Hindu
- 10 Eid al-Fitr – Islamic
- 16 Ramanavami – Hindu
- 21 First Day of Ridvan – Baha'i
- 23-30 Passover (Pesach) – Judaism
- 24 Hanuman Jayanti – Hindu
- 24 Theravada – Buddhist
- 29 Ninth Day of Ridvan – Baha'i

May 2024

- 2 Twelfth Day of Ridvan – Baha'i
- 3 Holy Friday – Orthodox Christian
- 5 Great Lent ends – Orthodox Christian
- 5 Pascha – Orthodox Christian
- 5 Orthodox Sunday – Orthodox Christian
- 6 Yom HaShoah – Judaism
- 14 Yom Ha'Atzmaut – Judaism
- 19 Pentecost – Christian
- 23 Declaration of the Bab – Baha'i
- 26 Lag B'Omer – Judaism
- 26 Trinity Sunday – Christian
- 27 Memorial Day (National Holiday)
- 29 Ascension of Baha'u'llah – Baha'i
- 30 Corpus Christi – Catholic

June 2024

- 10 Guru Arjan Dev Martyrdom – Sikh
- 12-13 Shavuot - Judaism

Why Is This Important?

As our district grows, we will continue to become home for a wider array of faith and cultural traditions. As a public institution, we are committed to the principles of equity and inclusiveness and to minimizing situations where families must choose between school events and religious holidays.

Religion in the Public Schools

Faith-based celebrations may be included in school curricula as opportunities to learn. Educators should make sure to teach children about the holiday celebrations of a number of different traditions rather than focus on a single holiday. For example, in any given year a number of holidays may occur in December and may lend them to a lesson highlighting similarities and differences of various celebrations held in the winter season.

Ethnic Groups:

White	77.5%
Asian	8.5%
African American	3.1%
Multiracial.....	5.6%
Hispanic	5.1%
American Indian.....	0.2%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.....	.0%

Language Groups in FHPS:

Afrikaans	Finnish	Malay	Somali
Albanian	French	Malayalam	Spanish
Amharic	German	Nepali	Sundanese
Arabic	Gujarati	Oromo	Swahili
Bengali	Hebrew	Polish	Tagalog
Bosnian	Hindi	Portuguese	Tamil
Burmese	Hmong	Punjabi	Telugu
Chinese	Japanese	Pushto	Tigrinya
Dinka	Konkani	Romania	Turkish
Dutch	Korean	Russian	Ukrainian
English	Kurdish	Serbo-Croatian	Urdu
Farsi	Latvian	Sidamo	Vietnamese



Classroom Suggestions and Materials

September	Hispanic Heritage*
October	Filipino American History* Italian History* Polish American History*
November	Native American*
December	Human Rights*
January	Middle Eastern Heritage Awareness
February	Black/African-American History*
March	Women’s History* Irish-American History*
April	Autism Awareness* European American Heritage*
May	Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage* Jewish American Heritage*
June	Caribbean American Heritage*

ADL: <http://www.adl.org/education-outreach/anti-bias-education/c/calendar-of-observances.html>

Teachersfirst:

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/calendar/?m=0>

We Need Diverse Books:

<https://diversebooks.org>

Understanding Prejudice

<https://secure.understandingprejudice.org>

Learning for Justice (formally Teaching Tolerance)

<https://www.learningforjustice.org>

Tanenbaum – Combating Religious Prejudice

<https://tanenbaum.org>

Freedom Forum Institute - First Amendment Center,
Finding Common Ground

<https://www.freedomforuminstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/FCGcomplete.pdf>

ReadWriteThink Classroom Resources – Calendar

Activities:

http://www.readwritethink.org/search/?resource_type_filtering=6-16-18-20&resource_type=20

*Posters available in the GLI Library

Please contact Dawn McDonald at dmcdonald@fhps.net

The policy of this district is to provide equal opportunities for all students to achieve their potential regardless of gender, religion, race, color, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, marital status, place of residence, social or economic status, and/or any other legally protected characteristics.