

# Religious and Creed-Based Days of Observance (Summary)

## Text version

### January – December 2023

---

This list includes significant dates for religious and / or creed groups that may require absence from school or work. The list may not include all significant days of observance for religious and / or creed groups present in the Thames Valley community. To request an accommodation for a date that is not listed here, discuss your need for a religious or creed-based accommodation with your Principal, Teacher or Supervisor.

Further information regarding dates of significance can be found [here](#).

In all cases, staff requesting an absence for religious or creed-based observance must forward their request to Human Resources in accordance with the religious and creed-based Accommodation of staff procedure.

\*\* Please note: Some dates may change slightly depending on lunar sighting.

#### January 2023

January 1	Gantan; Sai, Shinto
January 5	Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday; Sikh
January 6	Christmas; Christian, Armenia
January 6	Three Kings' Day; Christian
January 6	Epiphany; Christian
January 7	Christmas; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
January 13	Lohri; Sikh, Hindu
January 14	New Year; Eastern Orthodox Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
January 19	Timkat / Theophany; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
January 19	Sultán (17th Month); Bahá'í
January 22	Chinese / Lunar New Year; China, Buddhist, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam
January 22	Seollal; Korea
January 26	Basant Panchami; Hindu

#### February 2023

February 2	Imbolg; Wicca
February 6	Tu B'Shevat (Arbor Day); Jewish
February 7	Mulk (18th Month); Bahá'í
February 18	Shivratri; Hindu
February 21	Losar (New Year Tibet); Tibet, Buddhist
February 21	Shrove Tuesday; Christian

February 22	Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins); Christian
February 24	Great Prayer Festival; Tibet, Buddhist
February 25	Intercalary Days (thru Mar 1); Bahá'í
February 27	Clean Monday (Great Lent Begins); Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox

## March 2023

March 2	Alá (19-Day Fast Begins thru Mar 20); Bahá'í
March 7	Purim; Jewish
March 7	Butter Lamp Festival (Tibet); Tibet, Buddhist
March 8	Holi; Sikh, Hindu
March 9	Hola Mohalla (Bikarami); Sikh
March 16 – 20	Gahambar Hamaspathmaedem; Zoroastrian
March 19	St. Joseph's Day; Christian
March 20	Eostre; Wicca
March 20	Shunki-Sorei-Sai; Shinto
March 21	Now Ruz (New Year); Afghanistan, Zoroastrian, Islam Ismaili, Bahá'í, Iran
March 23	Ramadan Begins; Islam
March 25	Annunciation; Christian
March 26	Birth Of Prophet Zarathustra (Fasli); Zoroastrian
March 30	Ram Navami; Hindu

## April 2023

April 2	Palm Sunday; Christian
April 4	Mahavira Jayanti; Jain
April 6	Pesach /Passover (Apr 6 - Apr 13); Jewish
April 6	Holy Thursday; Christian
April 6	Organization of The Church; Christian – Mormon
April 7	Jalál (2nd Month); Bahá'í
April 7	Good Friday; Christian
April 9	Easter; Christian
April 10	Easter Monday; Christian
April 13	Songkran/New Year; Thailand, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, India, Cambodia
April 13	Maundy Thursday; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
April 14	Baisakhi; Bangladesh, Sikh, Hindu
April 14	Holy Friday; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
April 16	Pasha/Easter; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
April 17	Easter Monday; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
April 18	Laylat al-Qadr; Islam
April 21- May 2	Feast Of Ridvan; Bahá'í
April 22	Eid-ul-Fitr; Islam
April 23	Akshaya Tritiya; Jain

April 27	Jamál (3rd Month); Bahá'í
April 30-May 4	Gahambar Maidyozarem; Zoroastrian

## May 2023

May 1	Beltane; Wicca
May 5	Wesak; Buddhist
May 16	Ázamat (4th Month); Bahá'í
May 18	Ascension; Christian
May 19	Yom Yerushalayim; Israel
May 24	Declaration of Báb; Bahá'í
May 25	Ascension; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
May 26-27	Shavuot; Jewish
May 28	Pentecost; Christian
May 29	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh; Bahá'í

## June 2023

June 4	Pentecost; Christian - Coptic & Eastern Orthodox
June 4	Núr (5th Month); Bahá'í
June 16	Martydom of Guru Arjan Dev; Sikh
June 26	Day of Hajj (Day of Arafat); Islam
June 28	Eid-ul-Adha; Islam
June 29-July 3	Gahambar Maidyoshem; Zoroastrian

## July 2023

July 3	Guru Purnima; Jain, Hindu
July 3	Wassana / Dhamma Day; Buddhist
July 10	Martyrdom of The Báb; Bahá'í
July 11	Imamat Day; Islam Ismaili
July 12	Katimát (7th month); Bahá'í
July 20	1st Muharram - Islamic New Year; Islam
July 24	Pioneer Day; Christian – Mormon
July 27	Tish'a B'Av; Jewish
July 28	Ashura; Islam
July 30	Oh-Harai-Taisai; Shinto
July 31	Kamál (8th Month); Bahá'í

## August 2023

August 1	Lugnasad; Wicca
August 2	Ilinden; Macedonia
August 8-17	Fravardeghan; Zoroastrian
August 15	Assumption; Christian
August 18	Now Ruz (Shenshai); Zoroastrian
August 19	Asmá (9th Month); Bahá'í
August 24	Birth of Prophet Zarathustra (Shenshai); Zoroastrian
August 25-Sept. 1	Paryushana-Parva; Jain
August 30	Raksha Bandhan; Hindu

## September 2023

September 7	Janmashtami; Hindu
September 8	Ízzat (10th Month); Bahá'í
September 12-16	Gahambar Paitishahem ;Zoroastrian
September 16-17	Rosh Hashana; Jewish
September 19	Ganesh Chaturthi; Hindu
September 20	Dashalakshani-Parva; Jain
September 20	Samvatsari; Jain
September 23	Mabon; Wicca
September 25	Yom Kippur; Jewish
September 27	Mashiyyat (11th Month); Bahá'í
September 28	Ananta-Chaturdasi; Jain
September 28	Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi; Islam
September 28	Pavarana; Buddhist
September 29	Ksamavani; Jain
September 29	Kathina; Buddhist
September 30-Oct. 6	Sukkot; Jewish

## October 2023

October 7	Shemini Atzeret; Jewish
October 8	Simchat Torah; Jewish
October 12-16	Gahambar Ayathrem; Zoroastrian
October 15	Navratri; Hindu
October 15	'Ilm (12th Month); Bahá'í
October 16	Birthday Of The Báb; Bahá'í
October 17	Birth Of Bahá'u'lláh; Bahá'í
October 22	Durga Puja; Hindu
October 24	Dussehra; Nepal, Hindu
October 31	Samhain; Wicca

## November 2023

November 1	All Saints' Day; Christian
------------	----------------------------

November 1	Karva Chauth; Hindu
November 2	All Souls Day; Christian
November 4	Qudrat (13th Month); Bahá'í
November 12	Diwali; Sikh, Hindu
November 12	Mahavira Nirvana; Jain
November 22	Qawl (14th Month); Bahá'í
November 24	Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur; Sikh
November 26	Day of Covenant; Bahá'í
November 27	Guru Nanak's Birthday (Bikarami); Sikh
November 27	Lokashah Jayanti; Jain
November 28	Ascension Of Abdu'l-Bahá; Bahá'í

## December 2023

December 3	First Sunday of Advent; Christian
December 6	St. Nicholas Day; Christian
December 7-15	Hannukah; Jewish
December 8	Bodhi Day; Buddhist
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception; Christian
December 11	Masa'Il (15th Month); Bahá'í
December 13	Aga Khan's Birthday; Islam Ismaili
December 22	Tohji-Tasai; Shinto
December 22	Yule; Wicca
December 23	Joseph Smith's Birthday; Christian – Mormon
December 25	Christmas Day; Christian
December 26	Death of Prophet Zarathustra; Zoroastrian
December 30	Sharaf (16th Month); Bahá'í
December 31-Jan. 4	Gahambar Maidyarem; Zoroastrian