

Holidays 2023-24

Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor

Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor is a diverse community reflecting many traditions and perspectives. If each of us is sensitive to both the direct and subtle ways we demonstrate respect and appreciation for these differences, we will each be a positive force in providing a multi-cultural education for our students. We are committed to honoring the rich cultural diversity within our community.

Classification of the significance of a holiday's observance is based on recommendations from representatives of the group who celebrate it. A balance between any formal religious standard and the actual contemporary observance of the holiday is the intended aim of these recommendations.

No-School Holidays

Our No-School Holidays are days during the academic year when school will be closed if the holiday falls on a school day. These dates are reflected in the school's Academic Calendar.

Christmas	Lunar New Year	New Year
Diwali	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Rosh Hashanah (first day)
Eid al-Fitr (first day)	Memorial Day	Thanksgiving

Event-Free Holidays

Additional holiday observances of major significance to a group are indicated on the online All-School Calendar by "Event-Free Day".

RSSAA will not schedule any of the following during "Event-Free" holidays:

- Start or end a school term
- Tryouts, for example teams or plays
- Major exams
- One-time or major events (festivals, class photos, dances, etc.)
- Reviews for major exams
- Class/Parent meetings

Students will likely be with their families or at a place of worship in observance of these holidays. They might not be in school and/or have time available to do the required homework. Absence to observe these holidays will be excused and the student will have make-up privileges for missed work.

* Holiday begins at sunset so evening activities will not be scheduled			
September 15*-17	Rosh Hashanah	April 9*	Eid al-Fitr
September 24*-25	Yom Kippur	April 22*-30	Passover/Pesach first two days
January 6	Epiphany/Orthodox Christmas	May 3	Orthodox Holy Friday
March 10*-April 9	Ramadan	June 19	Juneteenth
March 24	Palm Sunday	June 16*-17	Eid al-Adha
March 29	Good Friday		

Additional Celebrations Recognized Within our Community

All Saints' Day	Dios De Muertos	Mabon	Purim
All Soul's Day	Feast of the Nativity	Maundy/Holy Thursday	Samhain
Ascension Day	Holi	Midsummer	Shavuot
Ash Wednesday	Holy Saturday	Orthodox Easter	Shemini Atzeret
Beltane	Imbolc	Orthodox Palm Sunday	Simchat Torah
Chanukah/Hanukkah	Kwanzaa	Ostara	Sukkot
Corpus Christi	Lammas	Pentecost	Yule

If your student will be away from school for any of these celebrations, please let your class teacher know.

Monthly Observances

Another way in which the school is working to ensure that our curriculum, classroom activities, and celebrations include a wide range of diverse and inclusive topics is by connecting to monthly observances that are held in the wider culture of the United States. Each area of the school will be observing these in different ways and working throughout the school year to find the best way to involve the students at each level in these observances and celebrations.

September 15 to October 15 - Hispanic Heritage Month

October - Disability Awareness Month

November - Native American/Indigenous Peoples Month

February - Black History Month

March - Women's History Month

April - Arab American Heritage Month

May - Asian Pacific Heritage Month

June - Pride Month

If you would like any celebrations that are special to your family included in this document, please reach out to Cassie Standke, Communications Director, at cstandke@steinerschool.org.