





# Our voices

Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024





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## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

### 2024



Rodyn Mirshokraei



Zara Sancar

#### United Nations (UN) observances 2024

The United Nations observes designated international days, weeks, years, and decades, each with a theme, or topic. These observances contribute to the achievement of the purposes of the UN Charter and promote awareness of and action on important political, social, cultural, humanitarian or human rights issues. They provide a useful means for the promotion of international and national action and stimulate interest in United Nations activities and programs. Many of the themes are relevant to the school curriculum and community and can be observed at school and/or used as focal points in lesson planning.



2024 - International Year of Camelids  
The UN has designated 2024 as the International Year of Camelids. Camelids are strictly herbivorous, even-toed ungulate mammals that first appeared in America 45 million years ago. Camels, llamas, alpacas, vicuñas and guanacos are an important source of livelihood for millions of families, most of them pastoralists, in dryland and mountainous rangeland ecosystems around the world. The Year is meant to raise the public's and policymakers' awareness of the significant role of camelids in protecting ecosystems, conserving biodiversity, assuring food security and adapting to climate change.

#### International decades currently observed by the United Nations include:

- 2024 – 2033  
International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development
- 2022 – 2032  
International Decade of Indigenous Languages
- 2021 – 2030  
United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
- 2021 – 2030  
International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
- 2019 – 2028  
Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace  
United Nations Decade of Family Farming
- 2018 – 2028  
International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development"
- 2018 – 2027  
Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
- 2016 – 2025  
United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition
- 2014 – 2024  
United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All

#### Lunar Calendar and the Year of the Dragon and the Dragon Lizard

The Lunar New Year 4722 will be celebrated on 10 February 2024, the second new moon after the December solstice. It celebrates Xin Nian, the Chinese New Year, Soinal, the Korean New Year, Tết, the Vietnamese New Year, Tsagan Sar, the Mongolian Lunar New Year and also Losar, the New Year celebrations for Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan. Traditionally Shōgatsu, the Japanese New Year was also celebrated on this date but since 1873, the official Japanese New Year has been celebrated according to the Gregorian calendar, on January 1 of each year. In most of these nations the Gregorian calendar is used for civil purposes but the lunar calendar is used to determine festivals and auspicious dates such as weddings and moving house.

The lunar new year is based on the traditional Chinese Agricultural Calendar which is lunisolar, primarily lunar but partially solar, guided by the movement of the moon as well as the sun. It is commonly called the lunar calendar. The Chinese lunar calendar is associated with the Chinese zodiac, Shengxiao (born resembling), which has 12 animal signs: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig. Each animal represents a year in a 12 year cycle, beginning on Lunar New Year's Day. There are many legends concerning the choice and order of the animals and their characteristics which are said to be imparted to people born in their year.

\*One such legend is the Jade Emperor's Race. As the story goes, the Chinese emperor held a race to determine which lucky animals would have the honour of being added to the calendar. The first-place winner would claim the first year of the 12-year cycle, and so on. The rat won the race and the first year of every cycle is therefore a year of the rat. The year 2024, Chinese year 4722, is a Year of the Dragon.

The Australian Chinese Zodiac was developed by the Chinese Precinct Chamber of Commerce in Australia to promote understanding between Chinese and Australian cultures. Animals from the traditional zodiac have been matched to native animals according to their perceived similar characteristics. This year the Dragon is matched to the Dragon Lizard. For the complete Australian Chinese Zodiac visit <http://www.australianchinesezodiac.com.au/m>

#### Dragon 龙

Dragons are vibrant, energetic, short tempered and majestic. They are also honest, brave and protective of their own kind. 精力充沛，龙威震摄，却脾气暴躁。他们诚实，勇敢，并乐于保卫同伴周全。

#### Dragon Lizard 龙蜥

Dragon Lizards are noted for their majestic and sometimes frightening displays. They are brave and also protective of their own kind. 与龙相似，龙蜥的威严震慑来源于其有点可怕的外表。他们同样勇敢，保卫同伴义不容辞。



Angelique Bozatzis



#### Cover artwork

##### Sea Dragons

Jessica Zhang, Syeda Hussain, Luna Zanini Dias, Ayla Tavlu, Timothy Heo, Khloe Vaeono and Enkhlen Munkh- Erdene

Year 4 & 5 – Newington Public School – Wangal People of the Eora Nation

The artwork included mixed media collages including drawings, pastels, watercolors, coloured inks, embellishments and cutouts. Artmaking practices include studying lines, shapes, textures, patterns and seahorse relief 3D

##### Inside Cover

##### Dragon on a Rock

Angelique Bozatzis – Year 5 – Bankstown West Public School – Darug Land  
My dragon that I painted is sitting on a rock, staring out into the beautiful world. He loves to observe things and is very colourful. I love exploring water pencils as they make me feel calm, smooth and happy.

##### Dragon of Seasons

Rodyn Mirshokraei – Year 4 – Asquith Public School – Darug and GuriNgai Peoples

Once the year of the dragon emerges, the seasons come together for the dragon's scales, forming the all mighty Earth gathering.

#### Salt Dragon

Zara Sancar – Year 3 – Bardia Public School – Dharawal Land

I chose colours that would go well together. I purposely did the horns facing each other.

#### The dragons are descending

Alyssa Nguyen, Kim Dang, Kathy Trinh, Khan An Nguyen, Amr Frihat, Kevin Phung, Asilatun Tajul – Year 4 & 5 – Yagoona Public School – Dharug Land

The children drew their own rendition of a mythical dragon, to represent the 2024 Year of the Dragon. The drawings were then superimposed onto a background featuring Yagoona Public School. Given that in Chinese culture, the dragon represents luck and strength, the children wanted to exhibit their dragons as though they are descending onto the School grounds, and thereby bringing with them luck and strength to all the students, teachers and families here at Yagoona Public School.

#### Languages for 2024

##### January (普通话)

Mandarin is a variety of Chinese spoken mainly in China, Taiwan and Singapore by about 1.3 billion people. It is the main language of government, the media and education in China and Taiwan, and one of the four official languages in Singapore.

Chinese, including Mandarin, is also spoken in many other parts of the world including Australia. Chinese belongs to the Sinitic or Chinese branch of Sino-Tibetan language family. A distinction is made in Chinese between spoken and written language. Chinese is written with characters which represent both sound and meaning.

Words in Chinese can be made up of one of more syllables and each syllable is represented by a single character. There are relatively few different types of syllables in spoken Chinese, about 1,700 in Mandarin, compared to languages like English with over 8,000, yet there are tens of thousands of characters. As a result there are multiple characters for each syllable, each of which has a different meaning. This type of writing system is known as semanto-phonetic or logographic. Chinese characters are written from left to right in horizontal lines.

There are about 46,500 students from Chinese speaking backgrounds including over 30,000 from Mandarin

##### February (فارسی)

Persian or Farsi is a member of the Iranian branch of Indo-European languages spoken by about 130 million people, mainly in Iran, Afghanistan and Tajikistan. There are also significant numbers of speakers in other countries in the Middle East and Central Asia as well as the USA. In Afghanistan Persian is known as Dari, while in Tajikistan it is known as Tajiki.

Under Mongolian and Turkish rulers, Persian was adopted as the language of government in Turkey, Central Asia and India, where it was used for centuries.

Old Persian was first written in about 600 BCE in Old Persian Cuneiform. The language evolved into Middle Persian by about 300 BCE and was written with the Pahlavi, Manichaean and Avestan alphabets. From 800 CE the language became Modern Persian, and was written with the Persian or Perso-Arabic alphabet.

Modern Persian is written from right to left in horizontal lines using a version of the Arabic script. Numerals are written from left to right.

There are approximately 4,000 students from Persian speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### March (کوردی)

Kurdish is a member of the Western Iranian branch of Indo-European languages. It is spoken in parts of Iraq, Turkey, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Afghanistan by an estimated 30 million people. The Kurds are the largest national minority in the world that has no homeland. It is largely their mutual language and a history of oppression that continues to unite them as a people.

There are three main varieties of Kurdish: Kurdish Kurmanji (northern), Kurdish Sorani (central) and Kurdish Pehlewani (southern). Kurdish Kurmanji is spoken in Turkey, Syria, northern Iraq and north western Iran by about 15 - 20 million people and is the most common Kurdish language spoken in NSW schools. Most Yezidis in NSW also speak Kurdish Kurmanji with a small minority speaking Arabic.

Kurdish began to appear in writing in a version of the Persian alphabet during the 7th century CE. For much of their history, the Kurds have used Arabic, Persian or Turkish for their literary works. The first well-known Kurdish poet was Eli Heriri (1425-1495), and Kurdish literature started to become popular during the 16th century. From the 17th century Kurdish Kurmanji was sometimes written with the Yezidi script, the origins of which go back possibly to the 13th century. Since 2013 the Spiritual Council of Yezidis in Georgia has been using the Yezidi script to write religious and other works.

There are approximately 1,400 students from Kurdish, including Kurdish Kurmanji, speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### April (Português)

Portuguese is a Romance language spoken by about 255 million people mainly in the many countries colonised by the Portuguese in Africa, Asia and the Americas. There are also communities of Portuguese speakers in Goa, Daman and Diu in India, and Malacca in Malaysia.

Portuguese is a descendant of Latin, which was brought to the Iberian Peninsula by Roman soldiers, settlers and merchants from 218 BCE. After the Western Roman Empire collapsed in the 5th century CE, Germanic peoples and Moors from North Africa also invaded and settled the area influencing the language. The earliest records of a distinctly Portuguese language appear in administrative documents dating from the 9th century CE. In 1290 King Dinis I (1261-1325) decreed that Portuguese, then simply called the "vulgar language" should be known as the Portuguese language and should be officially used. Poetry and songs were the main form of Portuguese literature at that time, and King Dinis himself wrote many poems.

From the 15th century the Portuguese began to colonise parts of Africa, Asia and the Americas, taking with them their language. By the mid-16th century, Portuguese was used in Asia and Africa in colonial administration, and as a lingua franca between the Portuguese, other Europeans and local people. Portuguese-based creoles also began to emerge during this time.

There are around 3,000 students from Portuguese speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### May (फिजी हिंदुस्तानी)

Fijian Hindustani (फिजी हिंदुस्तानी) is an Indo-Aryan language descended from Awadhi and spoken by about 355,000 people in Fiji where along with English and iTaukei (Fijian) it is an official language.

The ancestors of today's Fiji Hindi speakers went to Fiji as indentured labourers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They spoke a variety of languages from north and south India, and a lingua franca known as Fiji Baat evolved. This became Fiji Hindi which contains vocabulary and influences from the Awadhi, Bhojpuri and Bihar Indian languages as well as from iTaukei, Urdu and English.

Fiji Hindi is spoken mainly in Fiji, but also by a large diaspora in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the UK and the USA. In parts of Fiji with large Indo-Fijian communities the iTaukei can usually understand Fiji Hindi, and some speak it fluently.

Fiji Hindi is primarily a spoken language but it is used to some extent in literature, and there is a Fiji Hindi translation of the Bible. Fiji Hindi is written with the Latin script and more formally the Devanagari script. Both scripts are written horizontally from left to right.

There are approximately 185 students from Fijian Hindustani speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### June (Kirundi)

Kirundi (Ikirundi) is a Bantu language with about 11.2 million speakers, most of whom live in Burundi. There are also some speakers of Kirundi in Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Congo-Kinshasa. Kirundi is closely related to Kinyarwanda.

Kirundi is written with the Latin alphabet. There has been a standardised spelling system since the 1940s, although Roman Catholic and Protestant missions use slightly different systems. Kirundi is one of the official languages of Burundi, along with French, and is spoken mainly by Hutus, but also by Tutsis, Twa and Hima people, in most parts of the country. It is taught in schools, and used in the media and literature. About 55% of Kirundi speakers are literate in their language.

There are over 100 students from Kirundi speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### July (Dhanggati language)

The Macleay Valley forms the heartland of Dhanggati country, which extends banduungakayi mulumun.gu from mountains to (the) coast. It includes the main towns of Bellbrook, Kempsey and South West Rocks. Dhanggati language was still spoken 'right through' until the late 1960s, when pastoral workers and their families camped in the western end of the valley, free from managers and mission regulations about not speaking the language. Recordings that were made with those Old People in the 1960s and 1970s, along with historical documentation and the memories of today's Elders form the basis for recent language reconstruction.

Dhanggati people worked as labourers, stockmen, and agricultural workers throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries on the land which they had nurtured for thousands of years. This contribution to the modern economy is forgotten in many histories of the Macleay.

Dunghutti people were the first mainland Aboriginal people granted Native Title, at Crescent Head, following the historic Mabo decision. The difference in spelling reflects social and linguistic evolution.

Dhanggati and Burragati are the known dialects of the language.

#### They share linguistic borders with

Gumbaynggirr to the north, Birrbay (Gathang) south, Anaiwan west and Yugambal north-west. Before the European invasion Aboriginal people were multilingual, speaking the languages of their neighbours.

In the 1980s Aunty Rita Scott, followed by Aunty Esther Quinlin and supported by Aunty Caroline Bradshaw, began teaching language in schools. Since 2004 the Dhanggati Language Group / Ngabu Bingayi Aboriginal Corporation, in particular Uncle Bob Smith and Aunty Caroline Bradshaw, continues teaching language and culture in schools. They work with linguist Amanda Lissarrague to produce the Dhanggati Grammar and Dictionary with Dhanggati Stories and learning resources. In 2024 Guuyata Dhanggati! (Speak in Dhanggati!) Grammar Stories 1-12 will be available for language learning. This series illustrates Dhanggati language patterns with easy-to-understand language and contextual illustrations.

Macleay Valley schools currently teaching Dhanggati include Aldevilla PS, Frederickton PS, Greenhill PS, Kempsey East PS, Kempsey South PS, Kempsey West PS, South West Rocks PS, Kempsey HS and Dhalaykurk Pre-school to be joined by Smithtown PS in 2024.

##### August (ไทย)

##### Thai (ไทย)

Thai is a Tai-Kadai language spoken by about 60 million people mainly in Thailand. Thai is closely related to Lao, and northern dialects of Thai are more or less mutually intelligible with Lao, particularly the Lao spoken in northern Thailand. Thai vocabulary includes many words from Pali, Sanskrit and Old Khmer.

The Thai alphabet was probably derived from, or at least influenced by, the Old Khmer alphabet. According to tradition it was created in 1283 by King Ramkhamhaeng. The Thai alphabet is written from left to right in horizontal lines and is used to write Thai, Sanskrit, Pali, and a number of minority languages spoken in Thailand. There are almost 4,200 students from Thai speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### September (தமிழ்)

##### Tamil (தமிழ்)

Tamil is a Dravidian language spoken by around 67 million people mainly in southern India and Sri Lanka, but also in Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, Canada, the USA, UK and Australia. It is the first language of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, and is spoken by a significant minority of people (2 million) in north-eastern Sri Lanka. The earliest known inscriptions in Tamil date back to 2,200 BCE. Tamil literature emerged in around 300 BCE, and the language used from then until 700 CE is known as Old Tamil. From 700-1600 CE the language is known as Middle Tamil, and since 1600 the language has been known as Modern Tamil. The Modern Tamil script was created during the 7th century based on the Grantha script, a descendent of Brahmi. Over time the script changed and was simplified in the 19th and 20th centuries. It is written from left to right in horizontal lines.

There are about 7,000 students from Tamil speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### October (한국어)

##### Korean (한국어)

Korean is spoken by about 82 million people mainly in South Korea and North Korea. It is also spoken in China (Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture), Japan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Russia. It belongs to the Koreanic language family but the relationship between Korean and other languages is not known for sure. Grammatically Korean is very similar to Japanese but about 70% of its vocabulary comes from Chinese.

In Korea, Hangeul Day celebrates the formation of the Korean alphabet, or Hangeul, in 1446 by King Sejong of Korea. To create a simpler form of writing than the Chinese writing system that was used prior to 1446, Sejong published his new alphabet and a guide to using it to communicate. The Hangeul alphabet greatly increased the Korean literacy rate.

Until the 1980s Korean was usually written from right to left in vertical columns. Since then writing from left to right in horizontal lines has become the more used, and today the majority of texts are written horizontally.

There are about 8,200 students from Korean speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### November (ລາວ)

##### Lao (ລາວ)

Lao is a Tai-Kadai language spoken by approximately 3.5 million people in Laos and Thailand. It is closely related to Thai and speakers of Lao are able to understand spoken Thai. Thai speakers find it more difficult to understand Lao due to lack of exposure to the language. After the unification of the Lao principalities in the 14th century, the Lan Xang monarchs commissioned their scholars to create a new script to write the Lao language. The scholars probably modelled the alphabet on the Old Khmer script, which was itself based on Mon scripts. Written Lao is based on the dialect of the Lao capital, Vientiane and is written from left to right in horizontal lines. Lao serves as a lingua franca among the people of Laos, who also speak approximately 90 other languages, many of which are unrelated to Lao.

There are about 900 students from Lao speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.

##### December (Türkçe)

##### Turkish (Türkçe)

Turkish is a member of the Oghuz branch of the Turkic language family spoken mainly in Türkiye, Northern Cyprus and Cyprus where it is an official language. There are also Turkish speakers in Germany, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece, and other parts of Europe and Central Asia. There are about 88 million native speakers of Turkish, and about 17 million second language speakers.

The ancestor of modern Turkish, Oghuz, was bought to Anatolia (Türkiye) from Central Asia during the 11th century CE by Seljuq Turks. This developed into Ottoman Turkish, and contained many loanwords from Arabic and Persian.

Until 1928 Turkish was written with a version of the Perso-Arabic script known as the Ottoman Turkish script. In 1928, as part of his efforts to modernise Türkiye, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk issued a decree replacing the Arabic script with the Turkish alphabet (türk alfabesi) a version of the Latin alphabet. Arabic and Persian loanwords were also replaced with Turkish equivalents. Turkish is written from left to right in horizontal lines. There are about 3,700 students from Turkish speaking backgrounds in NSW government schools.



Alyssa Nguyen, Kim Dang, Kathy Trinh, Khan An, Nguyen, Amr Frihat, Kevin Phung, Asilatun Tajul

#### Acknowledgements

NSW Department of Education advisors from the Multicultural Education team, Educational Support and Rural Initiatives Unit coordinate the annual development of the calendar and related information.

The department acknowledges the work of students, teachers and schools in contributing a high standard of artwork for selection in this year's calendar.

Many government departments, religious, community and ethno specific organisations, local authorities and community members have provided advice and information.

A poster is attached to the calendar. It displays the word 'Welcome' in our many community languages. It is designed for display in the classroom and around the school to help promote an inclusive anti-racism ethos in the school community.

#### 2025 Calendar contributions

Schools are invited to submit student artwork celebrating cultural diversity for the 2025 Calendar for Cultural Diversity.

Information regarding the submission of artwork is available via the Department of Education website: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/multicultural-education/culture-and-diversity/calendar-for-cultural-diversity>

#### Teaching and learning activities

Information to support intercultural understanding and build knowledge about cultural diversity is available via the Department of Education website <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/multicultural-education/culture-and-diversity/calendar-for-cultural-diversity>

#### For additional resources teachers may visit:

- [www.racismnoway.com.au](http://www.racismnoway.com.au)
- <https://multicultural.nsw.gov.au/>
- [www.roads-to-refuge.com.au](http://www.roads-to-refuge.com.au)
- <https://antidiscrimination.nsw.gov.au/>
- <https://alltogether.org.au/>
- <https://humanrights.gov.au/>
- <https://reconciliationnsw.org.au/>
- <https://omniglot.com/writing/languages.htm>
- <https://storylines.com.au/sites/>
- <https://dhanggati.org.au/>

#### Note

Dates and events printed in the calendar are confirmed at the time of press.

\*Events marked with an asterisk indicate that the date may be subject to change; or that there may be regional and/or denominational differences in when the event is observed.

Design by Thommen Design



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# January

Beneath the waves – Tarni Jane and K-6 students – La Perouse Public School – Bidjigal Land  
 This artwork weaves together the Aboriginal dreaming story of the Buriburi (whale), infusing it with contemporary significance. The Buriburi, a symbol of ancient wisdom, serves as a reminder of our roots and the power of storytelling. Guided by the teachings of the Dreaming, our young people stand as torchbearers of tradition and carers of the land. An important aspect of the artwork process was for community members to be invited in and for our Elders to pass down their knowledge of country and culture. This intergenerational exchange isn't just about passing knowledge – it's a transformative journey that shapes these young advocates.

This month's community language is Mandarin

一月

	Monday 星期一	Tuesday 星期二	Wednesday 星期三	Thursday 星期四	Friday 星期五	Saturday 星期六	Sunday 星期日/天
	1 New Year's Day Ganjitsu (Japan)	2 Public Holiday	3	4 World Braille Day (UN) Independence Day – Republic of the Union of Myanmar	5 Birth Anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh Ji (Sikh)	6 Armenian Orthodox Christmas Day (Christian) Epiphany (Christian) Twelfth Night (Christian)	7 Orthodox Christmas Day (Christian)
	8	9	10	11	12	13 Maghi* (Sikh cultural festival)	14 Orthodox New Year (Christian)
	15	16 Martin Luther King Day (USA)	17	18	19	20	21 World Religion Day
	22	23	24 International Day of Education (UN)	25 Robert Burns Day (Scotland)	26 Public Holiday Australia Day Survival Day	27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day (UN)	28
Week 1	29	30	31 National Day – Nauru				

### Other events

- 1 Jan – 31 Dec: Badu Gili Sydney Opera House
- 1 January: Liberation Day – Cuba; Independence Day – Haiti; National Day – Sudan
- 5 – 28 January: Sydney Festival
- 6 January: Nollaig na mBan (Little Women's Christmas – Ireland); Three Kings Day (Christian)
- 13 – 14 January: Bowral Show
- 19 – 21 January: 37th Illawarra Folk Festival
- 19 – 28 January: Country Music Festival, Tamworth
- 21 January: Candelo Show
- 25 – 27 January: Mahayana New Year\* (Buddhist - Mahayana tradition)
- 27 – 28 January: Eurobodalla Show

### Milestones

- 1 January: Federation of Australia formed 1901; Australian national anthem lyrics modified to "for we are one and free" 2021
- 9 January: Final convict transportation to Australia (Western Australia) 1868
- 16 January: First group of free settlers arrived at Port Jackson 1793
- 22 January: Australia signed the United Nations Convention on Refugees 1954
- 26 January: Nationality and Citizens Act created status of 'Australian Citizen' 1948



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# February

Year of the dragon – Everlie Doroszuk & Olivia Turner – Milperra Public School – Dharug Land  
 This artwork is dedicated to the year of the dragon. It incorporates mixed media to create a colour explosive masterpiece to convey the joining of Eastern and Western culture ie the powerful Dragon of the Chinese zodiac cast over the contrasting background of the hot Australian sun and the vast mountainous land.

This month's community language is Persian/Farsi

فوریه

	Monday دوشنبه	Tuesday سه شنبه	Wednesday چهارشنبه	Thursday پنجشنبه	Friday جمعه	Saturday شنبه	Sunday یکشنبه
Week 1				1 Term 1 begins (Eastern Division)	2 Groundhog Day (USA) World Wetlands Day	3 Independence Commemoration Day – Sri Lanka	4
2	5 Term 1 begins (Western division) Safer Internet Day Waitangi Day – Aotearoa/New Zealand	6	7 Independence Day – Grenada Isra and Mi'raj /Night Journey* (Muslim)	8 St Vartan's Day (Armenian Christian)	9 St Maroun's Feast Day (Maronite Christian)	10 Lunar New Year – Year of the Dragon	11 International Day of Women and Girls in Science (UN)
3	12	13 Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Day (Christian) World Radio Day (UN)	14 Ash Wednesday – Lent begins (Christian) Vasant Panchami* (Hindu) St Valentine's Day	15 National Day – Serbia	16 Independence Day – Lithuania	17 Discovery Day – Lord Howe Island (1788) Banjo Patersons' Birthday Independence Day – Kosovo	18 Independence Day – The Gambia
4	19	20 World Day of Social Justice (UN)	21 International Mother Language Day (UN)	22 National Day – Saint Lucia	23 National Day – Brunei Darussalam National Day – Guyana	24 Independence Day - Estonia Magha Puja Day (Buddhist – Theravada tradition)	25 National Day – Kuwait
5	26	27 Independence Day – Dominican Republic	28	29			

### Other events

- 1 – 7 February World Interfaith Harmony Week (UN)
- 3 February Bankstown Lunar New Year celebrations, Saigon Place
- 10 February Lunar New Year Celebrations – Losar (Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan) Xin Nian (China) Solnal (Korea) Tét (Vietnam) Tsagan Sar (Mongolia)
- 10 – 11 February Crookwell Show
- 10 – 25 February City of Sydney Lunar Festival
- 12 February Anniversary of the Freedom Ride
- 14 Feb – 28 March Lent (Christian)
- 16 – 18 February National Multicultural Festival, Canberra
- 23 – 25 February Canberra Royal Show
- 24 February Yuan Xiao/Lantern Festival (Chinese cultural festival)  
Campsie Lunar celebrations  
Sofala Show
- 25 February Sofala Show

### Milestones

- 7 February Colony of New South Wales formally proclaimed 1788
- 13 February Australian Government apology to Indigenous Australians 2008
- 15 February Current NSW state flag adopted 1876
- 18 February First school in the NSW Colony opened 1793



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# March

The voice of the heart – K-6 students – Bayanami Public School – Burrumattagal Land, a clan of the Darug people  
Our students were asked to draw a picture of something meaningful from their cultural background that they truly loved and identified with, within their hearts. These drawings created a myriad of captivating conversations, imparting knowledge, as they drew, to their peers and teachers as they spoke with one another.

This month's community language is Kurdish Kurmanji

ئادار

	Monday دوو شهم	Tuesday سێ شهم	Wednesday چار شهم	Thursday پنج شهم	Friday ئینی	Saturday شهمی	Sunday یه کشهم	Other events
Week 5					1 First day of autumn St David's Day (Wales) Schools Clean Up Day World Day of Prayer (Christian)	2 Mardi Gras	3 World Wildlife Day (UN) National Day (Bulgaria)	1 - 2 March Boorowa Show 1 - 3 March Cobargo Folk Festival 2 March Sydney Mardi Gras Parade 2 - 10 March SeaWeek 3 March Clean Up Australia Day 8 - 10 March Blacktown City Show 9 March Binda Picnic Races 9 March - 8 April Ramadan Nights, Lakemba 11 - 24 March NSW Seniors Festival 11 March - 9 April Ramadan* (Muslim) 13 - 17 March Parwonaya (Mandaean) 13 - 25 March NAPLAN online test window 18 - 24 March Harmony Week: Everyone belongs 18 March - 26 April Orthodox Great Lent (Christian) 20 March Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Tunisia - Tunisia 21 March National Close the Gap Day International Day of Nowruz (UN) International Day of Forests (UN) World Poetry Day (UNESCO)
Week 6	4	5	6 Foundation Day - Norfolk Island Independence Day - Ghana	7 International Women's Day (UN)	8	9 Maha Shivaratri* (Hindu)	10	21 March - 27 March Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination 22 March - 2 April Sydney Royal Easter Show 23 March Mendooran Show 24 - 30 March Holy Week (Christian) 25 - 27 March Holi Mohalla (Sikh cultural festival) 28 March - 1 April National Folk Festival, Canberra 29 - 30 March Maclean Highland Gathering 31 March Blessing of the Fleet, Ulladulla Harbour*
Week 7	11 Canberra Day Commonwealth Day Ramadan begins* (Muslim)	12 National Day, Mauritius	13 National Assessment Program (NAPLAN) commences	14 International Day of Mathematics (UNESCO) Pi Day (Mathematics) Nanakshahi New Year Day (Sikh)	15 Ides of March	16	17 St Patrick's Day (Ireland)	
Week 8	18 Clean Monday - Orthodox Great Lent begins (Christian)	19 St Joseph's Feast Day (Maronite Christian)	20 Autumn equinox Naw-Rúz (New Year Bahá'í) French Language Day (UN) International Day of Happiness (UN)	21 Harmony Day Independence Day - Namibia International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination	22 World Water Day (UN)	23 World Meteorological Day (UN) National Day - Pakistan	24 World Tuberculosis Day (WHO) Palm Sunday (Christian) Purim/Festival of Lots (Jewish)	
Week 9	25 Holi* (Hindu) Independence Day - Greece	26 Independence Day - Bangladesh	27	28 Maundy Thursday (Christian)	29 Good Friday (Christian)	30 Easter Saturday (Christian)	31 Easter Sunday (Christian) Neighbour Day	25 March Indigenous ex-servicemen granted voting rights 1949



\*Events marked with an asterisk indicate that the date may be subject to change; or that there may be regional and/or denominational differences in when the event is observed.



# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# April

Our voices – Eshant Gharti Magar (K), Avesta Ansari (Yr 5), Jovan James (Yr 4) and Jana James (Yr 1) – Tuncurry Public School – Worimi Country  
Our Voices was created by our current EAL/D students. They painted their individual portraits and wrote 'hello' in their first language. These were placed on textured paper to represent the many different and vibrant lives that form NSW Education.

This month's community language is Portuguese

abril

	Monday segunda-feira	Tuesday terça-feira	Wednesday quarta-feira	Thursday quinta-feira	Friday sexta-feira	Saturday sábado	Sunday domingo	Other events
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>1</b> April Fools' Day Easter Monday (Christian)	<b>2</b> International Children's Book Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Qingming/Tomb Sweeping Festival (Chinese cultural festival) Independence Day – Senegal	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (UN) Laylatul Al Qadr/Night of Destiny* (Muslim)	<b>7</b> Daylight saving time ends World Health Day (WHO)	1 April – 30 June Red Shield Appeal 6 April Bundanoon is Brigadoon 11 – 21 April National Youth Week 12 – 14 April Bathurst Royal Show 13/14 – 15/16 April* New Year Festivals: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand 13 – 14 April Hunter Valley Steamfest, Maitland 18 Apr – 19 May Australian Heritage Festival: Connections 22 – 28 April World Immunisation Week (WHO) 23 April English Language Day (UN) Spanish Language Day (UN) 24 – 26 April Theravada New Year* (Buddhist – Theravada tradition) 26 – 27 April Moree Show 27 April – 4 May Orthodox Holy Week (Christian) 30 April Yeoval Show
<b>11</b>	<b>8</b> Hana Matsuri (Buddhist – Japanese cultural festival)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Eid Al Fitr* (Muslim)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Term 1 ends International Day of Human Space Flight (UN)	<b>13</b> International Turban Day	<b>14</b> Hindu Solar New Year* (Hindu) Khalsa Day - Vaisakhi (Sikh)	<b>Milestones</b> 3 April UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People endorsed by Australia 2009 25 April The ANZACs landed at Gallipoli 1915 29 April Captain Cook landed at Botany Bay 1770
	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Queen's Birthday (Denmark)	<b>17</b> Rama Navami* (Hindu) Ser Sal / Yazidi New Year (Yazidi) Independence Day – Syrian Arab Republic	<b>18</b> World Heritage Day National Day – Zimbabwe	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> First day of Ridvan (Bahá'í) Chinese Language Day (UN)	<b>21</b>	
	<b>22</b> International Mother Earth Day (UN)	<b>23</b> First day of Passover (Jewish) St George's Day National Sovereignty and Children's Day (Turkey)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> ANZAC Day	<b>26</b> Union Day – United Republic of Tanzania	<b>27</b> King's Day (Netherlands) Independence Day – Sierra Leone Freedom Day – South Africa Togolais National Day – Togo	<b>28</b> Ninth day of Ridvan (Bahá'í) Orthodox Palm Sunday (Christian)	
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>29</b> Term 2 begins	<b>30</b> International Jazz Day (UNESCO)						

\*Events marked with an asterisk indicate that the date may be subject to change, or that there may be regional and/or denominational differences in when the event is observed.

\*\*Regional customs or moon sightings may cause a variation of the date for Islamic holidays such as Ramadan. In some lunar calendars the day begins at sunset, so there may be a one-day error depending on when the New Moon is first seen.





# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# May

Intersections – Whole school collaboration- all students K-6 – Ashfield Public School – Gadigal Country of the Eora Nation  
Intersections is an oversized patchwork blanket created to acknowledge Refugee Week. Each student at the school contributed a piece adorned with appliqué and intricate stitched detailing drawing inspiration from the book, 'My Two Blankets' by Irena Kobold. This artwork symbolises the convergence of lives, stories, and cultures, echoing the theme of 'Our Voices'. Crafting the work fostered empathy, understanding, and community, serving as a reflective reminder of refugees' perilous journeys and the voices left unheard in their quest for freedom.

This month's community language is Fijian Hindustani

# May

	Monday Somaar	Tuesday Mangr	Wednesday Budh	Thursday Bif	Friday Sukh	Saturday Sanichar	Sunday Atwaar
<b>Week 1</b>			<b>1</b> May Day International Labour Day Twelfth day of Ridvan (Bahá'í) National Day – Marshall Islands	<b>2</b>	Orthodox Good/Holy Friday (Christian) World Press Freedom Day (UNESCO) National Day – Poland	Orthodox Saturday (Christian) International Firefighters' Day	Kodomo no Hi/Children's Day (Japan and Korea)
<b>2</b>	<b>6</b> Orthodox Easter Monday (Christian)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> World Red Crescent Day World Red Cross Day	<b>9</b> Selective High School Placement Test Ascension Day (Christian) Europe Day (European Union)	<b>10</b> Stewart House Day*	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Mother's Day International Nurses Day
<b>3</b>	<b>13</b> National Day - Israel	<b>14</b> National Day – Paraguay	<b>15</b> International Day of Families (UN)	<b>16</b> International Day of Living Together in Peace (UN)	<b>17</b> Dehwa Daymaneh (Mandaean) International Day against LGBTQIA+ (IDAHOBIT) Constitution Day – Norway	<b>18</b> International Museum Day	<b>19</b> Pentecost/Whitsunday (Christian)
<b>4</b>	<b>20</b> World Bee Day (UN) National Day – Cameroon Restoration of Independence – Timor-Leste	<b>21</b> World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (UN)	<b>22</b> International Day for Biological Diversity (UN) Unification Day – Yemen	<b>23</b> Public Education Day United Nations Day of Vesak (UN)	<b>24</b> Independence Day – Eritrea	<b>25</b> Africa Day (African Union) National Day – Argentina Independence Day – Jordan	<b>26</b> National Sorry Day National Day – Georgia
<b>5</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í) Republic Day – Azerbaijan National Day – Ethiopia National Day – Nepal	<b>29</b> International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers (UN)	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> World No Tobacco Day (WHO)		

### Other events

- 2 – 5 May Australian Celtic Festival: Year of Scotland
- 4 May Wellington Show
- 5 May World Portuguese Language Day
- 10 May Stewart House Day\*
- 10 – 11 May The Riverina Field Days, Griffith
- 13 – 19 May National Careers Week
- 14 – 15 May Coonamble Show
- 15 – 21 May National Families Week
- 17 May National Walk Safely to School Day
- 18 – 19 May Blacktown Medieval Fayre, Knox Road Doonside
- St Ives Show
- Thirimere Festival of Steam
- Sydney Writers' Festival
- National Volunteer Week
- 23 May Declaration of the Báb (Bahá'í)  
Vesak/Buddha's Birthday (Buddhist – all traditions)  
2586th Birth Anniversary of Gautama Buddha
- 24 May – 15 June Vivid Sydney
- 25 – 26 May Red Shield Doorknock Appeal\*  
(The Salvation Army, Australia)
- 26 May – 14 July Gai-Mariagal Festival (Northern Sydney region)
- 27 May – 3 June National Reconciliation Week

### Milestones

- 6 May The Commonwealth Migration Act 1958 was amended, effectively dismantling the White Australia Policy 1966
- 22 May Convict transportation to NSW ended 1840
- 27 May The 1967 referendum amended the Constitution to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the population



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# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# June

On a boat to nowhere – Dinara Srimohanarajah & Krishnangi Kale – Year 6 – Girraween Public School – Dharug Country  
 This artwork is about the struggles that refugees face while travelling to another country. The darkness is slowly creeping up to the boat, it represents that their problems are slowly increasing and they are starting to lose hope. We have a moon shining bright in the murky night sky, the moon represents that there will always be a little bit of hope even if the darkness is creeping in. The family is hugging each other to provide warmth and they are holding onto each other so they can always be together. You can see that the dad is not there and that is because he has sacrificed everything so the rest of the family can have a new start, a better life.

This month's community language is Kirundi

Ruheshi

	Monday kuwambwere	Tuesday kuwakabiri	Wednesday kuwagatatu	Thursday kuwakane	Friday kuwagatanu	Saturday kuwagatandatu	Sunday kuwamungu
Week 5						1 First day of winter Global Day of Parents (UN) Independence Day – Samoa	2 Foundation of the Republic – Italy
6	3 Mabo Day	4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression (UN)	5 World Environment Day (UN) Constitution Day – Denmark	6 Russian Language Day (UN) National Day – Sweden	7	8 Bounty Day (Norfolk Island) World Oceans Day (UN)	9
7	10 King's birthday holiday (NSW) Tuen Ng/Dragon Boat Festival (Chinese cultural festival)	11	12 World Day Against Child Labour (UN) Independence Day – Philippines National Day – Russian Federation	13	14	15 Global Wind Day	16 Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Ji (Sikh) International Day of the African Child (WHO)
8	17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (UN) National Day – Iceland Eid Al Adha* (Muslim)	18	19	20 World Refugee Day	21 Winter Solstice	22	23 International Olympic Day National Day and Official Birthday of HRH the Grand Duke – Luxembourg
9	24	25 Day of the Seafarer (UN) National Day – Croatia Independence Day – Mozambique National Day – Slovenia	26 National Day – Madagascar	27 Independence Day – Djibouti	28	29 International Day of the Tropics (UN) National Day – Seychelles	30 International Day of Parliamentarism (UN) Independence Day – Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Other events

- 1 – 30\* June Sydney Sick Kids Appeal, Children's Hospital at Westmead
- 10 June Portugal Day, Camões Day and Day of Portuguese Communities – Portugal
- 16 – 22 June National Refugee Week
- 26 June International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (UN)  
International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (UN)

### Milestones

- 1 June NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977
- 3 June Mabo Native Title  
High Court Decision 1992
- 11 June Commonwealth of Australia  
Racial Discrimination Act 1975
- 26 June Australia joined the United Nations 1945



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# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# July

Family and Totem – Charlie Stanley – Yr 11 – Wiradjuri Country

In my painting the animals are my totems, this represents my voice within my culture. The two meeting places are a representation of my family and how we share stories from generation to generation through our voice and stories.

This month's community language is Dhanggati

baraayn ngunmarr  
garring

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	In Dhanggati the cold season, July or thereabouts, can be described as baraaayn ngunmarr garring cold days (and) nights						
Week 10	1 International Tartan Day (Australia)	2 Salvation Army Founders' Day (Christian)	3 National Day – Belarus	4 Liberation Day – Rwanda Independence Day – USA	5 Term 2 ends National Day – Cape Verde National Day – Venezuela	6 Dalai Lama's birthday National Day – Comoros National Day – Malawi	7 National Day – Solomon Islands Hijra/Islamic New Year* (Muslim)
	8	9 Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahá'í) Independence Day – South Sudan	10 Independence Day – Bahamas	11 World Population Day (UN) Anniversary of Mongolian People's Revolution – Mongolia	12 National Day – Kiribati National Day – Sao Tome and Principe	13 National Day – Montenegro	14 Bastille Day – France
	15 Kanshuzahly (Mandaean) World Youth Skills Day (UN)	16 Dehba ad Raba (Mandaean)	17	18 Nelson Mandela International Day (UN)	19	20 National Day – Colombia	21 St Charbel's Feast (Maronite Christian) Accession of King Leopold I (1831) – Belgium
Week 1	22 Term 3 begins Dehwa Sheshyan (Mandaean)	23 Anniversary of Revolution of 23 July – Egypt	24	25	26 National Tree Day for schools National Day – Liberia National Day – Maldives	27	28 National Tree Day The Kings birthday – Thailand Independence Day – Peru
	29	30 International Day of Friendship (UN) Throne Day – Morocco Independence Day – Vanuatu	31				

### Other events

1 July	National Day – Burundi Canada Day – Canada
7 – 14 July	National Day – Somalia NAIDOC Week*
13 July	Stroud Brick and Rolling Pin Throwing Contest, Stroud
21 July	Asalha Puja – Dharma Day (Buddist – Theravada tradition) Guru Purnima (Hindu)
22 – 28 July	Superhero Week: Children's Hospital at Westmead
27 July	Bankstown Bites Festival
31 July	National Out of School Care Education Day: Limitless Possibilities

### Milestones

17 July	UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability ratified by Australia 2008
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### Acknowledgement of Dhanggati Country

Welcome to Dhanggati country.

*Myanggan dhanang?*

How are you (all)?

*Dhanggatigutun barri dhiithyn.*

This is dhanggati country.

*Nyinanambu bita, nyinanambu warru wa bukul, banduunggakayi mulumun.gu.*

Our river, our plains and hills, from the mountain to the coast.

*Dhanggatigutun barri dhiithyn.*

This is dhanggati country.

*Dhangu barri dhiithyn.*

This is my country.

*Dhanang, marrungga barriya dhiithyndha!*

You all, be well in this place!



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# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# August

The voice of my soul – Celine Davidson – Year 6 – Blue Haven Public School – Darkinjung Land  
Although I live in Australia, Filipino is who I am. I embrace my families culture and voice this LOUDLY to anyone who will listen. Mount Pinatubo and surrounding region is the essence of who I am.

This month's community language is Thai

สิงหาคม

	Monday จันทร์	Tuesday อังคาร	Wednesday พุธ	Thursday พฤหัสบดี	Friday ศุกร์	Saturday เสาร์	Sunday อาทิตย์
Week 2				1 Opportunity Class (OC) Placement Test Horses' birthday	2	3	4 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day Constitution Day – Cook Islands
3	5	6 Hiroshima Peace Day Independence Day – Bolivia National Day – Jamaica	7 National Day – Cote d'Ivoire	8 International Day of the World's Indigenous People (UN) National Day - Singapore	9	10 National Day – Ecuador	11 National Day – Chad
4	12 International Youth Day	13 International Left-Handers Day	14	15 Independence Day – Republic of Congo Independence Day – India National Day – Liechtenstein	16 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence	17 National Day – Gabon Proclamation of Independence – Indonesia	18 Vietnam Veterans' Day – Battle of Long Tan
5	19 Raksha Bandhan* (Hindu) World Humanitarian Day (UN) Independence Day – Afghanistan	20 Day of the Foundation of the State of Hungary and St Stephen's Day – Hungary	21	22	23 International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition (UNESCO)	24 National Day – Ukraine	25 Independence Day – Uruguay
6	26 Krishna Janmashtami* (Hindu)	27 National Day – Republic of Moldova	28 Meals on Wheels Day	29 International Day against Nuclear Tests (UN)	30 Wear it Purple Day	31 National Day – Kyrgyz Republic National Day – Malaysia National Day – Trinidad and Tobago	

### Other events

- 1 August National Day – Benin  
Foundation of the Swiss Confederation Day – Switzerland
- 2 – 3 August Mungindi Show
- 5 – 11 August Education Week – Public Schools NSW (Week 3 Term 3)
- 9 – 10 August Tullamore Show
- 10 – 18 August National Science Week
- 13 August Obon (Buddhist – Japan)
- 17 August Bedgerabong Show
- 17 – 18 August International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
- 17 – 23 August Children's Book Council of Australia Book Week
- 18 August Ullambana – Hungry Ghost Festival (Buddhist – China, Vietnam)
- 19 – 25 August National Skills Week
- 24 August Ganmain Show

### 2025 Calendar for Cultural Diversity

Schools are invited to submit student artwork for the 2025 Calendar for Cultural Diversity via our website.  
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/multicultural-education/culture-and-diversity/calendar-for-cultural-diversity>

### Milestones

- 1 August First sitting of the New South Wales Legislative Council 1843
- 1 August Snowy Mountains Authority established 1949
- 11 August New South Wales constituted a Crown Colony 1824
- 17 August First NSW welfare institution, the Female Orphan School, opened 1801
- 27 August NSW Women's Franchise Act 1902



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# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# October

Voice of the waterways – Hugo Mitchell, Poppy Fajkus, Ava Watson – Year 4 – Kings Langley Public School – Darug Country  
The connected water ways represent the interwoven voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Every story and lesson that is shared is formed from the previous waterhole and our Elders. When we join, our voices are heard, making us stronger and more connected.

This month's community language is Korean October

시월

	Monday 월요일	Tuesday 화요일	Wednesday 수요일	Thursday 목요일	Friday 금요일	Saturday 토요일	Sunday 일요일
		1 International Day of Older Persons (UN)	2 International Day of Non-Violence Mahatma Gandhi's birthday Independence Day – Guinea	3 Rosh Hashanah/New Year (Jewish) Day of German Unity – Germany National Foundation Day – Republic of Korea (South Korea)	4 World Animal Day Independence Day – Lesotho	5 World Teachers Day (UNESCO)	6 Daylight saving time begins
	7 Labour Day (NSW Public Holiday) World Habitat Day (UN)	8	9 Peter Norman Day World Post Day (UN) Hangeul Day (South Korea) Independence Day – Uganda	10 World Mental Health Day (WHO) National Day – Fiji National Day or Double Tenth Day – Republic of China (Taiwan)	11 International Day of the Girl (UN) Chung Yeung/Double Ninth Festival (Chinese cultural festival)	12 Yom Kippur (Jewish) Independence Day – Equatorial Guinea National Day – Spain	13 Dussehra* (Hindu)
Week 1	14 Term 4 begins Eid Fel (Mandaean) Thanksgiving Day (Canada)	15	16 World Food Day (UN)(FAO)	17 Kathina (Buddhist – Theravada Tradition) Sukkot/Feast of Tabernacles (Jewish)	18	19 National Day – Niue	20 Gurgaddi (Installation) Day of Guru Granth Sahib Ji (Sikh)
2	21	22	23 Universal Children's Day (Australia)	24 United Nations Day (UN) Independence Day – Zambia	25 Teacher's Day (Australia)	26 National Day – Austria	27 NSW Grandparents Day National Day – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Day – Turkmenistan
3	28 National Day – Czech Republic	29 National Day – Turkey	30	31 All Hallows Eve (Christian) Dehwa Honina (Mandaean) Hallowe'en World Cities Day (UN)			

### Other events

- 1 October: National Day – China, National Day – Cyprus, National Day – Nigeria, National Day – Palau, Independence Day – Tuvalu
- 1 – 31 October: International School Libraries Month
- 3 October: Navratri begins\* (Hindu)
- 4 – 10 October: World Space Week
- 6 October: Griffith Show
- 6 – 13 October: Jamayi /Feast of the Assembly (Yazidi)
- 12 October: Harden Kite Festival, Trunkey Creek Show
- 13 – 25 October: Anti-Poverty Week
- 14 October: Norfolk Island Royal Show
- 14 – 20 October: National Water Week\*
- 17 October: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (UN)
- 19 October: Ryde Granny Smith Festival\*
- 19 – 27 October: National Children's Week
- 20 – 27 October: NSW Aboriginal Languages Week
- 24 – 30 October: Disarmament Week (UN)
- 25 Oct – 3 Nov: Jacaranda Festival, Grafton
- 26 October: National Mosque Open Day\*
- 31 Oct – 10 Nov: Festival of Fisher's Ghost, Campbelltown

### Milestones

- 11 October: Coat of Arms of New South Wales granted by Royal Warrant 1906
- 26 October: Uluru handed back to the Anangu Pitjantjatjara People 1985



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# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# November

Biraban – Sharing our story – Art Club – Eleebana Public School – Awabakal Country  
 Our Art Club gathered leaves from the school grounds and painted them with Aboriginal symbols, each reflecting the individual stories of the students. They carefully arranged the leaves to create a wedge-tail eagle, the totem of the Awabakal people. The symbols on the body represent Art Club and our surroundings.

This month's community language is Lao

ຕຸລາ

	Monday ວັນ ຈັນ	Tuesday ວັນ ອັງຕານ	Wednesday ວັນ ພຸດ	Thursday ວັນ ພູະຫັດ	Friday ວັນ ສຸກ	Saturday ວັນ ເສົາ	Sunday ວັນ ອາທິດ
Week 3					1 All Saints' Day (Christian) Diwali* (Hindu) Bandi Chhor Divas (Sikh cultural festival)	2 All Souls' Day (Christian) Birth of the Báb (Bahá'í)	3 Birth of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í) Independence Day – Dominica
4	4 National Day – Tonga	5 Melbourne Cup Day Guy Fawkes' Day (UK)	6 Kindness Day (Australia)	7	8	9 World Freedom Day Independence Day – Cambodia	10 World Science Day for Peace and Development (UNESCO)
5	11 Remembrance/Armistice Day (1918) National Day – Angola	12	13 World Kindness Day	14	15 Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji (Sikh)	16 International Day for Tolerance (UNESCO)	17 International Students Day
6	18 Proclamation of Independence Day – Latvia National Day – Oman	19 International Men's Day World Toilet Day National Day – Monaco	20 World Children's Day (UN)	21 World Television Day (UN) World Philosophy Day (UNESCO)	22 Independence Day – Lebanon	23	24 Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur Ji (Sikh)
7	25 Statehood Day – Bosnia and Herzegovina Independence Day – Suriname	26	27 Thanksgiving Day – Norfolk Island Ascension of Abdu'l-Bahá (Bahá'í)	28 National Day – Albania National Day – Mauritania Thanksgiving Day – USA	29	30 Independence Day – Barbados St Andrew's Day – Scotland	

### Other events

- 1 November: Anniversary of the Revolution Day – Algeria
- Independence Day – Antigua and Barbuda
- 3 November: National Day – Federated States of Micronesia
- National Day – Panama
- 11 – 17 November: National Recycling Week
- 24 Nov – 24 Dec: Darling Harbour Christmas, Darling Harbour
- 25 November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (UN)
- 29 – 30 November: Schools Spectacular, Qudos Bank Arena, Sydney Olympic Park
- 29 Nov – 1 Dec\*: Cherry Festival, Young

### Milestones

- 8 November: First Indigenous High Court Case 1934
- 16 November: Australian Government apology to the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants 2009
- 30 November: First performance of Advance Australia Fair 1878



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# Our voices

## Calendar for Cultural Diversity

2024



# December

Our voices – Naduli Siyara Kuruppu – Year 6 – Metella Road Public School – Dharug Land  
 My artwork is about the diversity of people in my community. I want to see them together without judging each other. I added native animals to show that everyone's voice matters even the ones that are not humans. I've picked a frilled-neck lizard for my background as it's a native animal.

This month's community language is Turkish

aralık

	Monday Pazartesi	Tuesday Salı	Wednesday Çarşamba	Thursday Perşembe	Friday Cuma	Saturday Cumartesi	Sunday Pazar
Week 7	30	31 New Year's Eve Hogmanay (Scotland)					1 First day of summer Advent Sunday (Christian)
8	2 National Day – Lao People's Democratic Republic National Day – United Arab Emirates	3 International Day of People with Disabilities (UN)	4	5 King Bhumipol's birthday anniversary – Thailand	6 St Nicholas' Day Independence Day – Finland	7	8 Bodhi Day* (Buddhist – Mahayana Tradition)
9	9	10 Human Rights Day (UN)	11 International Mountain Day (UN) National Day – Burkina Faso	12 Jamhuri Day – Kenya	13 Ashoriya - Abu Al Haris (Mandaean)	14	15
10	16 National Day – Bahrain Independence Day – Kazakhstan	17 National Day – Bhutan	18 International Migrants Day (UN) Arabic Language Day (UN)	19	20 Term 4 ends Roji and Eda Rojiet Ezi //Fasting and Feast of Ezi (Yazidi)	21 Summer Solstice	22
	23	24 Christmas Eve (Christian)	25 Public Holiday Christmas Day (Christian)	26 Public Holiday Boxing Day	27	28	29

### Other events

- 1 December National Day – Central African Republic
- National Day – Romania
- 1 – 3 December National Cherry Festival, Young
- 2 December International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (UN)
- 5 December International Volunteer Day (UN)
- World Soil Day (UN)
- 18 December National Day – Niger
- National Day – Qatar
- 21 December Martyrdom of Baba Ajit Singh and Baba Jujhar Singh (2 older sons of Guru Gobind Singh)
- 20 December International Human Solidarity Day (UN)
- 24 December National Day – Libya
- 25 December Batzmi (Yazidi)
- 26 December Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race begins
- Chanukah/Festival of Lights (Jewish)
- Martyrdom of Baba Fateh Singh and Baba Zorawar Singh (2 younger sons of Guru Gobind Singh)
- 31 December New Year's Eve celebrations

### Milestones

- 10 December Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly 1948



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