

# FKA Children's Services

## 2017-2018 Days of Significance Calendar

*It is essential to consult with families and your local community around when and how these days of significance are celebrated or acknowledged, and to ensure respectful and authentic partnerships are developed*

### April 2017 – November 2017



'Children learn to respond to diversity with respect when educators explore the culture, heritage, backgrounds and traditions of each child within the context of their community'

The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, 2009, p.27

#### APRIL 2017

- 1 Kha b-Nisan - Assyrian New Year
- 4 Qing Ming Jie Festival - Tomb Sweeping Day - China
- 8 Hanna Matsuri - Buddha's birthday celebration - Japan
- 9 Palm Sunday - Christian
- 10 Pesach (to 18 Apr) - Passover - Jewish
- 13 Songkran (to 15 Apr) - Water Festival - Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar (Burma) & Lao New Year
- 14 Baisakhi (also known as Vaisakhi) - Hindu & Sikh Festival
- 14 Orthodox Good Friday / Good Friday - Christian / Siklet - Ethiopia
- 16 Orthodox Easter / Easter Sunday - Christian / Fasika - Ethiopia
- 22 Earth Day - Global environmental movement
- 25 ANZAC Day

#### MAY 2017

- 1 May Day - Northern hemisphere spring festival & International Workers' Day
- 2 Yom Ha'Atzmaut - Israel Independence Day - Jewish
- 3 Buddha's Birthday Celebration - Korea, S.E. Asia, East Asia except Japan
- 5 Isra and Mi'raj - Islam
- 5 Kodomo no Hi - Children's Day - Japan
- 11 Waisak / Vesak Day - Celebration of Buddha's birth, enlightenment & attainment of nirvana - Indonesia
- 13 Lag B'Omer (to 14 May) - Jewish
- 17 National Liberation Day - Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 19 Sovereignty Day - Somaliland
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity
- 23 Isra & Mi'raj - Islam / Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) - Jewish (both to 24 May)
- 24 Independence Day - Eritrea
- 26 National Sorry Day - Australia
- 27 National Reconciliation Week (to 3 Jun) - Australia
- 27 Ramadan (to 25 Jun) - subject to moon sighting, consult with Islamic community)
- 30 Shavuot (to 1 Jun) - Jewish

#### JUNE 2017

- 3 Mabo Day - Australia
- 5 World Environment Day - United Nations
- 8 Poya Day - Buddhist - Sri Lanka
- 12 Queen's Birthday - Australia (except WA & QLD)
- 16 Martyrdom (Shahidi) of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib - Sikh
- 18 Refugee Week (to 24 Jun) - Australia
- 20 World Refugee Day - United Nations
- 20 Martyrs' Day - Eritrea
- 21 Winter Solstice - Southern Hemisphere
- 27 Independence Day - Djibouti
- 30 Independence Day - Democratic Republic of the Congo

#### JULY 2017

- 1 Republic Day - Somali (except Somaliland)
- 2 NAIDOC Week (to 9 Jul) - Australia
- 4 Independence Day - United States of America
- 6 Dalai Lama's Birthday
- 9 Asala - Dharma Day - Buddhist
- 9 Independence Day - Republic of South Sudan
- 14 Bastille Day - France
- 31 Tisha B'Av (to 1 Aug) - Jewish

#### AUGUST 2017

- 1 Parents Day - Observed internationally
- 4 National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
- 7 Raksha Bandhan - Hindu
- 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People - United Nations
- 15 Krishna Janmashtami - Birth of Krishna - Hindu

#### SEPTEMBER 2017

- 1 Bahti Meskerem - Anniversary of the Start of the Armed Struggles - Eritrea
- 1 Parkash (First reading) Aadh Granth Sahib - Sikh
- 1 Inauguration (Gurgadi) of Guru Granth Sahib - Sikh
- 2 Eid al Adha - Islamic
- 11 Enkutatash (also known as Kidus Yohannes) - Ethiopian New Year

#### 17

- Australian Citizenship Day
- 21 International Day of Peace - United Nations
- 21 Rosh Hashanah - Jewish New Year
- 22 Month of Muharram (to 14 Oct) - Islamic New Year
- 23 Spring Equinox - Southern Hemisphere
- 26 Meskal (to 27 Sep) - Finding the true cross - Ethiopia
- 29 Yom Kippur (to 30 Sep) - Jewish Day of Atonement
- 30 Vijay Dashami / Dasera - Hindu festival marking the triumph of good over evil. The festival of Dasera concludes the festival of Navaratri, which extends over a number of days.
- 31 Eid Al-Adha (to Oct 1) - Islam (subject to lunar calendar)

#### OCTOBER 2017

- 1 Ashura - Islam
- 2 Moon Festival / Mid-Autumn Festival / Lantern Festival - China & other parts of Asia
- 3 Ramanavami - Hindu
- 5 Sukkot (to 11 Oct) - Jewish
- 8 Kathina Festival - End of Buddhist Lent
- 12 Simchat Torah (to 13 Oct) - Rejoicing of the Torah - Jewish
- 19 Bandi Chhor Divas - Sikh
- 19 Deepavali (also known as Diwali) - Festival of Lights - Hindu & Jain
- 21 National Children's Week (to 29 Oct) - Australia
- 21 Birth of Báb - Baha'i
- 22 Birth of Baha'u'llah - Baha'i
- 24 United Nations Day
- 31 All Hallows' Eve - Christian

#### NOVEMBER 2017

- 1 All Saints' Day - Christian
- 1 International Day of Tolerance - United Nations
- 4 Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib - Sikh
- 7 Melbourne Cup - Victoria
- 11 Remembrance Day - Commonwealth of Nations, including Australia
- 20 Universal Children's Day - United Nations
- 24 Martyrdom (Shahidi) of Guru Tegh Bahadur - Sikh
- 30 St Andrew's Day - Christian



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### December 2017 – March 2018

#### DECEMBER 2017

- 1 Eid Milad un Nabi - Prophet Muhammad's Birthday - Islam
- 3 First Day of Advent - Christian
- 6 St Nicholas Day - Christian
- 8 Bodhi Day - Enlightenment Day - Buddhist
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Christian
- 10 Human Rights Day - United Nations
- 11 Hanukkah (to 20 Dec) - Festival of Lights - Jewish
- 13 Zula-Khural - Feast of thousands of lamps - Buddhist
- 22 Summer Solstice - Southern Hemisphere
- 25 Christmas Day - Christian
- 26 Boxing Day - Commonwealth of Nations, including Australia
- 26 St Stephen's Day - Christian
- 30 Rizal Day - Philippines
- 31 Hogmanay – Scottish New Year
- 31 New Year's Eve

#### JANUARY 2018

- 1 New Year's Day
- 1 Feast of St Basil - Orthodox Christian
- 1 National Day - Sudan
- 4 Independence Day - Myanmar (Burma)
- 5 Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti Birthday - Sikh (calendar subject to change, consult with Sikh community)
- 6 Epiphany - Christian
- 6 Christmas Day - Armenia
- 7 Orthodox Christmas Day / Genna - Ethiopia
- 14 Orthodox New Year
- 16 Laurent Kabila - Heroes' Day - Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 17 Patrice Lumumba - Heroes' Day - Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 19 Coptic Orthodox Epiphany / Timket - Ethiopia
- 21 World Religion Day - Interfaith
- 26 Australia Day
- 26 Republic Day - India
- 30 Mahayana - Buddhist New Year

#### FEBRUARY 2018

- 3 Setsubun-sai - Shinto - Japan
- 4 Independence Commemoration Day - Sri Lanka
- 6 Waitangi Day - New Zealand
- 9 St Maroun's Feast Day - Maronite Catholic Community
- 10 Fenkil Day - Eritrea
- 11 Anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison in South Africa (1990)
- 13 Anniversary of the National Apology to Australia's Indigenous People (2008)
- 14 St Valentine's Day - Christian
- 14 V-Day - Global activist movement to end violence against women & girls
- 14 Ash Wednesday / First day of Lent - Christian
- 15 Parinirvana Day / Nirvana Day - Buddhist
- 16 Chinese Lunar New Year - Year of the Dog
- 16 Tet - Vietnamese Lunar New Year
- 16 Seollal - Korean Lunar New Year
- 16 Losar - Tibetan New Year - Buddhist
- 17 Independence Day - Kosovo
- 20 Vasant Panchami - Hindu
- 21 International Mother Language Day - United Nations

#### MARCH 2018

- 1 St David's Day - Wales
- 1 Purim - Jewish
- 1 Magha Puja Day / Sangha Day - Great Assembly Day - Buddhist (various dates)
- 1 Holi (to 2 Mar) - Festival of Spring - Hindu
- 3 Hina-Matsuri Day - Doll Festival - Japan
- 17 St Patrick's Day - Ireland
- 20 Nowruz (various spellings) - Persian New Year - Iran, Baha'i, Kurd, Zoroastrian (date may vary)
- 21 Harmony Day - Australia
- 21 Autumnal Equinox - Southern Hemisphere
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - United Nations
- 22 World Day for Water - United Nations
- 25 Maha Shivaratri - The Night of Shiva - Hindu

