

Days of celebration and remembrance

Background Note



Overview

There are many days of celebration and remembrance related to relationships and sexuality. Here are some ways that these days can be incorporated into your school culture and curriculum:

- Add to your school calendar and newsletters with links to relevant information and support sites.
- Display on your classroom board with some information about the importance of the day.
- A 5 minute share with the class, the staff meeting, the assembly, etc.
- A guest speaker on the topic (See [Background teacher notes: Guest speakers](#) for more information).
- A themed morning tea or shared lunch with students, staff, P&C, parents.
- Professional development for staff on a related topic (See [Professional Development](#) for upcoming events and [Agencies](#) for possible presenters).
- Have students or staff share their expertise and/or knowledge on the topic area.
- Read a book to the class on the topic area.
- Decorate an area of your classroom, staff room, school or office.
- Display books on the topic area.
- Watch short videos on the topic area (See [Resource section](#) and filter by topic and video for ideas).
- Listen to music on the topic area.
- Fundraise for the area of support (e.g. ribbons, badges, lanyards and other merchandise that has been created to help fundraise for the day).
- Host a special event (e.g. a colour run, a special assembly, an excursion/incursion, dress-up day, dance).
- Have students and staff share reasons why the day is important to them or why they think the day is important.
- Research the history of the day.

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Days to commemorate

Date	Occasion	What the occasion celebrates and/or commemorates	Links to sites
14 February	Valentine's Day	Celebrating love, affection and romance	kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/valentines-day
14 February	National Condom Day	Promoting condom use and safer sex practices	shq.org.au/national-condom-day-2021/
14 February (week of)	Sexual Health Week	Celebrating and promoting sexual health in its entirety	waids.com/item/1072-wa-sexual-health-week.html
20 March	National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence	Promotes ways to prevent bullying and violence in schools and communities	bullyingnoway.gov.au/preventing-bullying/national-day-of-action-against-bullying-and-violence
21 March	Harmony Day (and week)	Celebrates cultural diversity	www.harmony.gov.au/
31 March	International Transgender Day of Visibility	Celebration of trans pride and awareness, recognising trans and gender diverse experiences and achievements	tdov.org.au/ www.transfolkofwa.org/
15 May	International Day of Families	Promotes awareness of issues relating to	www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-of-families

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Date	Occasion	What the occasion celebrates and/or commemorates	Links to sites
		families with different themes each year	
17 May	International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)	Celebrates LGBTQIA+ people globally and raises awareness for the work still needed to combat discrimination	www.idahobit.org.au/
26 May	National Sorry Day	Acknowledges the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people forcibly removed from their families	www.reconciliation.org.au/
27 May - 3 June	National Reconciliation Week	Celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians	www.reconciliation.org.au/national-reconciliation-week/
First Sunday of July (week)	National Aboriginals and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week	Celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	www.naidoc.org.au/
28 July	World Hepatitis Day	Aims to mobilise action on the	www.worldhepatitisday.org

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		elimination of viral hepatitis through a coordinated response	www.hepatitiswa.com.au/
30 July	International Day of Friendship	Promotes friendship between people, countries, cultures and individuals to inspire peace	www.un.org/en/observances/friendship-day
27 August	Wear It Purple Day	Fosters supportive, safe, empowering and inclusive environments for rainbow (LGBTI+) young people	www.wearitpurple.org/
31 August	International Overdose Awareness Day	Aims to end overdose, remember those who have died	www.overdoseday.com/
4 September	World Sexual Health Day	Raising awareness of sexual health and sexual rights	worldsexualhealth.net/world-sexual-health-day/
First Monday in September (week)	Women's Health Week	Dedicated to all women across Australia to make good health a priority	www.womenshealthweek.com.au/
10 September	R U OK? Day	Raising awareness of mental health and preventing suicide	www.ruok.org.au/join-r-u-ok-day

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November	WA PrideFest	Celebration of LGBTQI+ community - history, presence and future	www.pridewa.com.au
20 November	Transgender Day of Remembrance	Honours the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of transphobic violence	www.transfolkofwa.org
1 December	World AIDS Day	Raises awareness about issues surrounding HIV and AIDS, shows support for people living with HIV and commemorates people who have lost their lives	www.worldaidsday.org.au waids.com
3 December	International Day for People Living with Disability	Aims to increase awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disability and celebrate their achievements and contributions	www.idpwd.com.au

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Postscript

This Background Note relates to the following Learning Activities:

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