

**HA Anniversaries Calendar 2020-21**

Historical anniversaries can be a great way to get engaged in a topical subject, or to raise awareness about a particular issue. This calendar puts together just a selection of the key historical anniversaries coming up over the next 12-18 months to get you started, as well as the regular themed months, plus major national days and seasonal events. The list is by no means exhaustive, simply a starting point. You may find it useful to develop and customise your calendar to include events relevant to your own locality and interests, or if you are in a school, to significant individuals and topics you study.

**2020:**

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| **Month** | **Themed month or week** | **National day/annual** | **Key anniversary** | **Seasonal or cultural anniversary/event** |
| **August 2020** |  | 15 August: 75th anniversary of VJ Day 1945  The Mesoamerican Long Count calendar, used by the Maya, begins 3114 BC | 1 August: 120th Anniversary of The Act of Union 1800 being passed, which merges the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Ireland into the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland 1800  2 August:  30th anniversary of the start of the First Gulf War 1990  6 August:  75 years since the dropping of the first deployed Atomic Bomb 1945  15 August:  75th anniversary of VJ Day 1945 |  |
| **September 2020** | 14 – 20 September: Jeans for Genes week  21 – 27 September: National Recycle Week  28 September – 4 October: Healthy Eating Week | 2-6 September: The Great Fire of London 1666  13 September: Roald Dahl Day  25 September: World’s biggest coffee morning  26 September: International Day of Languages  28 September: Invasion of England by William of Normandy 1066 | 6 September: 400 years since the sailing of the Mayflower 1620 |  |
| **October**  **2020** | Black History Month  Breast Cancer Awareness Month  The Big Draw Festival  International School Library Month  4 – 10 October: National Space Week | 1 October: National Poetry Day  2 October:  Anniversary of the birth of Gandhi 1869  4 October: National Dyslexia Awareness day  4 October: National Grandparents Day  9 October: Independence from Great Britain was achieved in Uganda 1962  14 October: Battle of Hastings 1066  21 October: Battle of Trafalgar 1805  24 October: The eruption of Vesuvius 79 AD  26 October: death of King Alfred 899 AD | 7 October: 100th anniversary of women being able to attend Oxford University as full members to earn degrees 1920 | 31 October: Halloween |
| **November**  **2020** | 9 – 14 November: Maths week  16 – 20 November: Anti- Bullying week  16 – 22 November: Road Safety Week | 8 November: Remembrance Sunday  9 November:  The fall of the Berlin Wall 1989  11 November: Armistice Day  13 November: Children in Need  30 November:  St Andrew’s Day |  | 5November:  Guy Fawkes Night  14 November: Diwali |
| **December**  **2020** |  | 1December:  World Aids Awareness Day  1 December: Rosa Parks arrested for refusing to give up her seat on the bus in Montgomery, Alabama 1955  6 December: The Thirteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution was ratified, abolishing slavery in the US, 1865  10 December: Human Rights Day |  | 25 December: Christmas  10 – 18 December:  Hanukkah |

**2021:**

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| **871 (1250th anniversary)** -King Alfred assumes the crown of England | **1701 (320th anniversary)** - The establishment of the Ashanti Kingdom | **1771 (250th anniversary)** -Richard Arkwright opened the first water powered cotton mill at Cromford | **1831 (190th anniversary)** - *The History of Mary Prince* by Mary Prince was first published - the exact month is unclear |  |
| **January**  **2021** | 25 – 27 January: Big Garden Bird Watch | 8 January:  anniversary of rationing introduced – Second World War 1940  15 January: Elizabeth I is crowned Queen of England in Westminster Abbey 1559  January: Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus is granted the title Augustus by the Roman Senate, marking the beginning of the Roman Empire 27 BCE  18 January: Martin Luther King Day  20 January: The first English parliament to include and representatives of the major towns holds its first meeting in the Palace of Westminster, now commonly known as the “House of Parliament” 1265  27 January:  Holocaust Memorial Day – anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps by the Soviets 1945 | 1 January: 220 year since the legislative Union of Kingdom of Great Britain and Kingdom of Ireland is completed to form the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland 1801  18 January: 150 years since the unification of Germany 1871 | 7 January: Eastern Orthodox Christmas  25 January: Burns Night |
| **February**  **2021** | LGBT History Month  1 February - 8 February: National Storytelling week  14-21 February: National Nestbox Week  22 February: Fairtrade fortnight begins | 4 February:  World Cancer Day  6 February: British women over the age of 30 obtain the right to vote 1918  9 February:  Safer Internet Day  11 February: Henry VIII recognised as Supreme Head of the Church of England 1531  12 February: National Charles Darwin Day |  | 12 February: Chinese New Year  16 February: Shrove Tuesday |
| **March**  **2021** | Women’s History Month  Cancer Awareness Month  5 - 14 March: National Science and Engineering week | 1 March:  St David’s Day  2 March: Alexander II becomes Tsar of Russia 1855  4 March:  World Book Day  4 March:  World Maths Day  8 March: International Women’s Day  8 March: Commonwealth Day  10 March: Charles I dissolves Parliament, beginning his 11-year Personal Rule 1629  21 March: Martin Luther King Jr. leads the third civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery 1965  28 March: Crimean War: France and Britain declare war on Russia 1854 | 12 March: 100th anniversary of the beginning of the Cairo conference discuss the future of the Middle East - Gertrude Bell and TE Lawrence present 1921  29 March: 150th anniversary of the Royal Albert Hall 1871 | 14 March: Mothering Sunday  17 March: St Patrick’s Day |
| **April**  **2021** |  | 2 April: World Autism Day  6 April: the opening of the first modern Olympic Games is celebrated in Athens 1896  7 April:  World Health Day  10 April: The Good Friday Agreement is signed in Northern Ireland  1998  14 April: RMS Titanic hits an iceberg in the North Atlantic (sinks morning of April 15) 1912  15 April:  Liberation of Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp by the British Forces 1945  22 April:  Earth Day  23 April:  St George’s Day  23 April: World Book Day  23 April: King Charles II is crowned in Westminster Abbey 1661 | 3 April: 300th anniversary of Robert Walpole MP becoming the First British Prime Minister 1721  16 April: 275th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden | 4 April: Easter Sunday  12 April: Start of Ramadan |
| **May**  **2021** | Local and Community History Month  3-9 May:  Deaf Awareness Week  16-22 May: Mental Health Awareness Week  20-25 May: Walk to school Week | 6-12 May: King Alfred defeats the Viking Army 878 AD  8 May:  VE Day anniversary 1945  11 May: Alexander becomes Emperor of the Byzantine Empire 912  12 May:  Birth of Florence Nightingale 1820 – National Nurses Day  30 May: Founding of the European Space Agency 1975 | 4 May: 550th anniversary of the Battle of Tewkesbury 1471 – The Wars of the Roses  5 May: 200th anniversary of the death of Napoleon Bonaparte 1821  30 May: 640th Anniversary of the Beginning of the Peasants’ Revolt in England 1381 | Historical Association Conference |
| **June**  **2021** | 1-7 June: National Volunteering Week  3 – 10 June: Child Safety Week  18 – 24 June: Refugee Week | 2 June: The coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, the first major international event to be televised 1953  7 June: First Crusade: The Siege of Jerusalem begins 1099  8 June: Death of Emily Davison at Epsom for the Kings Horse 1913  8 June: First of the Viking attacks on Lindisfarne AD 793  12 June: Anniversary of the birth of Anne Frank 1929  15 June: Magna Carta sealed by King John 1215  22 June:  Dismantling of Checkpoint Charlie 1990  22 June: Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in Essex 1948  23 June: National Writing Day  25 June:  The start of the Korean War 1950  27 June:  National Armed Forces Day |  | 15 June: Father’s Day |
| **July**  **2021** |  | July-October 1665: Peak of the Great Plague of London  1 July:  Start of the Battle of the Somme 1916  1 July: Canada Day  10 July: Start of the Battle of Britain 1940  14 July: French Revolution: Citizens of Paris storm the Bastille 1789  17 July: Start of the Potsdam Conference 1945, Second World War  17 July: Spanish Civil War begins 1936  25 July: George Stephenson builds the first practical steam locomotive 1814 | 150th anniversary of Rome becoming the capital of Italy making the Risorgimento or unification complete 1871  10 July:  100 years since Belfast’s Bloody Sunday, 1921 | 14 July: Bastille Day (France)  19-23 July: Eid |
| **August 2021** |  | 6 August:  Dropping of the first deployed Atomic Bomb 1945  The Mesoamerican Long Count calendar, used by the Maya, begins 3114 BC  15 August:  VJ Day 1945 | 6 August: 30 years since Tim Berners-Lee releases files describing his idea for the World Wide Web 1991  21August: 230th anniversary since start of the Haitian revolution 1791 |  |
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| **October 2021** | Black History Month | 2 October:  Anniversary of the birth of Gandhi 1869  9 October: Independence from Great Britain was achieved in Uganda 1962  14 October: Battle of Hastings 1066  21 October: Battle of Trafalgar 1805  24 October: The eruption of Vesuvius 79 AD  25 October 1415: Battle of Agincourt  26 October: death of King Alfred 899 AD  29 October: Stock Market Crash of ’29: the start of the Great Depression in the United States |  |  |
| **November 2021** |  | 9 November:  The fall of the Berlin Wall 1991  11 November: Armistice Day  14 November: Remembrance Sunday  30 November:  St Andrew’s Day | 10 November: 250th anniversary of meeting of missionary Stanley and explorer Livingstone near Lake Tanganyika 1871  November: 90 years since Mao Zedong declares the Chinese Soviet Republic (Jiangxi Soviet) 1931 | 4 November: Diwali  5November:  Guy Fawkes Night |
| **December 2021** |  | 1December:  World Aids Awareness Day  1 December: Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on the bus in Montgomery, Alabama 1955  6 December: The Thirteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution was ratified, abolishing slavery in the United States 1865  10 December: World Human Rights Day | 26 December: 30th anniversary of the dissolution of the USSR 1991 | 25 December: Christmas  28 November – 6 December: Hanukkah |