

Dates for your Diary for the new School Year 2020/21

Compiled by Ciara Reilly

September

- **Read A Book Day**, Sunday 6 September - <https://nationaltoday.com/national-read-book-day/>
- **Roald Dahl Day**, Sunday 13 September - <https://www.roalddahl.com/>
- **International Dot Day**, Tuesday 15 September - <http://www.thedotclub.org/dotday/>
- **National Ploughing Championships**, Co Carlow (taking place without exhibition), Tuesday 15 - Thursday 17 September - <https://www.npa.ie/>
- **Culture Night**, Friday 18 September - <https://www.culturenight.ie/>
- **International 'Talk Like A Pirate' Day**, Saturday 19 September - https://www.ducksters.com/holidays/talk_like_a_pirate_day.php
- **Blue Star Programme**, registration usually closes third week of September - <https://www.bluestarprogramme.ie/>
- **International Day of Peace**, Monday 21 September - <https://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/>
- **Autumn Equinox**, Tuesday 22 September - <https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/seasons.html>
- **European School Sports Day**, Friday 25 September - <https://www.irishprimarype.com/>
- **European Day of Languages**, Saturday 26 September - <https://edl.ecml.at>

October

- **FÉILTE 2020** (taking place online), Saturday 3 October - <https://www.teachingcouncil.ie/en/FEILTE/>
- **World Animal Day**, Sunday 4 October - <https://www.worldanimalday.org.uk/>
- **World Space Week**, Sunday 4 October - Saturday 10 October - <https://www.worldspaceweek.org/> ; <https://spaceweek.ie/>
- **World Teachers' Day**, Monday 5 October - <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>
- **UEFA Euro 2020** qualification playoffs, including the Republic of Ireland, Thursday 8 October - <https://www.fai.ie/>
- **EU Code Week**, Saturday 10 - Sunday 25 October - <https://codeweek.eu/>
- **World Homeless Day**, Saturday 10 October <http://www.worldhomelessday.org/> (also Focus Ireland Resources)
- **Maths Week**, Saturday 10 - Sunday 18 October - <https://www.mathsweek.ie/>
- **Climate Action Week**, Monday 12 - Sunday 18 October - <https://greenschoolsireland.org/>
- **Global Handwashing Day**, Thursday 15 October - <https://globalhandwashing.org/>
- **World Food Day**, Friday 16 October - <http://www.fao.org/world-food-day/home/en/>
- **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**, Saturday 17 October - <https://www.17october.ie/>
- **RBS Six Nations 2020 resumes** (Ireland v Italy, in Dublin), Saturday 24 October - <https://www.sixnationsrugby.com/>
- **Clocks go back an hour** (2am to 1am), Sunday 25 October
- **Hallowe'en**, Saturday 31 October

November

- **Outdoor Classroom Day** (Autumn edition), Thursday 5 November - <https://outdoorclassroomday.com/>
- **Literacy Association of Ireland Annual Conference**, DCU, Friday 6 - Saturday 7 November - <https://www.literacyireland.com/>
- **International Tongue Twister Day**, Sunday 8 November
- **Science Week**, Sunday 8 - Sunday 15 November - <https://www.scienceweek.ie/>
- **Goal 'Write the Future' writing competition**, dates tbc, but closing date is usually the second week of November - <https://www.goalglobal.org/write-the-future>
- **Origami Day**, Wednesday 11 November - <https://www.origami-instructions.com/>
- **World Fisheries Day**, Saturday 21 November - https://www.gdrc.org/doyourbit/21_11-fisheries-day.html
- **Library Week Ireland**, dates tbc, but usually end November/early December - <http://libraryirelandweek.ie/>
- **Thanksgiving (USA)**, Thursday 26 November
- **Green Flag Award** application deadline (for those applying for their first flag, tbc), Friday 27 November - <https://greenschoolsireland.org/green-schools-2019-2020/>
- **Advent**, Sunday 29 November - Thursday 24 December

December

- **Birthday of Walt Disney**, Saturday 5 December
- **All-Ireland Camogie Finals**, Saturday 12 December - <https://www.camogie.ie/>
- **All-Ireland Hurling Final**, Sunday 13 December - <https://www.gaa.ie/>
- **All-Ireland Men's Football Final**, Saturday 19 December - <https://www.gaa.ie/>
- **All-Ireland Ladies Football Final**, Sunday 20 December - <https://www.ladiesgaelic.ie/>
- **Winter Solstice**, Monday 21 December - <https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/seasons.html>
- **Christmas Day**, Friday 25 December - Christmas resources available from <https://nollaigshona.ie/>
- **New Year's Eve**, Thursday 31 December

January

- **New Year's Day**, Friday 1 January
- **World Braille Day**, Monday 4 January - <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/world-braille-day/>
- **Nollaig na mBan** (The Epiphany/Little Christmas), Wednesday 6 January
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**, Monday 18 January - https://www.calendardate.com/martin_luther_king_day_2021.htm
- **International Share a Compliment Day**, Sunday 24 January - <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/compliment-day>
- **Catholic Schools Week** (tbc), Sunday 24 - Sunday 31 January - <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/catholicschoolsweek/>
- **Australia Day**, Tuesday 26 January
- **Backwards Day**, Sunday 31 January - <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/backward-day/>
- **Storytelling Week** (UK), Saturday 30 January - Saturday 6 February - <https://www.sfs.org.uk/national-storytelling-week>

February

- **Lá Fhéile Bríde**, Monday 1 February
- Ireland's first game in the **2021 RBS Six Nations** (against Wales in Cardiff), Sunday 7 February - <https://www.sixnationsrugby.com/>
- **Safer Internet Day**, Tuesday 9 February - <https://www.saferinternetday.ie/>
- **Chinese New Year** (Year of the Ox), Friday 12 February - <https://www.dublinchinesenewyear.com/>
- **Valentine's Day**, Sunday 14 February
- **Pancake Day/Shrove Tuesday**, Tuesday 16 February
- **Ash Wednesday**, Wednesday 17 February
- **Green Schools Exhibition**, RDS Dublin, if taking place, usually on a Thursday in late February - <https://greenschoolsireland.org/>
- **Texaco Art Competition**, dates tbc, but deadline for entries is usually end of February - <https://www.texacochildrensart.com/>
- **Computers in Education Society of Ireland (CESI) Annual Conference**, dates tbc, but usually end February/early March - <http://www.cesi.ie/>
- **Engineer's Week**, Saturday 27 February - Friday 5 March - <https://www.engineersireland.ie/Schools/Engineers-Week/About-Engineers-Week>
- **Rare Disease Day**, Sunday 28 February - <https://www.rarediseaseday.org/>

March

- **World Compliment Day**, Monday 1 March - <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/world-compliment-day>
- **Seachtain na Gaeilge**, Luan 1ú – Céadaoin 17ú Márta - <https://snag.ie/>
- **RDS/ESB "Science Blast" Primary Science Fair**, RDS Dublin, dates tbc, but was scheduled for first week of March last year - <https://esb.ie/acting-responsibly/generation-tomorrow/esb-science-blast>
- **World Book Day Ireland**, Thursday 4 March - <https://www.worldbookday.com/>
- **International Women's Day**, Monday 8 March - <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>
- **Mothers' Day**, Sunday 14 March
- **St Patrick's Day**, Wednesday 17 March
- **Green Schools Water Poster Competition 2021**, dates tbc, but deadline for entries is usually late March - <https://greenschoolsireland.org/>
- **Tech Week Ireland**, dates tbc, but usually late March/early April - <https://www.techweek.ie/>
- **Spring Equinox**, Saturday 20 March - <https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/seasons.html>
- **National Tree Week** (tbc), Saturday 20 - Saturday 27 March - <http://www.treeday.ie/>
- **Nowruz Day** (Middle Eastern new year/spring holiday), Sunday 21 March - <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-nowruz-day>
- **World Poetry Day**, Sunday 21 March - <https://www.un.org/en/events/poetryday/>
- **World Water Day**, Monday 22 March - <https://www.unwater.org/>
- **World Meteorological Day**, Tuesday 23 March - <https://public.wmo.int/en/resources/world-meteorological-day>; <https://www.met.ie/>
- **National Tree Week**, dates tbc, but usually late March - <https://www.treecouncil.ie>
- **Green Flag Award** (application deadline (for those applying for their second and subsequent flag, tbc), Friday 26 March - <https://greenschoolsireland.org/green-schools-2019-2020/>
- **Clocks go forward** (1am to 2am), Sunday 28 March
- **Holy Week**, Sunday 28 March - Saturday 3 April

April

- **April Fool's Day**, Thursday 1 April
- **World Autism Awareness Day**, Friday 2 April - <https://autism.ie/>; <https://asiam.ie/>
- **Easter Sunday**, Sunday 4 April
- **Earth Day**, Thursday 22 April - <https://www.earthday.org/>
- **Shakespeare Day**, Friday 23 April - <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/uk/shakespeare-day>
- **International Jazz Day**, Friday 30 April - <https://jazzday.com/>

May

- **Europe Day**, Sunday 9 May - https://ec.europa.eu/ireland/events/europe-day_en
- **National 'Walk to School' week**, dates tbc, usually second/third week of May - <https://www.greenschoolsireland.org/>
- **RDS/ESB "Science Blast" Primary Science Fair**, Limerick, dates tbc, but was scheduled for third week of May last year - <https://www.esbscienceblast.com/>
- **Outdoor Classroom Day** (Summer edition, tbc), Thursday 20 May - <https://outdoorclassroomday.com/>
- **Water Safety Week**, various awareness weeks organised on a regional basis in summer months - <https://www.iws.ie/>

June

- **World Environment Day**, Saturday 5 June - <https://worldenvironmentday.global/>
- **RDS/ESB "Science Blast" Primary Science Fair**, Belfast, dates tbc, but was scheduled for first week of June last year - <https://www.esbscienceblast.com/>
- **World Oceans Day**, Tuesday 8 June - <https://worldoceansday.org/>
- **UEFA Euro 2020 begins** (Dublin is one of 12 host cities; first game at Aviva Stadium is June 14th), Friday 11 June - <https://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro-2020/>
- **Bike Week**, dates tbc, but usually mid-late June - <http://www.bikeweek.ie/>
- **Fathers' Day**, Sunday 20 June
- **International Music Day**, Monday 21 June - <https://globaldimension.org.uk/event/world-music-day-fete-de-la-musique/2021-06-21/>
- **Summer Solstice**, Monday 21 June - <https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/seasons.html>
- **FÍS Film Festival**, dates tbc, but deadline for submission is usually the end of June - <https://www.fisfilmproject.ie/>

Ciara Reilly is an Assistant Lecturer in Education in ICT and Digital Education in Marino Institute of Education. You can follow her on Twitter @PrimEdTeacher