

DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY

1

Read a New Book Month: Set a challenge for your students – and yourself – this month to read at least one book you’ve never read before. Be sure to share what you read!

MONDAY

2

Inclusive Schools Week: Celebrate the progress made in providing a supportive education to an increasingly diverse student population. Check out Inclusive Schools Network’s **online resources** for activities and downloads.

TUESDAY

3

Clean Up! Give back to Bancroft and clean up wherever it is needed. Pick up trash you find on the floor and throw it out.

WEDNESDAY

4

Send a Card: Create a card to send to a hospitalized child. Visit **Cards for Hospitalized Kids** for more information.

THURSDAY

5

International Volunteer Day: Do something! Team up with a local nonprofit or relief center in order to do more good from your classroom, library, or school. Visit **DoSomething.org** for more ways to help.

FRIDAY

6

Card for a Bus Driver: Make a homemade card for your bus driver(s) and thank them for getting you places safely every day.

SATURDAY

7

Share a Toy: Choose new or gently used toys to donate to a toy drive.

8

Create a Thank You Basket: Fill a basket with small gifts & pre-made thank you notes. Every time you see someone who does you a service, give them one to honor their service.

9

Universal Human Rights Month: Youth for Human Rights has a free interactive course for students to “introduce you to your human rights so you will know them and defend them for yourself and others.”

10

Human Rights Day: On this 71st anniversary of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, unite with voices around the world in standing up for equality, justice, and human dignity.

11

Share the Spirit: Give a friend or sibling Spirit Wear t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, or other items that you’ve outgrown.

12

Gift of Friendliness: Smile! Give a wave, share a story, draw a cheery picture and give it to a friend.

13

Help Those in Need: Make **“on the go”** bags to give to those who ask for handouts (**be sure to read what people really want in care bags**).

14

Gift of Reading: Donate books to a local library, school, hospital, doctor’s office or other common area in your community.

15

National Hi Neighbor Month: Do something kind for your neighbors this month. Learn who lives by you and offer to help them when the opportunity arises.

16

Chocolate-Covered Anything Day: Chocolate lovers go wild! Today’s your day. Of course, you can always go silly by trying to have students guess what common school supplies you’ve dipped in chocolate!

17

Make a New Friend: Introduce yourself to someone in school you don’t know.

18

Gift of Connection: Call or FaceTime someone that you love.

19

Letter to a Mail Carrier: Write a letter to your local mail carrier and thank them for their service.

20

Feed the Animals: Donate food to an animal shelter. It’s a good idea to call ahead and see what food is best or if they have special needs.

21

Yule Begins: These **Great Ways to Celebrate Yule With Kids** include doing something good for someone else and creating something new.

22

Hanukkah Begins at Sunset: Share **Hanukkah Haiku** by Harriet Ziefert, illustrated by Karla Gudeon, which uses the traditional Japanese poetic form to celebrate the eight nights of Hanukkah.

23

Write to a Friend Month: Help students to write to someone in another school, near or far away. Making a connection through writing can provide the means to make more meaningful connections with others.

24

Teacher Appreciation: Teachers are an important person in a child’s life. Show how much you care by writing thank you notes to your teachers.

25

Christmas Day: Do you know of any readers who plot to stay up and finally catch Santa Claus at work? **The Great Santa Stakeout** by Betsy Bird, illustrated by Dan Santat, will be just the right book for them!

26

Kwanzaa Begins: Learn more about Kwanzaa by visiting the **official Kwanzaa website** or in a book such as **Seven Spools of Tread: A Kwanzaa Story** by Angela Shelf Medearis, illustrated by Daniel Minter.

27

Give a Bookmark: Make homemade bookmarks to leave in library books. Write a note to let them know it should be used and shared.

28

National Card Playing Day: It’s rare to see kids with a deck of cards these days. These **12 Classic Card Games to Teach the Kids** might change that, beating boredom hands down. Hal

29

National Stress-Free Family Holiday Month: The holiday season can be stressful for you and your family members for many different reasons. Consider these tips for **Maintaining Mental Wellness During the Holidays**.

30

Gift of Music: Sing a song to make someone’s day. Have an impromptu dance party!

31

New Year’s Eve: As 2019 comes to a close, help kids make **smart resolutions** for the new year using these tips.

When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.

Maya Angelou

A MONTH OF GIVING