



# THE BOOKSELLING YEAR 2026

## RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS

**January**  
3 Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)  
6 Theophany (Orthodox Christian)  
6 Epiphany (Christian)  
7 Christmas (Eastern Orthodox Christianity)  
16 Lailat-al-Miraj (Islam)  
20 Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti (Sikh)  
23 Vasant Panchami (Hindu)

**February**  
15 Maha Shivratri (Hindu)  
15 Nirvana Day (Buddhist)  
18 Ramadan begins (Islam)

18-2 April Lent (Christian)  
18 Ash Wednesday (Christian)

**March**  
3 Magha Puja (Buddhist)  
3 Purim (Jewish)  
4 Holi (Hindu)  
4-6 Hola Mohalla (Sikh)  
20 Eid al-Fitr (Islam)  
29 Palm Sunday (Christian)

**April**  
2-9 Pesach (Passover) (Jewish)  
3 Good Friday (Christian)

5 Easter Sunday (Christian)  
10 Great & Holy Friday (Orthodox Christian)  
12 Pascha/Easter Day (Orthodox Christian)  
13 Theravada New Year (Buddhist)  
13-15 Songkran (Water Festival) (Buddhist)  
14 Vaisakhi/Baisakhi (Spring Festival) (Sikh)

**May**  
1 Wesak (Buddhist)  
14 Ascension Day (Christian)  
22-23 Shavuot (Jewish)  
24 Pentecost/Whitsun (Christian)  
24-29 Hajj (Islam)  
27 Eid al-Adha (Islam)

**June**  
16 Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh)  
26 Ashura (Islam [Shia])

**July**  
29 Guru Purnima (Hindu)

**August**  
13-15 Obon (Buddhist)  
15 Dormition of the Mother of God (Orthodox Christian)  
15 Assumption Day (Christian)  
26 Mawlid al-Nabi (Islam)  
28 Raksha Bandhan/Rakhi (Hindu)

**September**  
4 Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu)  
12-13 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)  
21 Yom Kippur (Jewish)  
26-2 October Sukkot (Tabernacles) (Jewish)

**October**  
3 Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)  
3-4 Simchat Torah (Jewish)  
20 Vijaya Dashami/Dussehra (Hindu)

**November**  
8 Diwali (Hindu)  
8 Bandi Chhor Divas (Sikh)  
24 Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji (Sikh)  
24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh)

**December**  
4-12 Hanukkah (Jewish)  
8 Bodhi Day (Buddhist)  
25 Christmas Day (Christian)

We'd love to see your window displays marking the seasonal dates shown on the wallchart. Please scan the QR code to share your photos on The Booksellers Network Facebook Group.



JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER			
M										1	1-30 Pride Month; Bank Holiday (Ireland)											M			
T										2												T			
W										3												W			
T	1	New Year's Day; Bank Holiday (UK and Ireland); National Year of Reading								4												T			
F	2	Bank Holiday (Scotland)								5												F			
S	3									6												S			
S	4	World Braille Day	1-28 Bookshop.org's <i>Read it Forward</i> : LGBTQ+ History Month	1	St David's Day (Wales); 1-31 Women's History Month					7												W			
M	5	2	St Brigid's Day – Bank Holiday (Ireland)	2						8												M			
T	6	3								9												T			
W	7	4	Westminster Book Awards; KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards: shortlist announcement	4	Nero Book Awards: winner announced; Women's Prize for Fiction: longlist announcement; Holi (Festival of Colours, Love and Spring) (Hindu); 4-6 Holi Mohalla (Sikh)	5				10	Women's Prize: live festival & shortlist readings	8	Bookselling Wales Conference – date to be announced	1	1-31 Women in Translation Month	2	1	1-31 Black History Month; National Poetry Day	2		2	W			
T	8	5	World Book Day	9						11	Women's Prize: non-fiction and fiction winners announced	9					3	Summer Bank Holiday (Scotland and Ireland)	7	3	1-30 Movember	4	4-12 Hanukkah	F	
F	9	6	6	10						12							4	International Literacy Day	6	5	2	7	11	M	
S	10	7	7	11						13	13-20 Independent Bookshop Week	11					5	11-20 The Jane Austen Festival (Bath)	9	6	10	12	11	S	
S	11	11-13 Top Drawer Exhibition (Olympia, London)	8	8	International Women's Day	12				14							6	Bookshop Day; World Mental Health Day	10	7	12	13	11	F	
M	12	9	9-10 Irish Book Trade Conference (Waterford)	9	10-12 London Book Fair (Olympia, London); The Booksellers Association AGM	13				15							7	11-20 The Jane Austen Festival (Bath)	11	12	13	14	12	M	
T	13	10	Nero Book Awards: category winners announced	10	14	Jhalak Prize: shortlist announcement				16	Bloomsday	14					8	Roald Dahl Day	12	9	10	15	14	T	
W	14	11	Women's Prize for Non-Fiction: longlist announced	11	15	World Art Day				17							9		11	14	15	16	13	W	
T	15	12		12	16				18							10		12	13	17	15	16	17	T	
F	16	13		13	17				19							11		13	14	18	16	17	18	F	
S	17	14	Valentine's Day; International Book Giving Day	14	18				20							12	15-30 Edinburgh International Book Festival	19	17	18	19	18	19	S	
S	18	15	15	15	Mother's Day	16			21	Father's Day; Summer Solstice	18					13	20-21 BA Conference and Gartners Trade Show (Hinckley, Leicestershire)	19	17	18	19	20	20	S	
M	19	16	16-20 Neurodiversity Celebration Week	16	20	KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards: winners announcement			22	Windrush Day	20					14	14-20 National Inclusion Week	19	16	17	21	22	21	M	
T	20	17	Chinese New Year	17	21	St Patrick's Day; Bank Holiday (Ireland and Northern Ireland); Jhalak Prize: longlist announced (10th anniversary)			23	International Booker Prize: winner announced	21					15		22	23	24	25	23	24	T	
W	21	18	Ash Wednesday; Ramadan begins (Islam)	18	22	Women's Prize for Fiction: shortlist announcement			24	National Writing Day	22					16		23	24	25	26	24	25	W	
T	22	19		19	23	Shakespeare Day; St George's Day			25	21-31 Hay Festival (Hay-on-Wye, Wales)	23	Last day for Batch Authorisations	24			17		25	26	27	28	26	27	T	
F	23	20	20	20	Eid al-Fitr (Islam)	24			26	22-23 Shavuot (Jewish); Sherlock Holmes Day	24		25		18		26	27	28	29	27	28	29	F	
S	24	21	21	21	World Poetry Day	25			27		25		26		19		27	28	29	30	28	29	30	S	
S	25	22	Burns Night (Scotland)	22	26				28		26		27		20		28	29	30	31	29	30	31	S	
M	26	23		23	27	Last day for Batch Authorisations			29		27		28		21		28	29	30	31	29	30	31	M	
T	27	24	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	24	28	Last day for Batch Authorisations			30		28	Booker Prize: longlist announced	29	Last day for Batch Authorisations		24		29	30	31	30	29	30	T	
W	28	25	Harper North Social	25	29	Women's Prize for Non-Fiction: shortlist announced			31		29		30		25		30	31	32	33	31	32	33	W	
T	29	26		26	30	Last day for Batch Authorisations			32		30		31		26		31	32	33	34	32	33	34	T	
F	30	27		27	31	World Theatre Day			33		31		32		27		32	33	34	35	33	34	35	F	
S	31	28	Self Assessment Tax Deadline	28	32	Earth Hour (8.30-9.30pm)			34		30	National Creativity Day	31			28		33	34	35	36	34	35	36	S
S		29		29					35		31					29		34	35	36	37	35	36	37	S
M		30		30		International Booker Prize: shortlist announced; Transgender Day of Visibility			36		31					30		35	36	37	38	36	37	38	M
T		31		31					37		31					31		36	37	38	39	37	38	39	T