Calendar 2020

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
Here at the IET, we are dedicated to demonstrating our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI), and advocating inclusivity in engineering is a crucial element to addressing the skills shortage that currently threatens UK industry. We recognise the importance of promoting equal opportunities for all and ensuring that all processes across the organisation are inclusive.

As one of the largest PEIs in the world; we have a duty to promote engineering to everybody and encourage organisations to do more around promoting the importance of embracing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. It is important that we demonstrate that we are a welcoming and inclusive engineering institution where everybody has an equal opportunity to succeed.

Our first multi-year Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy launched in October 2019. The strategy validates our efforts to embed EDI throughout the institution and shows that our efforts are joined up and are fundamental to us achieving wider change.

Adopting methods that enable us to recruit from all sections of society allows us to widen the talent pool, inspire a broader range of individuals and show that engineering is for everybody.

This calendar for 2020 highlights major key dates and religious holidays that we as an institution celebrate. The calendar also outlines our many events that happen throughout the year that we hope to welcome many of you to.
This month can also be referred to as Dry January. This is an annual movement through which millions of people give up alcohol for the month. Run by the charity, Alcohol Change UK, a drier January can give you more energy, a healthier body, better sleep and a whole load more benefits!

Technology is changing our world and on 6 January, it’s National Technology Day! On this day, we recognise and celebrate achievements in the field of technology and look to the future.

11 January is International Thank You Day, so we want to thank you for taking the time to look at our calendar and we hope you find it useful.
January

1 New Year’s Day/Hogmanay, Gantan-Sai (Shinto), Mary, Mother of God (Christian) World Day of Peace
2 Bank Holiday (Scotland)
3 Vasant Panchami (Hindu)
4 World Braille Day
5 Twelfth Night (Christian)
6 Epiphany (Christian), Theophany (Orthodox), National Technology Day
7 Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox)
8 Feast of the Holy Family (Christian)
10 Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
11 International Thank You Day
12 Baptism of the Lord Jesus (Christian)
14 Orthodox New Year, Makar Sankranti (Hindu), Maghi (Sikh)
15 Makarsankranti/Pongal (Hindu)
18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Christian) (18-25)
19 World Religion Day
20 Timkat (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian), Martin Luther King Day
25 Chinese New Year, Conversion of St. Paul (Christian), Burns Night (Scotland)
27 Holocaust Memorial Day
29 Vasant Panchami (Hindu)

Dry January
Veganuary

SPECIAL DAYS
11 February is National Inventors’ Day! Thanks to inventors and their creative minds, we can safely ride in an elevator, have a well-lit room at the flip of a switch and speak to someone on the other side of the world in a split second. Many inventors go their whole life without recognition for their innovations, so we want to recognise and shine a spotlight on those who have added to our lives.

February also includes National Random Acts of Kindness Day which we encourage across the organisation. “No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” Aesop.
February

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National Heart Month
LGBT History Month

SPECIAL DAYS

1  World Hijab Day, Imbolc (Pagan and Wiccan)
2  Candlemas (Christian), Four Chaplains Sunday (Interfaith)
3  Setsuban (Shinto), St. Blaise’s Day (Christian), National Apprenticeship Week (3-7)
4  World Cancer Day
5  Safer Internet Day
6  Time to Talk Day
8  Magha Puja Day (Buddhist), Thaipusam (Hindu)
9  Triodion begins (Orthodox Christian)
10  Tu B’Shevat (Arbor Day - Jewish Holiday), International Epilepsy Day
11  International Day of Women and Girls in Science, World Day of the Sick, National Inventors’ Day
12  Triodion (Orthodox Christian), Red Hand Day for Child Soldiers
14  Valentine’s Day
15  International Childhood Cancer Day, Nirvana Day (Buddhism)
20  World Day of Social Justice
21  Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)
22  World Thinking Day
23  The Sunday of Last Judgement (Orthodox Christian), Transfiguration Sunday (Christian)
25  Carnival/Shrove Tuesday (Christian), Ayyám-i-Há begins (Baha’i)
26  Carnival/Ash Wednesday (Christian)
29  Rare Disease Day, Ayyám-i-Há ends (Baha’i)
8 March is International Women’s Day! We celebrate this special day each year by recognising the achievements of women throughout the world. An equal world is an enabled world and we can actively choose to challenge stereotypes, fight bias, broaden perceptions and improve situations. Collectively, every single one of us can help to create a gender equal world.

The beginning of March is British Science Week; a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics!

The end of March also marks National Equal Pay Day! Taking place in March, this month symbolises how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year.
### March

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**Red Cross Month**  
**Prostate Cancer Awareness Month**  
**Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month**

**SPECIAL DAYS**

1. St David’s Day (Wales), Intercalary Days end (Baha’i), Self Injury Awareness Day (SIAD), Zero Discrimination Day, International Wheelchair Day, Cheesefare Sunday (Orthodox Christian)
2. Clean Monday - Great Lent begins (Orthodox Christian), 2-20 Nineteen Day Fast (Baha’i)
3. World Hearing Day
4. World Engineering Day
5. World Book Day
6. British Science Week (6-15)
8. Orthodox Sunday (Orthodox Christian), International Women’s Day, Launch of the IET Young Woman Engineer of the Year Awards
9. Holika Dahan (Hindu), Purim (Jewish)
10. Holi (Hindu), Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
16. Neurodiversity Celebration Week (16-20)
17. St Patrick’s Day
18. Global Recycling Day
19. St Joseph’s Day (Christian)
20. International Day of Happiness, Norooz (New Year) (Persian/Zoroastrian), Naw-Rúz (New Year) (Baha’i)
22. Mothering Sunday, World Water Day
24. World Tuberculosis (TB) Day
25. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian), Ugadi /Gudi Padwa/Telugu New Year (Hindu), Hindi New Year (Hindu)
26. Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zarathushtra) (Zoroastrian)
29. Daylight Saving Time starts
30. World Bipolar Day, World Autism Awareness Week

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IET The Institution of Engineering and Technology
The beginning of April is World Autism Awareness Day, an internationally recognised day encouraging everyone to raise awareness about people with Autism around the world.

22 April marks National Earth Day all about supporting environmental protection. Every year around the world, Earth Day organisers promote green campaigns to save the Earth.
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<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>April Fool’s Day</th>
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<td>Edinburgh Science Festival (4-19)</td>
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<td>Palm Sunday (Christian)</td>
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<td>Mahavir Jayanti (Jain)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>World Health Day, Lord’s Evening Meal (Jehovah’s Witnesses Christian)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Hanuman Jayanti (Hindu), International Rhomani Day Pesach (Jewish) (8-16)</td>
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<td>Maundy Thursday, First Day of Passover (Jewish holiday), Theravadin New Year (Buddhist)</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Holy Saturday, World Parkinson’s Day</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Easter Monday, Baisakhi (Vaisakhi) (Sikh)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Vaisakhi/Baisakhi/ Vishu (Hindu), Bengali New Year/Bihu (Hindu), Tamil New Year (Hindu)</td>
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<td>International Microvolunteering Day</td>
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<td>Last Day of Passover (Jewish Holiday)</td>
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<td>Orthodox Good Friday</td>
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<td>Orthodox Holy Saturday</td>
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<td>Orthodox Easter</td>
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<td>Orthodox Easter Monday Yom HaShoah (Jewish), First Day of Ridvan (Baha’i)</td>
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<td>Lailat al Bara’ah (Islam)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Stephen Lawrence Day, National Earth Day, Ramadam Start (Islam)</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>St. George’s Day, Shakespeare Day</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>World Malaria Day</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Akshaya Tritiya (Hindu)</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>World Day for Health &amp; Safety at Work, Ninth Day of Ridvan (Baha’i)</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Yom HaAtzmaut (Jewish holiday)</td>
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The annual Green Ribbon Campaign takes place every May and aims to get people talking openly about common mental health problems. This campaign promotes open conversations about mental health and challenges the associated stigma that sometimes come with it.

The end of May marks World Multiple Sclerosis Day; a day to celebrate global solidarity and hope for the future. Events and campaigns take place throughout May, bringing the global MS community together to share stories, raise awareness and campaign for everyone affected by multiple sclerosis.
### SPECIAL DAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Note</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Beltane - Samhain (Wicca/Pagan Northern and Southern hemispheres), Twelfth Day of Ridvan</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Saints Philip &amp; James (Christian), World Press Freedom Day</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Red Cross Week</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Vesak - Buddha Day (Buddhist), National Day of Prayer USA (Interfaith)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Early May Bank Holiday/VE Day, World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Women’s Health Week (10-16)</td>
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<td>International Nurses Day, Lag B’Omer (Jewish Holiday)</td>
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<td>International Day of Families</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Laylat al Qadr (Islam)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>International Day for Biological Diversity, Savitri Pooja (Hindu)</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Declaration of the Bab (Baha’i)</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan) (Islam)</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Spring Bank Holiday</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>World Hunger Day, Ascension Day (Christian), Shavuot (Jewish holiday), Ascension of Jesus (Orthodox Christian)</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Ascension of Baha’u’llah (Baha’i), International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Pentecost (Christian), World No-Tobacco Day</td>
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</table>
June is LGBT Pride month where we celebrate the heritage of the LGBTQ+ community and its triumph over adversity. Events are held throughout the summer across the world in honour of the celebration.

International Women in Engineering Day also takes place in June; an international awareness campaign to raise the profile of women in engineering and focus attention on the amazing career opportunities available to girls in this exciting industry.

The end of June marks Armed Forces Day where we commemorate the service of the men and women in the British Armed Forces.
June

**SPECIAL DAYS**

2. International Day of Innocent Children, Victims of Aggression
3. World Environment Day
4. Trinity Sunday (Christian), Orthodox Whit Sunday (Orthodox Christian), Cancer Survivors Day
5. Orthodox Whit Monday (Orthodox Christian)
6. Corpus Christi (Christian)
7. World Day against Child Labour
8. Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib (Sikh)
9. Refugee Week, World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
10. Armed Forces Day
11. Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul (Christian)

**Pride Month**

**National Osteoporosis Month**
Disability Awareness Day takes place in July aiming to raise awareness of disability and heart related long-term conditions. We’re proud to be a Disability Confident Committed employer demonstrating that we value the contribution of individuals with disabilities and we are currently working towards becoming a Disability Confident Leader.

The global movement to reduce plastic pollution takes place in July – it’s a plastic free month where we look at solutions and ideas to help reduce plastic waste in your life.

17 July also marks World Emoji Day!
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Plastic Free July
International Group B Strept Awareness Month

SPECIAL DAYS

4 US Independence Day
5 Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist), Guru Purnima (Hindu)
6 YWE closes for entries
9 Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha’i)
11 World Population Day
12 Battle of the Boyne (northern Ireland), Orangemans Day, Disability Awareness Day
13 World Youth Skills Day
14 World Day for International Justice, World Emoji Day
15 Nelson Mandela International Day
23 Pioneer Day (Morman Christian), Engineering Open House Day (EOHD)
25 St. James the Great Day (Christian), Nag Panchami (Hindu)
28 World Hepatitis Day
29 Tisha B’Av (Jewish)
30 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, World Friendship Day/International Day of Friendship
31 Eid al Adha (Muslim), Varalakshmi Vrat (Hindu)
The IET and RS Components have collaborated to host a new event and National Day, Reflect, dedicated to promoting engineering and technology careers to the Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic (BAME) community, and to those from a low socioeconomic background, with the goal of encouraging them to make positive steps towards a bright future.

Latest research by the IET has shown that only 12% of engineering companies in the UK have sought to increase the diversity of their engineering, IT and technical workforce in terms of ethnicity.

World Humanitarian Day takes place in August and is an international day dedicated to recognising humanitarian personnel and those who have lost their lives working for humanitarian causes.

17 August also marks National Non-profit Day and as a not for profit organisation, we recognise the goals and positive impacts non-profits have on communities and the world.
August

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MedicAlert Awareness Month
Psoriasis Awareness Month

SPECIAL DAYS

1  Lammas (Christian), REfect, Fast in Honour of Holy Mother of Jesus (Orthodox Christian)
2  Raksha Bandhan (Hindu), Summer Bank Holiday
3  Transfiguration of the Lord (Orthodox Christian)
6  International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples
9  Waqf al Arafa - Hajj (Islam)
10 Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu), International Youth Day
12 Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (Catholic Christian), Dormition of the Theotokos (Orthodox Christian)
15 National Non Profit Day
17 World Humanitarian Day
20 Hijra - Islamic New Year (Islam)
22 Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)
29 Beheading of St. John the Baptist (Christian)
30 Day of Ashura/Muharram (Islam)
31 Summer Bank Holiday, Onam (Hindu)
The International Day of Charity takes place on 5 September to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa who worked tirelessly to overcome poverty, distress and suffering of the poorest in the world.

World Suicide Prevention Day also takes place in September. This is an awareness day set aside to provide worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides, with various activities around the world.
September

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World Alzheimer's Month
Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
Reyes Syndrome Awareness Month
Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month

SPECIAL DAYS

5 International Day of Charity
8 International Literacy Day
10 World Suicide Prevention Day
15 International Day of Democracy
16 Vishwakarma Puja (Hindu)
17 Mahalaya Amavasya (Hindu)
18 Rosh Hashana (Jewish)
21 International Day of Peace, World Alzheimer's Day
22 World Car Free Day
25 World's Biggest Coffee Morning
27 Meskel - (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian), Elevation of the Life Giving Cross (Holy Cross) (Christian), Yom Kippur (Jewish)
28 National Inclusion Week (28 - 10 October)
29 Michael and All Angels (Christian), World Heart Day
October is Black History Month; an annual commemoration of the history, achievements and contributions of black people in the UK. We celebrate the extraordinary contribution that current and historical black figures have made in the field of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The first week in October is National Inclusion Week, a campaign that is owned and managed by Inclusive Employers.

Established in May 2011, they are the UK’s first and leading membership organisation for employers looking to build inclusive workplaces. They offer consultancy, training and thought leadership, to help you make inclusion an everyday reality at your place of work.
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Special Days</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>International Day of Older Persons, National Inclusion Week (1-4)</td>
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<td>International Day of Non-Violence, International Walk to School Day, First Day of Sukkot (Jewish), World Smile Day</td>
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<td>World Teachers Day</td>
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<td>National Work Life Week (7-11)</td>
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<td>Hoshana Rabbah (Jewish), World Sight Day</td>
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<td>Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)</td>
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<td>World Mental Health Day, Simchat Torah (Jewish)</td>
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<td>International Day of the Girl Child</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving - Canada (Interfaith)</td>
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<td>Ada Lovelace Day</td>
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<td>World Food Day</td>
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<td>World Teachers Day</td>
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<td>Navaratri begins (Hindu), Conflict Resolution Day, International Day for the Eradication of Poverty</td>
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<td>St. Luke, Apostle &amp; Evangelist (Christian), Wear it Pink, Invisible Disabilities Week (18-24), Birth of the Báb (Bahá’í)</td>
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<td>Birth of the Guru Granth (Sikh)</td>
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<td>United Nations Day, Navaratri ends/Maha Navami (Hindu)</td>
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<td>Daylight Saving Time ends, Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)</td>
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<td>Daylight Saving Time ends, Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)</td>
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LGBT STEM Day takes place in November; a day to celebrate and raise awareness for diversity and inclusion in STEM. We aim to highlight some of the global challenges LGBTQ+ scientists and engineers face. As one of the largest PEIs in the world; we have a duty to promote engineering to everybody and encourage organisations to do more around promoting the importance of embracing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
November

1  All Saints’ Day (Christian)
2  All Souls’ Day (Christian),
   International Stress
   Awareness Week (2-6),
   Tomorrow’s Engineers
   Week (2-6)
3  Green GB Week (4-8),
   Karwa Chauth (Hindu)
4  Guy Fawkes Day
5  Intersex Day of Solidarity,
   National STEM Day
6  World Freedom Day
7  Remembrance Day
8  World Kindness Day,
   Dhan Teras (Hindu)
9  Diwali (Hindu),
   World Diabetes Day
10  Nativity Fast begins - ends
   Dec. 24 (Orthodox Christian)
11  Bhai Dooj (Hindu)
12  LGBT STEM Day
13  International Men’s Day
14  Universal Children’s
   Day, Transgender Day of
   Remembrance, Chhath
   Puja (Hindu)
15  Christ the King (Christian)
16  Martyrdom of Guru Tegh
   Bahadur Sahib (Sikh)
17  International Day for
   the Elimination of
   Violence against Women,
   Day of the Covenant
   (Baha’i)
18  Thanksgiving (Interfaith
   USA)
19  Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Baha
   (Baha’i)
20  First Sunday of Advent
21  St Andrew’s Day,
   Kartik Poornima (Hindu),
   Guru Nanak Birthday (Sikh)
22  Second Sunday of Advent
23  St Lucy’s Day (Christian)
24  St Lucy’s Day (Christian),
   International Day of
   the Girl Child
25  World AIDS Day
26  World Kindness Day,
   Dhan Teras (Hindu)
27  Universal Children’s
   Day, Transgender Day of
   Remembrance, Chhath
   Puja (Hindu)
28  St Andrew’s Day,
   Kartik Poornima (Hindu),
   Guru Nanak Birthday (Sikh)
29  First Sunday of Advent
30  St Andrew’s Day,
   Kartik Poornima (Hindu),
   Guru Nanak Birthday (Sikh)
Our annual Young Woman Engineer of the Year (YWE) awards take place at the beginning of December, celebrating outstanding female engineers and their contribution to the engineering sector.

Purple Light Up takes place in December and is a global movement designed to draw attention to the economic empowerment of disabled people.

Volunteers are at the heart of the IET, and in December we celebrate International Volunteer Day, thanking our volunteers for everything they do for us.
December

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SPECIAL DAYS

1 World AIDS Day
2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
3 International Day of Persons With Disabilities - Purple Light Up Day, YWE Awards Ceremony
5 International Volunteer’s Day
6 Saint Nicholas Day (Christian)
8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Christian)
9 International Anti Corruption Day
10 Human Rights Day, First Day of Hannukah (Jewish)
12 Feast day - Our Lady of Guadalupe (Catholic Christian)
15 Dhanu Sankranti (Hindu)
16 Posadas Navidenas (Hispanic Christian)
18 Last Day of Hannukah (Jewish), International Migrants Day
20 International Human Solidarity Day
24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day, Geeta Jayanti (Hindu)
26 Boxing Day, St. Stephen’s Day (Christian)
28 Substitute Bank Holiday for Boxing Day
31 New Year’s Eve, Watch Night (Christian)