ALL HOLIDAYS BEGIN AT SUNDOWN OF THE PRECEDING DAY AND END AT NIGHTFALL OF THE FINAL DAY OF OBSERVANCE. ALL WORK AND OTHER FORMS OF ACTIVITY ARE PROHIBITED ON THESE DAYS.

Holiday Name and Description / Hebrew Year	5773 2012	5774 2013	5775 2014	5776 2015	5777 2016
Rosh Hashanah (NEW YEAR) First day of the High Holy Days, marks the beginning of a ten-day period of repentance and spiritual renewal.	Mon-Tues 9/17 - 9/18	Thurs-Fri 9/5-9/6	Thurs-Fri 9/25 - 9/26	Mon-Tues 9/14 - 9/15	Mon-Tues 10/3 - 10/4
Yom Kippur (DAY OF ATONEMENT) Holiest day in the Jewish year, marked by fasting and prayer, as Jews ask forgiveness from both God and man.	Wednesday 9/26	Saterday 9/14	Saturday 10/4	Wednesday 9/23	Wednesday 10/12
Sukkot (FEAST OF BOOTHS) Sukkot commemorates the Israelites 40 years of wandering in the desert on the way to the Promised Land, following their exodus from slavery. Expresses thanks for the Fall harvest. During the week of Sukkot, meals are eaten in temporary huts, called Sukkot.	Mon-Tues 10/1 - 10/2	Thurs-Fri 9/19-9/20	Thurs-Fri 10/9 - 10/10	Mon-Tues 9/28 - 9/29	Mon-Tues 10/17 - 10/18
Shemini Atzeret (CONCLUSION OF SUKKOT) Concludes Sukkot festival.	Monday 10/8	Thursday 9/26	Thursday 10/16	Monday 10/5	Monday 10/24
Simchat Torah (REJOICING IN THE LAW) On Simchat Torah, the reading of the last chapters of Deuteronomy is completed and the first chapter of Genesis is begun immediately. This signifies that the teachings of the Torah (first five books of the Bible) never end.	Tuesday 10/9	Friday 9/27	Friday 10/17	Tuesday 10/6	Tuesday 10/25
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Pesach (PASSOVER) Celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. Specail dietary considerations are observed, i.e. eating of Matzah (unleavened bread) and all avoidance of leavened products. No work is done on the first two days and the last days of the holiday.	Tues-Tues 3/26-3/27 4/1-4/2	Tues-Wed 4/15-4/16 4/21-4/22	Sat-Sat 4/4 - 4/5 4/10 - 4/11	Sat-Sat 4/23 - 4/24 4/29 - 4/30	Tues-Tues 4/11 - 44/12 4/17 - 4/18
Shavuot (FEAST OF WEEKS) Celebrates establishment of the covenant between God and Israel at Mt. Sinai and the giving of the Torah to the Jews.	Wed-Thurs 5/15-5/16	Wed-Thurs 6/4-6/5	Sun-Mon 5/24 - 5/25	Sun-Mon 6/12 - 6/13	Wed-Thurs 5/31 - 6/1

THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS DO NOT REQUIRE ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL OR WORK

Holiday Name and Description	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Chanukah Commemorates the Maccabbees' rededication of the 2nd Temple in Jerusalem by regaining independence from the Syrians (2nd century BCE). Candles are lit nightly.	Sun-Sun 12/9-12-16	Thurs-Thurs 11/28-12/5	Wed-Wed 12/17 - 12/24	Mon-Mon 12/7 - 12/14	Sun-Sun 12/25 - 1/1
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Tu B'Shevat First day of spring in Israel - a celebration of the gifts of nature and the Land of Israel.	Saterday 1/26	Thursday 1/16	Wednesday 2/4	Monday 1/25	Saturday 2/11
Purim Celebrates the rescue of Jews from annihilation in ancient Persia. Preceded by the Fast of Esther.	Sunday 2/24	Sunday 3/16	Thursday 3/5	Thursday 3/24	Sunday 3/12
Yom HaShoah (HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE)* Commemorates the 6 million Jews murdered in the Holocaust.	Sunday 4/7	Sunday 4/27	Thursday 4/16	Thursday 5/5	Sunday 4/23
Yom Ha'atzmaut (ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE)* The State of Israel was declared May 14, 1948. Preceded by Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day), honoring those who died defending Israel and the Jewish people.	Tuesday 4/16	Tuesday 5/6	Thursday 4/23	Thursday 5/12	Monday 5/1
Lag B'Omer Break in the semi-mourning period between Pesach and Shavuot.	Sunday 4/28	Sunday 5/18	Thursday 5/7	Thursday 5/26	Sunday 5/14
Yom Yerushalayim (JERUSALEM DAY)* Commemorates the reunification of Jerusalem, June 7, 1967.	Wednesday 5/8	Sunday 5/28	Sunday 5/17	Sunday 6/5	Wednesday 5/24
Tisha B'Av Twenty-four hour fast remembrance of the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem, 586 BCE and 70 CE.	Tuesday 7/16	Tuesday 8/5	Sunday 7/26	Sunday 8/14	Tuesday 8/1

*When these holidays fall on a Friday or Saturday, thy may be observed at another time.