

Cultural Diversity Week

21 – 29 March 2026

Teacher's Stakeholder Pack

VICTORIAN
multicultural
commission
strengthening our community



Culture connects us all



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture, and we honour their invaluable contributions to the rich cultural diversity of Victoria.

Introduction



Cultural Diversity Week (CDW) is Victoria's leading multicultural celebration, held annually to coincide with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and Harmony Day on 21 March.

Held from 21 to 29 March 2026, CDW will showcase the colourful sounds, flavours, sights and traditions of Victoria's rich and ever-diversifying communities.

Coordinated by the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC), CDW 2026 is dedicated to celebrating the unique journeys and collective stories that define our multicultural identity.

This year's theme, ***Culture connects us all***, highlights how sharing intercultural stories and experiences fosters understanding, belonging and connection.

The week will feature vibrant events, community-led activities, and educational initiatives that foster understanding, inclusion and respect across the state.

By participating, stakeholders like you can help bring to life the vision of a more connected and cohesive society, while celebrating the cultural wealth that makes Victoria unique.



Teacher's resource kit



The **Cultural Diversity Week Teacher's Resource Kit** has been developed to help educators bring this year's theme, ***Culture connects us all***, to life in the classroom. This resource supports teachers to create meaningful conversations, activities and learning experiences that celebrate the many cultures, stories and identities that shape Victoria.

Schools play an essential role in helping young people understand and value different cultures, languages and traditions. This toolkit provides practical ideas, curriculum-aligned lesson prompts, and engaging classroom activities that encourage students to explore their own cultural identity and learn about the experiences of others.

Using this resource, teachers can guide discussions about connection, belonging and multiculturalism. The toolkit includes interactive activities such as storytelling, creative arts and inquiry-based projects, along with suggestions for recognising culturally significant dates observed during Cultural Diversity Week. It also offers age-appropriate lesson plans aligned with the Victorian Curriculum, supporting learning under the Intercultural Capability and Civics and Citizenship areas.

Teachers are encouraged to use this resource to involve students in Cultural Diversity Week through classroom learning, creative projects or school-wide celebrations. The activities in this toolkit aim to spark curiosity, strengthen intercultural understanding and deepen students' appreciation of the diverse communities that contribute to Victoria's cultural identity.

Teacher's Resource Kit

Culture Diversity Week 2026



Culture connects us all
Reflecting and celebrating the stories of
Victoria's multicultural communities

[LEARN MORE](#)







Department
of Education



Access the toolkit [here](#)

Student competition



Collaborate with your classroom to enter the CDW competition celebrating the theme, ***Culture connects us all***.

Students are encouraged to interview a classmate (or family member) about their culture, traditions or favourite cultural food, then present what they've learned through a creative medium such as a poster, drawing, collage, craft, song or short story.

To enter the competition, teachers are encouraged to submit student work or a photo collage of a class project celebrating intercultural exchanges by emailing communications@vmc.vic.gov.au. Schools will need to seek consent from the parent or guardian, as per their usual communications process or platform, prior to entering.

The deadline is Wednesday 18 March 2026. Students are also welcome to enter the competition directly via their guardian.

One winner will be selected in each of the two categories:

- Primary school students
- Secondary school students

Prizes include a Diversity & Culture Book Pack and free entry to attend the Victorian Multicultural Festival at Grazeland in Spotswood from 27 to 29 March 2026.

Shortlisted works from students will be showcased at the Victorian Multicultural Festival and promoted on the VMC's digital channels. Schools or student entrants are welcome to opt-out of these opportunities should they wish to remain anonymous.

For further information on privacy and the terms and conditions to enter CDW competitions, visit: <https://www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/cdw-student-competition-terms-and-conditions>



Help spread the word!



Help spread the word about Cultural Diversity Week 2026!

Let's work together to amplify the message and encourage everyone to get involved in this special week of connection, celebration and cultural exchange. Whether you're a school, workplace, community group or individual, there are countless ways to celebrate and promote the importance of cultural diversity.

You can help to spread the word or become a part of the cultural diversity celebration in the following ways:

SHARE:

Share the materials

Engage with your communities and share this stakeholder pack across your networks such as EDMs, social media and WhatsApp, WeChat, Messenger and Facebook groups, and encourage participation

PARTICIPATE:

Host and event or activity

Host your own event / activity or encourage organisations to host an event. Register your event/ activity on **VMConnect**, the online hub for multicultural events in Victoria

CELEBRATE:

Join the digital campaign

Amplify community voices and stories.
Record a short video, photo or narrative, and post it on social media using **#CDW2026**

ATTEND:

The Victorian Multicultural Festival

Attend the flagship event to celebrate and unite diverse communities, **27 to 29 March** at the iconic **Grazeland, Spotswood**

Key messaging and resources



- Cultural Diversity Week (CDW) will launch on Harmony Day and will be held from 21–29 March 2026.
- CDW is a statewide celebration of the power, influence and stories of Victoria’s multicultural communities.
- **Get involved** in the celebration! Host or attend a CDW event, participate in an activity or share your cultural story online.
- This year’s theme, ***Culture connects us all***, highlights how sharing intercultural stories and experiences fosters understanding, belonging and connection.
- Proudly led by the Victorian Multicultural Commission, CDW is an opportunity for individuals, schools, workplaces and communities to come together to celebrate and champion cultural diversity.
- The Victorian Multicultural Festival will be held at Grazeland from 27 to 29 March, returning as the pinnacle of the CDW celebrations.

Resources:

- **Creative assets available** [here](#)
- **Cultural Diversity Week website** [here](#)
- **Share your event on VMC Connect** [here](#)
- **Utilise hashtag:** #CDW2026
- **Tag us on Facebook/ Instagram:** [@multiculturevic](#)
- **Tag us on LinkedIn:** [victorian-multicultural-commission](#)

Participate: Host an event or activity for your chance to win!



Whether you're a government department, community group, school or business, get involved and facilitate your own multicultural event/ activity as part of Cultural Diversity Week. Please see below ideas:

- Host a Taste of Harmony lunch catered by a social enterprise
- Run a local festival showcasing diverse talents and traditions
- Offer hands-on activities like cooking demos, craft sessions and storytelling circles
- Partner with your local library for a multicultural Storytime
- Collaborate with businesses, schools and community groups to co-create events
- Hold a multicultural movie night
- Offer language, craft or dance classes
- Share books and publications on race, belonging and identity
- Create a group playlist featuring music from different cultures
- Organise a Harmony Walk
- Run a training session with LanguageLoop
- Host a lunchtime panel with diverse voices
- Hold a traditional dress day celebrating cultural heritage

Visit the [VMC website](#) for more ideas



Prizes to be won!

Upload your activity or event to [VMConnect](#) and tag #CDW2026 on socials to be eligible for the prize.

More details can be found [here](#).

Celebrate: Join the digital competition



This year's theme, ***Culture connects us all***, highlights how sharing intercultural stories and experiences fosters understanding, belonging and connection.

We invite you to create a video sharing how you're learning, celebrating and connecting with another culture during Cultural Diversity Week as a reel, TikTok or social story. There are also prizes to be won!

Be creative! Examples of video content could include:

- Cooking or tasting a dish from another culture
- Visiting a cultural landmark, gallery, or place of worship
- Participating in a cultural dance, art form, or tradition
- Learning a word or phrase in another language
- Feature different languages spoken in your organisation for an extra meaningful touch.

Have fun and keep it authentic! Personal, creative videos are encouraged. Consider featuring the different languages spoken in your organisation for an extra meaningful touch.

We can't wait to see how you bring this year's theme to life and celebrate Victoria's diversity during Cultural Diversity Week 2026.

Please note: If your submission includes footage of individuals under 18, please ensure photo and video consent has been obtained.

Tips on how to film a video:

1. **Keep it short:** 30–90 seconds.
2. **Film vertically:** Ideal for social media platforms.
3. **Introduce yourself/ your organisation:** Name, role, and organisation. Example: "Hello, I'm [Your Name], [Your Role] at [Organisation Name], and we're proud to celebrate Victoria's multicultural community."
4. **Record your multicultural experience:** Share an experience, what you learned or how it made you feel.
5. **Nominate someone:** Encourage others to join in.
6. **Finish with a commitment:** Express pride in being part of Victoria's multicultural community and your dedication to celebrating diversity.
7. **Share your video:** Post the video on your social channels starting 1 March 2026. Tag **@multiculturevic** and include the hashtag **#CDW2026**

Visit the [VMC website](#) for more details

Attend: The Victorian Multicultural Festival



The Victorian Multicultural Festival is a celebration of diversity and multicultural food and entertainment, held from Friday 27 March through to Sunday 29 March 2026.

The Festival will be hosted at Grazeland, a cultural playground for foodies in Spotswood. It will tantalise and excite your senses with a unique outdoor dining experience, sampling cuisine from nations across the world.

With music and performances across several stages, join us on the Friday evening, and Saturday and Sunday from noon onwards.

Wear your best cultural dress or colours to celebrate in style.

Venue: Grazeland

Address: 20 Booker Street, Spotswood

Opening hours:

Friday 27 March: 5:00pm – 10:00pm

Saturday 28 March: 12:00pm – 10:00pm

Sunday 29 March: 12:00pm – 9:00pm

Cost: \$4 entry (free for children under 12 years)

No bookings required.





**Help promote Cultural
Diversity Week**

Promote Cultural Diversity Week on your social media channels



Suggested post copy

We're proud to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week 2026!

From 21–29 March, we'll join communities across Victoria to celebrate the stories, traditions and contributions that make our state a vibrant multicultural success.

This year's theme, ***Culture connects us all***, is a powerful reminder of how diversity and inclusion help us build a stronger, more connected future.

Be part of the celebration! Host an event, attend activities or share your cultural story.

Register your event on VMConnect, Victoria's online hub for multicultural events to be automatically entered into the draw to win some exciting prizes:

<https://www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/cultural-diversity-week-victorian-multicultural-commission>.

All participants who host an event or activity will be automatically entered into a draw to win some exciting prizes. These include:

- 2 x VIP tickets to the Multicultural Film Festival Premiere
- News story feature on the VMC website and EDM newsletter
- Social media coverage
- VMC Commissioner to speak at one of your events
- A featured spot on the VMC's social media and website

Let's come together to celebrate, connect and showcase the incredible multicultural spirit that defines Victoria.

#CulturalDiversityWeek #CDW2026 #CultureConnectsUsAll

Static social tile



Click [here](#) to download

Promote on your social media channels - Digital campaign



Suggested post copy

Join us in celebrating Cultural Diversity Week by sharing your unique cultural stories!

The Victorian Multicultural Commission invites everyone to participate by showcasing intercultural exchanges taking part in languages or meaningful cultural experiences.

Record a short video, capture a photo or write a narrative, then share it on social media using **#CDW2026** to be automatically entered into the draw to win some exciting prizes.

Don't forget to tag **@multiculturevic** to be featured on our page!

All participants will be entered into an automatic draw to win exciting prizes, including:

- 2 x VIP tickets to the Multicultural Film Festival Premiere
- A featured spot on the Victorian Multicultural Commission's social media and website

Let's celebrate the cultures that makes Victoria a unique and vibrant place to live.

#CulturalDiversityWeek #CDW2026 #CultureConnectsUsAll

Digital content example from VMC Commissioner, Dr Judy Tang



Click [here](#) to watch

Promote on your social media channels - Victorian Multicultural Festival



Suggested post copy

Join us to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week at the flagship Victorian Multicultural Festival 2026!

Taking place from **27–29 March 2026** at the iconic **Grazeland in Spotswood**, this vibrant festival is the ultimate celebration of Victoria's multicultural communities, packed with food, entertainment and culture.

Explore Global Flavours

Indulge in an outdoor dining experience featuring cuisine from around the globe – perfect for food lovers!

Non-Stop Entertainment

Enjoy live music, cultural performances and activities for all ages, making it the ideal outing for families and friends.

Dress for the Occasion

Wear your favourite cultural attire or colours and celebrate diversity in style!

Event Highlights

- \$4 entry fee (children under 12 enter free)
 - Gates open Friday evening and from noon on Saturday and Sunday
- Bring your family and friends – we can't wait to see you there!

Visit the **Cultural Diversity Week website** for full event details:

<https://www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/cultural-diversity-week-victorian-multicultural-commission>

#CulturalDiversityFestival #CulturalDiversityWeek #CDW2026

#CultureConnectsUsAll #Grazeland @grazeland

Static social tile



Click [here](#) to download

Animated social story



Click [here](#) to download

Newsletter header (EDM)



Suggested EDM Content

Get ready for Cultural Diversity Week 2026 — Victoria's biggest celebration of multiculturalism!

From **21–29 March**, immerse yourself in a week of vibrant events, inspiring storytelling and cultural pride, as we come together to honour the stories, traditions and contributions that make Victoria extraordinary.

Whether you're hosting an event, joining the flagship Victoria Multicultural Festival, or sharing your cultural story online, there's a way for everyone to get involved.

✦ Host or Register an Event

Make your community a part of the celebration! Register your event on **VMConnect**, the online hub for multicultural events in Victoria: [Visit the Cultural Diversity Week website for details](#).

✦ Be Part of Our Digital Campaign

Celebrate this year's theme, ***Culture connects us all***, by sharing your unique cultural story. Record a short video, photo or narrative, and post it on social media using **#CDW2026** and tag @multiculturevic to be automatically entered into the competition.

📺 All participants who host an event or create a video will go into a draw to win exciting prizes. See website for more details.

✦ Join the flagship Victorian Multicultural Festival 2026

Taking place from **27–29 March** at the iconic **Grazeland in Spotswood**, this festival is packed with global flavours, vibrant entertainment and cultural pride:

- Indulge in cuisine from around the globe.
- Enjoy live music, cultural performances and family-friendly activities.
- Wear your favourite cultural attire or colours and celebrate diversity in style!

🎫 Entry: \$4 (children under 12 free)

Let's celebrate the cultures that make Victoria a unique and vibrant place to live.

#CulturalDiversityWeek #CDW2026 #CultureConnectsUsAll

Newsletter header



Internal Creative*



Virtual background creative



Email signature



Creative assets available [here](#)

**The VMC have developed a Zoom or Microsoft Teams background and email signature to help you promote Cultural Diversity Week*

Social Media Banners*



Facebook cover banner



LinkedIn banner



Creative assets available [here](#)

**The VMC have developed social media event banners to help promote your events*

Promotional poster*



A4/A3 Poster

Cultural Diversity Week

#CDW2026

21 - 29 March 2026

Get involved

Culture connects us all

A group of stylized, colorful human figures of various ages and ethnicities, some wearing traditional headwear, arranged in a cluster.

Victorian Multicultural Festival 27-29 March 2026

LEARN MORE

VICTORIAN multicultural commission

strengthening our community

VICTORIA State Government

GRAZELAND

Celebrate and reflect during Cultural Diversity Week 2026

There are countless ways for your organisation, school, workplace, family or community to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week. The 2026 theme, 'Culture connects us all', reminds us that no matter our background, we are connected through shared stories, traditions and experiences, encouraging us to honour our own cultural stories and those of others, fostering understanding, belonging and connection.

Get involved

- Host a local event or festival to celebrate the talents and traditions of your community's cultural diversity
- Attend the Victorian Multicultural Festival at GrazeLand in Spotswood from 27 - 29 March 2026 for entertainment and cuisine from around the world
- Join our diversity conversation and share your stories with us through a digital competition

Register on VMConnect

VMConnect is an online hub for sharing news, services and events relevant to Victoria's multicultural communities. If you're hosting a Cultural Diversity Week event from 21 - 29 March 2026, add it to the VMConnect Hub here: <https://victorian-multicultural-commission.hivebrite.com>

A row of five stylized human figures in profile, facing right. They are of different ages and ethnicities, wearing various traditional and modern headwear and clothing.

Creative assets available [here](#)

**Please note that posters can be adjusted to be printed in A4 or A3 or can be used as a digital flyer/ screen to promote Cultural Diversity Week*

YouTube video



Promotional video



Available on YouTube [here](#)

Link to download [here](#)

Suggested post copy

We are proud to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week in 2026!

From 21–29 March, we'll join communities across Victoria to celebrate the stories, traditions and contributions that make our state a vibrant place to live.

This year's theme, ***Culture connects us all***, is a powerful reminder of how sharing intercultural stories and experiences helps foster understanding, belonging and connection.

Be part of the celebration! Host an event, attend activities and share your experience of engaging with other cultures.

Hear about ways we can come together to celebrate, connect and showcase the incredible multicultural spirit that defines Victoria: <https://youtu.be/EpM0eVEhMq8>

#CulturalDiversityWeek #CDW2026 #CultureConnectsUsAll

Key milestones*



MILESTONES	March 2026				
	1	8	15	21	29
Entries open for digital campaign: 1 March 2026					
Entries close for student competition: 18 March 2026					
Entries close for digital competition: 29 March 2026					
Entries open for participation (Host event/activity): 21 March 2026					
Entries close for participation (Host event/activity): 29 March 2026					
Cultural Diversity Week begins: 21 March 2026					
Victorian Multicultural Festival: 27 to 29 March 2026					
Student competition winners announced: 28 March 2026					
Digital and events competition winners announced: 31 March 2026					

**The VMC encourages our educators and stakeholders to promote CDW at key milestones leading up to the festival using the assets provided.*

CDW coincides with important observances



Cultural Diversity Week occurs in March, which coincides with several important cultural and religious observances, enriching our collective celebration of diversity and inclusion. Here are some examples:

- **Ramadan (begins evening of 16 February and ends evening of 18 March 2026*):**
A sacred month of fasting, prayer and reflection observed by Muslims worldwide.
- **Holi (Wednesday, 4 March 2026):**
A vibrant festival celebrated by the Hindu faith, marking the arrival of spring with colours, music and joy, bringing communities together worldwide.
- **Harmony Day (Saturday, 21 March 2026):**
An Australian celebration promoting inclusiveness, respect and belonging.

Acknowledging and respecting diverse observances:

- These important celebrations strengthen CDW and is important to acknowledge these significant observances while celebrating CDW.
- We encourage stakeholders to consider these dates and ensure their CDW activities are respectful and inclusive of all cultures and faiths.



*Start and end dates are approximate and may vary by ± 2 days, as the start and end of Ramadan are determined by the sighting of the new crescent moon.

Cultural Diversity Week partners and sponsors



Gold Partners



Silver Partners



Department
of Transport
and Planning



Community Partners



Culture connects us all

Thank you

For more information, please contact:
communications@vmc.vic.gov.au

Follow us on socials



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