

16.02.2011

Dear Teacher,

Subject: Corrigendum to Europa Diary 2010/2011

Before last summer, you received, at your request, the 2010/2011 edition of the Europa Diary for use in your classrooms.

It has been drawn to the Commission's attention that important religious holidays that are part of European heritage, such as Christmas, are missing in the current edition.

As you know, the diary covers the school year 2010/2011, not the calendar year 2011. It includes an agenda, which does not systematically list holidays, neither religious nor national ones. It lists, in footnotes, for each week an interesting fact that not all teenagers might know and these are meant to be adapted to the different national contexts. Among the facts mentioned are some celebrations related to less practiced religions in the European Union. However, the incoherence of omitting similar facts in relation to Christian celebrations, such as Christmas and Easter, the knowledge of which had been taken for granted, has caused offence.

The Commission very much regrets and apologises for this incoherence. The Commission would now like to rectify the situation, and asks your help.

For that purpose we have produced a one-page addendum to the diary, which sets out the main public holidays in your country. We have made this directly available for use with your pupils. It is attached to this letter and is also available on the Europa Diary website at the following address: <u>www.europadiary.eu</u> > Download

In response to concerns expressed, future editions will include the main public holidays in your country.

As ever, we welcome any comments that you may have on the diary and we look forward to your feedback in the annual teacher's survey.

We hope that the diary continues to serve as a useful and informative tool for young European students as consumers and citizens under your guidance.

Yours sincerely

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Jacqueline Minor Director, European Commission

Holidays in Ireland 2010-2011 / Laethanta Saoire poiblí na hÉireann

	2010	2011
New Year's Day/Lá Caille	1/1	1/1
St Patrick's Day/Lá Fhéile Pádraig	17/3	17/3
Good Friday/Aoine an Chéasta	2/4	22/4
Easter Sunday/Domhnach na Cásca	4/4	24/4
Easter Monday/Luan Cásca	5/4	25/4
May Holiday/Lá Saoire i mí Bhealtaine	3/5	2/5
June Holiday/Lá Saoire i mí Mheitheamh	7/6	6/6
August Holiday/Lá Saoire i mí Lúnasa	2/8	1/8
October Holiday/Lá Saoire i mí Dheire Fómhaire	25/10	31/10
Christmas Day/Lá Nollag	25/12	25/12
St. Stephen's Day/Lá Fhéile Stiofáin	26/12	26/12