

Lawton Elementary School
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Attendance Matters! There are **20 instructional days** in the month of April.
Craft & Treat with Ms. Wood



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Arab-American Heritage Month</p> 	<p>1 Easter Monday</p>  <p>Summer Programs Registration Opens</p> 	<p>2 Wear Blue for Awareness Day</p>	<p>3 Paraprofessionals Appreciation Day</p> <p>PBIS Champs Celebration</p> 	<p>4 3-hour early Dismissal</p>  <p>Perfect Attendance Dress Down Spring Title I SAC Meeting</p>	<p>5 3-hour early Dismissal</p>  <p>Perfect Attendance dress Down</p>	6
7	<p>8 Ramadan Ends</p> <p>Total Solar Eclipse</p>	9	<p>10 Eid-al-Fitr Schools Closed</p> 	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	<p>19 PSSA Prep Rally Grades 3 - 5</p>	20
21	<p>22 PSSA Testing Window Opens</p> 	<p>23 Election Day Schools Closed</p> 	<p>24 PSSA ELA Grades 3-5</p> 	<p>25 PSSA ELA Grades 3-5</p>	<p>26 PSSA ELA Grades 3-5 Administrative Professionals Day</p> 	27
28	<p>29 PSSA Math Grades 3-5</p> 	<p>30 PSSA Math Grades 3-5</p>				



New Information

- **Monday, April 1st:**
 - Students Return to school Monday, April 1st

- **Monday, April 1st:**
 - **Easter Monday**
 - Easter is widely considered the most important Christian holiday. The holiday celebrates the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ after his crucifixion.
 - [Easter: PBS LearningMedia: Video](#)

- **WMonday, April 1st:**
 - Registration for **2024 Summer Learning Programs** is open now!
 - **Registration for School District of Philadelphia Summer Learning Programs is now open for students entering kindergarten through 12th grade!** This year's summer learning programs will combine project-based learning with extracurricular programming to provide fun and safe environments for students to maintain and advance their education. Summer programming also helps to prevent children from forgetting the critical skills they learned during the school year.
 - Learn more at: bit.ly/sdpsummer

- **Tuesday, April 2nd:**
 - **Autism Awareness Day**
 - World Autism Awareness Day was first established in 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly.
 - This year marks the 17th annual World Autism Awareness Day.
 - Students may wear **BLUE** to show support for Autism Awareness
 - Students may wear school pants or jeans.

- **Arab-American Heritage Month:**
 - The Philadelphia area has been home to immigrants of Arab heritage for generations. Since the 1800s the Arab community in Philadelphia has continued to grow rapidly – it has become even more diverse in the past two decades. Most

of Philadelphia's Arab families are concentrated in South, North, Southwest, and Northeast Philadelphia. While some have been here for at least five generations, many are also newcomers.

- **Wednesday, April 3rd:**

- **Paraprofessionals Appreciation Day**

- Today we celebrate our paraprofessionals who wear many hats, and are critical to serving and supporting our students every day. Thank you, paraprofessionals! Happy Paraprofessionals Appreciation Day!

- **PBIS Champions Celebration** for students who were selected by their teachers for the month of March.

- **Thursday, April 4th and Friday, April 4th:**

- **Report Card Conferences for Term 3**

- There will be a **3-hour early dismissal for students.**

- 3-hour early dismissal

- Kindergarten students will dismiss between 12:20 and 12:30

- 1st - 5th grade students will dismiss at 12:30

- **Students with perfect attendance for the month of March will have 2 days of dress down, 4/4 & 4/5.**

- During conferences, you and your child will have an opportunity to collaborate with the teachers to evaluate your child's progress since the last term, understand strengths and areas for growth, and consider next steps for improvement or enrichment. **Report card conferences are also an excellent opportunity to review your child's progress toward graduation, no matter their age!**

- **Thursday, April 4th:**

- **Spring Title I SAC Meeting**

- 1:30 - 3:00

- Join us to learn about and give input on Lawton's schoolwide family engagement policy and school-parent compact.

- **Monday, April 8th:**

- **Total Solar Eclipse**

- On Monday, April 8th a total eclipse will be passing over North America. For Philadelphia the eclipse will begin at 2:08 and hit 90% maximum at 3:23.

- [Total Solar Eclipse- NASA Video](#)

- [Total Solar Eclipse- PBS LearningMedia Video](#)

- [Solar Eclipse- PBS LearningMedia Video](#)

- **Wednesday, April 10th:**

- **School will be closed in observance of Eid-al-Fitr**
- Eid al Fitr is a three day holiday that ends the Islamic month of Ramadan. Known as the "Festival of breaking fast," Muslims will celebrate with family and food after the end of a long fast, joining with one another for prayer and other traditions.
 - [Eid-al-Fitr: PBS LearningMedia: Video](#)

- **Monday, April 22nd:**

- **Earth Day**
- Earth Day began in 1970. It is an international day devoted to our planet. It draws attention to the environment and promotes conservation and sustainability.
 - [Earth Day: PBS LearningMedia: Video](#)

- **Tuesday, April 23rd:**

- In observation of **Election Day, all schools will be closed.**
- Here are some helpful resources that you can use to help prepare your kids for these discussions:
 - [6 Fun Ways to Teach Your Kids About Voting](#)
 - [Let's Vote! Talk to Children About Voting](#)
 - [iCivics Election Headquarters for Students](#)

- **Wednesday, April 24th to Friday, May 10th:**

- **PSSA Testing:**

- PSSA testing for 3-8 graders begins on April 22, 2024.
 - April 24th - April 26th (ELA PSSA Assessment)
 - April 29th - April 30th (Math PSSA Assessment)
 - May 1st - May 2nd (Science PSSA Assessment)
 - May 6th - May 10th (PSSA make-Ups)
- The PSSA is an important tool that provides critical information about the academic progress of your student(s). Individual student scores help teachers identify a child's strengths and areas for growth, which in turn allows teachers to personalize a child's instruction to best support their growth. PSSA scores also provide information to schools and the District to support improvement and planning around curriculum and instruction.

- The PSSA is state mandated, and participation by all students in grades 3-8 is required by federal law. Therefore, it is very important for students to attend school daily and remain enrolled in school during the testing window.

The documents linked below provide important information about the upcoming PSSA. We also have these resources available at the school, and they can be found on the District's [PSSA website](#).

- [PSSA Parent Guide](#): An overview of the PSSA with links to resources for District parents.
 - [Frequently Asked Questions](#): A fact sheet from the Pennsylvania Department of Education that provides answers to frequently asked questions.
 - [PSSA Test Features and Accommodations](#): An explanation of test features and accommodations available to students, including a link to the complete Accommodations Guidelines.
 - [Code of Conduct for Test Takers](#): Do's and don'ts for students during testing.
 - [Electronic Devices Parent Letter](#): A letter to families detailing the Pennsylvania Department of Education policy on and consequences for using cell phones and other electronic devices during testing.
- **Friday, April 26th:**
 - **Administrative Professionals Day**
 - A special shout out to our secretaries, administrative assistants, executive assistants, clerks and other admin professionals on this Administrative Professionals Day! #PHLed #???
 - Today is National Administrative Professionals Day -- a day to celebrate our incredible administrative professionals who accomplish seemingly impossible tasks every day, often making them look easy. The dedicated secretaries and other administrative professionals of Lawton work tirelessly to make sure our school runs smoothly and efficiently.

Older Information

- Dismissal:
 - Kindergarten students will be dismissed from the gym door in the large yard. Please remember to bring a photo ID when picking up your child.
 - Grades 1 & 2 will be dismissed in the small yard.
 - Grades 3 & 4 will be dismissed in the large yard.

- o 5th Grade will be dismissed on Lardner Street.
- Lawton has been using the School District messaging system to send reminders and updates. If you have not received emails or phone calls from us, please make sure that we have the correct phone number(s) on file for you.
- Please sign up to the Parent Portal if you did not do so already. This is the messaging system that sends both phone and email reminders/notifications.
- Students are to wear the school uniform every day. School uniform is tan bottoms and navy blue or white polo shirt.
- The gym uniform should be worn on gym days. It consists of gray sweatpants/shorts and a red T-shirt. Hoodies are not permitted at any time.
- Early dismissals are for emergencies/urgent circumstances only. Students miss instructional time as teachers provide instruction until the end of the school day.
- Everyone picking up a child from school must have a picture ID to show to staff before a child can be released. Parents/guardians must provide the names of those who are permitted to pick up their child on the forms provided. We cannot and will not release a child without written notification from a parent and photo ID of the person upon arrival in the main office. Please consult www.philasd.org for more information regarding Early Release and Special Release procedures.