

Lawton Elementary School
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Attendance Matters! There are **22 instructional days** in the month of May.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Asian-American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month			1 PSSA Science Grade 4 only 	2 PSSA Science Grade 4 only	3	4
5 Cinco de Mayo 	6	7	8 	9 Perfect Attendance and PBIS Champs Celebration	10 3-hour early dismissal SEL day  PSSA make-ups end PSSA & PASA completion celebration	11
12 Happy Mother's Day 	13 	14 K Open House 9:30 AM	15	16	17	18
19	20 District Wide Survey parent event (last day)	21	22	23 Survey Dress Down Day	24	25
26	27  Schools Closed	28	29	30	31 End of Year Attendance Celebration	



New Information

**** Remember to take the District Wide Parent Survey before May 20th.**

- Click the following link to access the survey:
<https://webapps1.philasd.org/parentsurvey/>
- Take a screenshot or picture showing that you completed the survey.
- Send the screenshot or picture of the completed survey to your child's teacher.
- Students will receive a dress down day on Thursday May 23rd and 3 PBIS points if a screenshot of completion is sent to your child's classroom teacher. Students will also be entered into a prize raffle.

● Asian-American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

- In the United States, May is Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month. Many people use the month to honor the accomplishments of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States while celebrating their diverse heritages.
- PBS LearningMedia video about Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month
 - <https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/6413d175-574f-4978-aca5-68886e12ae50/asian-pacific-american-heritage-month-all-about-the-holidays/>

● Mental Health Awareness Month

- May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Your mental health is a priority. Your happiness is essential. Your self-care is a necessity. Please, if you are struggling, reach out to your school for help. Check out the mental health resources that SDP offers our students here: <https://bit.ly/3FZmPi0>

● Jewish American Heritage Month

- May is Jewish American History Month. This month serves as a time to celebrate the contributions and experiences of Jewish Americans throughout our nation's history. It was first federally recognized in 2006, thanks to the advocacy efforts of Jewish American leaders.

● Wednesday May 1, 2024

- **Principal Appreciation Day**

- Principals are one of the most important catalysts for student success, and in turn, the success of our society. Shout out a principal this Principal Appreciation Day! #SchoolPrincipalsDay #PHLed
- **Wednesday, May 1st to Friday, May 10th:**
- **PSSA Testing:**
 - PSSA testing for 3-8 graders began on April 22, 2024.
 - **May 1st - May 2nd (Science PSSA Assessment 4th grade only)**
 - 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 May 5, 2024**
 - **Cinco de Mayo**
 - Cinco de Mayo, or the fifth of May, is a holiday that celebrates the date of the Mexican army's May 5, 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War. The day, which falls on Friday, May 5 in 2023, is also

known as Battle of Puebla Day. While it is a relatively minor holiday in Mexico, in the United States, Cinco de Mayo has evolved into a commemoration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with large Mexican-American populations.

- [Cinco de Mayo PBS LearningMedia Video](#)

- **Wednesday May 8, 2024 - Sunday May 12, 2024**

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- This week is Teacher Appreciation Week. Follow us this week for some special surprises. And shout out teachers this week using #TAW2024 and #PHLed.

- **Thursday May 9, 2024**

- **Perfect Attendance and PBIS Champs Celebration.**
- **April's Perfect Attendance Celebration**
 - Students who attend school each day and have no more than 5 latenesses.
- **PBIS Champions Celebration** for students who were selected by their teachers for the month of April who display our school PBIS norms everyday will be celebrated.
 - **Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible**

- **Friday May 10, 2024**

- 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

- **Friday May 10, 2024**

- **National School Nurse Appreciation Day**
- Today is National School Nurse Appreciation Day! On this day, we honor all school nurses who care for our children in our schools every day. Thank you school nurses!

- **Friday, May 10, 2024:**

- In order to celebrate the completion of our PSSA and PASA testing, all students will participate in a fun schoolwide "SEL Day." All students are encouraged to wear their gym uniform (or red shirt, gray pants if they don't have an actual gym uniform.) Teachers can plan fun activities for this half day after BINGO is over.


- **Sunday May 12, 2024**
 - **Mother's Day**
 - Mother's Day is a day set aside to express love, respect and thanks to mothers.

- **May 13, 2024 - May 17, 2024**
 - **Kindergarten Open House Week.**
 - It's Kindergarten Open House Week at Lawton! Registration for Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year is open. Don't delay. Register today. Go to philasd.org/thriveatfive to get started.
 - Online using this [online registration portal](#)

- **Tuesday May 14, 2024**
 - **Kindergarten Open House**
 - For Kindergarten students for the 2024 - 2025 school year.
 - At 9:30 am at Lawton.

- **Monday, May 20, 2024**
 - Last day to take the District Wide Parent Survey to receive a dress down day and 3 PBIS points.
 - Click the following link to access the survey:
<https://webapps1.philasd.org/parentsurvey/>
 - Take a screenshot or picture showing that you completed the survey.
 - Send the screenshot or picture of the completed survey to your child's teacher.

- **Thursday, May 23, 2024**
 - All students whose parents complete the District Wide Parent Survey AND send a screenshot or picture showing they have completed the survey to their child's teacher, will be rewarded with a dress down day and 3 PBIS points.

- **Monday May 27, 2024**
 - **Memorial Day**
 - **Schools Closed**
 - Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military.
 - Today, we honor and remember those who bravely made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting and serving our country. Happy Memorial Day!
 - PBS LearningMedia video about Memorial Day:
 -  PBS LEARNING MEDIA | Memorial Day | PBS KIDS

- **Friday, May 31, 2024**
 - **End of Year Attendance Celebration**
 - Attendance celebration for parents and students.

- This will be by invitation only.

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.
 - 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.