

OCTOBER 2022



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Jack-o'-lanterns, or simply Halloween pumpkin, emerged from the Irish folkloric tradition of using small lanterns made within turnips and potatoes to ward off wandering spirits.



The name pumpkin originated from the Greek word *Pepōn*, which means large melon. It was then nasalized by the French into "pompo", which the English changed "pompon" to "Pumpion," and so on until American settlers arrived at the word we use today.

Scientists believe that pumpkins originated in North America about 9000 years ago. The oldest pumpkin seeds have been found in Mexico and date back to somewhere between 7000-5550 B.C. Pumpkins (along with other forms of squash) were a historically important food staple among Native Americans.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		Saturday
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2 NATIONAL CUSTODIAL WORKERS DAY	3 NATIONAL TECHIES' DAY	4 NATIONAL TACO DAY 	5 WORLD TEACHERS DAY	6	7 WORLD SMILE DAY 	8
9 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK -CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS	10 NATIONAL WALK TO A PARK DAY	11	12 NATIONAL STOP BULLYING DAY	13	14 NO SCHOOL STAFF PD	15
16 SWEETEST DAY BOSS'S DAY	17 After School Program Begins	18 After School Program	19 After School Program	20 After School Program	21 STUDENT PICTURE DAY! End of 1 st 9 weeks 	22 NATIONAL MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
23	24 After School Program	25 After School Program	26 After School Program NATIONAL PUMPKIN DAY	27 After School Program	28 NATIONAL FIRST RESPONDERS' DAY	29
30	31 After School Program					

FAMILY EVENT FOR OCTOBER – Reverse Parade – More information to come!

October 2 – National Custodial Worker’s Recognition Day

Par Excellence Academy has two of the best school custodians – around! They make sure our school is kept clean and organized. If you drop-off your children in the morning, you may have seen Mr. Thorp (Mr. Bill). He welcomes the children every day with a high five and a smile. As your child walks into the building, they will be welcomed by Mrs. Thorp (Twila), as she distributes breakfast. They also have a huge task in helping the teachers move rooms every August. That is not easy! *Thank you, Mr. Bill and Mrs. Thorp, for all you do!*

October 3 – National Techies Day

We would also like to thank Mrs. Ross for getting all electronic devices together for the new school year. She works very hard to make sure we are all up and running within the first weeks of school. She certainly is busy during the summer months! All computers, chrome books and iPads must be cleaned, inside and out, from the previous school year usage. Updated software is downloaded. Then she assigns each student a password. Mrs. Ross is always there to help when something goes wrong with any of our devices. No matter how easy or difficult. She has our students and staff covered! *Thank you, Mrs. Ross!*

October 5 – World Teachers Day

Thank you, for shaping young minds, being creative in your teaching and being amazing to our students. Par Excellence Academy has the best teachers! *Thank you, a million times, thank you!*

If you ever wanted to know where we come up with the “National Day of.....,” check out their website, nationaldaycalendar.com. There are many more fun and interesting ideas than what we can put on our monthly calendars. You might find something that your family can do together! Have fun with it!

National Make a Difference Day – October 22, 2022

If you have ever wondered if your actions can make a difference, the answer is yes. We come together to volunteer, raise funds, offer support, and learn about the most urgent needs of our society. Start by cleaning your own backyard.

From gathering stuffed toys for firefighters to organizing a nationwide relief effort in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Make a Difference Day has offered instrumental humanitarian aid to the country.

You can make a difference by volunteering at your local community center, raising funds for charity, advocating for a fairer society, and sharing a smile with a stranger.

Make a Difference Day was created by “USA Weekend” magazine in 1992 to offer community support and encourage volunteerism across the country. Points of Light, a non-profit organization founded by former U.S. President George H. W. Bush, is the official co-sponsor of Make a Difference Day. Ever since its inception, Make a Difference Day has echoed in 30 countries and has inspired over 30 million volunteer hours.

For decades, “USA Weekend” served as the central location for interested volunteers to gather information about volunteering for Make a Difference Day. This service has now been taken over by “USA Today”.

Volunteering is all about becoming the change you wish to see in the world

Information taken from, “World Today” website, nationaltoday.com