

May 2023



Par Excellence Academy
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Memorial Day

No, Memorial Day isn't about a long weekend road trip, backyard barbecue or sales. The real meaning of the national holiday is much more somber. Unlike Veterans Day, Memorial Day honors all military members who have died while serving in U.S. forces.

Memorial Day was declared a national holiday through an act of Congress in 1971, and its roots date back to the Civil War era, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs.

www.usatoday.com



IN HONOR OF OUR HEROES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 After School	2 After School	3 MATH STATE TESTING 3-6 After School	4 MATH STATE TESTING 3-6 After School	5 NO SCHOOL STAFF PD	6
7	8 After School	9 After School	10 After School	11 Last Day for After School	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Last day for Kindergarten KG Graduation More info to come	26 Last day for grades 1-6 6 th Grade Graduation More info to come	27
28	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31 Last Day for teachers			

Please don't forget to be still. To breathe. To sit, relax and enjoy the moment. Our children grow so quickly. Every moment with them is a blessing.





WHAT IS MEMORIAL DAY AND WHY DO WE CELEBRATE IT? (www.usatoday.com)

The origins of the holiday can be traced back to local observances for soldiers with neglected gravesites during the Civil War.

The first observance of what would become Memorial Day, some historians think, took place in Charleston, S.C., at the site of a horse racing track that Confederates had turned into a prison holding Union prisoners. Blacks in the city organized a burial of deceased Union prisoners and built a fence around the site, Yale historian David Blight wrote in The New York Times in 2011.

Then on May 1, 1865, they held an event there including a parade – Blacks who fought in the Civil War participated – spiritual readings and songs, and picnicking. A commemorative marker was erected there in 2010.

One of the first Decoration Days was held in Columbus, Mississippi, on April 25, 1866, by women who decorated graves of Confederate soldiers who perished in the battle at Shiloh with flowers.

On May 5, 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War, the tradition of placing flowers on veterans' graves was continued by the establishment of Decoration Day by an organization of Union veterans, the Grand Army of the Republic.

General Ulysses S. Grant presided over the first large observance, a crowd of about 5,000 people, at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia on May 30, 1873. The orphaned children of soldiers and sailors killed during the war placed flowers and small American flags atop both Union and Confederate graves throughout the entire cemetery.



Fun Summer activities

- ✓ Read. Read. Read. All summer! Read to your child and have your child read to you. Older siblings are great role models when their younger siblings see them reading.
- ✓ Go to a library. Licking County has several libraries throughout the county. Visit all of them!
- ✓ Libraries have story time for younger children!
- ✓ Creek walking. Grab a pair of old tennis shoes and walk around in a creek. Enjoy the beauty and sounds of the world around your walk.
- ✓ Take “non-wet” walks. You can walk anywhere and make it a fun and educational journey.
- ✓ Go swimming. Take in some sun and revamp your mind. Don't forget the sunscreen and your sunglasses!
- ✓ One day road trips are amazing. Ohio has beautiful scenery throughout the entire state.
- ✓ *Learn something new every day!*
- ✓ Play outside:
 - ✓ Kickball
 - ✓ Tag
 - ✓ Leap frog
 - ✓ Sidewalk chalk
 - ✓ Baseball
 - ✓ Football
 - ✓ Ride a bike, a scooter, a skateboard
 - ✓ Camp in your backyard and enjoy the stars
 - ✓ Make yummy Smores

