Last Day Of School Traditions

The last day of school is both a happy and sad occasion. While you celebrate your child's accomplishments, you also mark another year off the calendar.

- 1. Photo. Take a photo of your child in the place where you also took a photo on the first day. That could be by the front door, at the school, or sitting at their desk.
- **2. Balloons.** Count down the last day with balloons. Fill five balloons with a note or a treat and number them. Each day, have your child pop a

Each day, have your child pop a balloon and enjoy the surprise inside.

- **3. Signatures.** Send your child to school on the last day with something that friends can write on and a sharpie. Your child's friends can autograph their shirt, a pillowcase, or another keepsake. This is especially fun for kids moving up to the next school campus, i.e. 5th grade to middle school.
- **4. Planning.** Make a summer bucket list. Sit down together and plan out a few fun things to look forward to doing over the summer break.
- **5. Surprise.** Kick off the summer with a fun surprise when your child comes home from the last day. Keep it simple, such as hiding a bucket of water balloons by the front door or making a Last Day basket full of summer fun.
- **6. Chalk.** If your child rides the bus, decorate the sidewalk from the bus stop to the front door with sidewalk chalk. Write messages like, "Happy summer!"
- **7. Garden.** Start a summer garden. Beans, carrots, cucumbers, and melons can be planted in May or June throughout the US.

-https://onemamasdailydrama.com

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10 Ways To Make Mom Feel Special On Mother's Day

Moms—they really deserve more than a day, don't they? While we always try to let the mothers in our lives know how much they're appreciated, we try extra hard to show her how much we care on Mother's Day!

- **Feed her!** Whether it's by taking her out to her favorite restaurant (or one she's been dying to try) or, even better, cooking a thoughtful meal full of her favorite dishes, it will leave both her heart and her stomach happy.
- Plan a family photo session or maybe one for just you and her. Get silly in front of the camera, and you'll have more than just the memory of your day together—you'll have something tangible to share with her. Plus, as a bonus, you can relive the day all over again when the proofs come in!
 - Treat her to breakfast in bed! Sleeping in and not having to cook breakfast? Most moms can't think of a better gift!
 - Fill up her gas tank, do the grocery shopping, clean the house—when you handle some of these simple but burdensome tasks like these, she'll appreciate your appreciation!
 - Experience something new together! Experiences have a way of bonding people together, so take a hot air balloon ride, go to a concert, skydive, or take a cooking class together, and you'll create memories to last for a lifetime.
 - Every mom has a honey-do list. Consider

tackling a big project on the list that she'll be so thrilled to see completed. We're talking cleaning the garage, organizing a closet, or maybe even a woodworking project.

- Plan a party for her and the other special moms in her life—her mom, her sister, her best friend, and, of course, those moms' children. She'll adore being surrounded by her closest loved ones.
- Whisk mom around the town with a day filled with her favorite activities.
 Soak in some quality time at a spa or a museum together, treat her to a shopping spree, or play a round of tennis with her.
- Treat mom to a gift that is thoughtful and special. Don't just buy another robe or sweater, unless you know she really wants one. Consider buying her something that she wouldn't typically buy for herself or something that she's been talking about for a while. Has she wanted new tableware? Does she have an empty place on her wall that she has been wanting to fill? Could she use a day to treat herself? Get personal with it!
- You can write her a letter, make a list of all the reasons you love and
 appreciate her, or turn it all into a craft project. Just be sure the day
 doesn't pass without you taking the time to thank her for being such a
 thoughtful mother.

-https://www.pauladeen.com

Bring Flowers To Someone Day

April showers means May 15 is Bring Flowers to Someone Day to celebrate why giving flowers plays a significant roll in kindness. Flowers are one of nature's most beautiful gifts. Bring Flowers to Someone Day is the perfect way to give the gift of love and kindness to those around you. Whether you gift flowers to show sympathy or give them just because, the simple act of giving flowers brings joy to the recipient.



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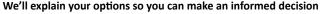
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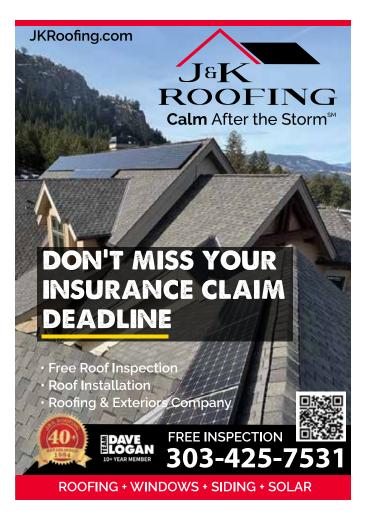
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Teacher Appreciation Day

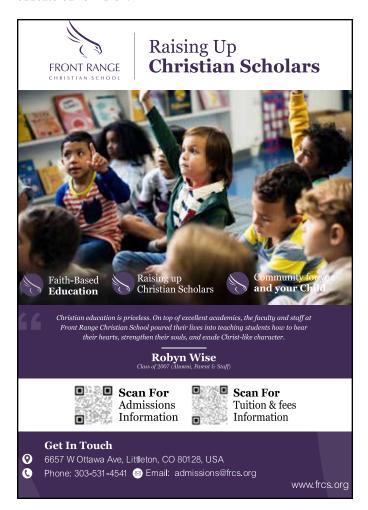
National Teacher Appreciation Day is on the Tuesday during first full week in May as a reminder to show appreciation for teachers everywhere. We are using this National Day to say thank you to all teachers for their time and dedication to educate our children.

When you are looking at your mother, you are looking at the purest love you will ever know.

-Charley Benetto

Mothers are like glue. Even when you can't see them, they're still holding the family together.

-Susan Gale





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Four Meaningful Ways To Honor Memorial Day

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday in May, which is near the end of spring and early summer. The weather is perfect for several memorial picnic ideas and cookouts with friends and family. It's also a good day to get out into nature, watch baseball games, or do other outdoor activities such as fishing or boating on lakes or rivers that are open for recreation during this time of year. While there are many fun things to do on Memorial Day, it's important for everyone to take time this day to reflect on what it means to be an American citizen and what sacrifices our people have made so that we could live freely today. There are many ways to participate in this special day, but here are four meaningful ways to honor our fallen heroes.

Learn: Visit a military memorial or museum.

Show: Make a donation to organizations that support veterans – even if it's just \$5! Show gratitude is through thanking a veteran with a card or letter, donation, or phone call.

Share: Consider taking some time to volunteer or donate your resources on this day. You can volunteer at a veteran's hospital, a nursing home, a local food bank, or a homeless shelter. You can also donate blood to the American Red Cross.

Participate: Go to a local parade or ceremony and watch as an honor guard carries an American flag for the fallen. Visit a war memorial and pay your respects, whether it's at Arlington National Cemetery or someplace closer to home. Visit any veterans in nursing homes and spend some time talking with them about their experiences.

-https://www.viptogo.com/blog ways-to-honor-memorial-day

This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.

-Elmer Davis

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