

Letter from principal for teacher appreciation Manual

Letter from principal for teacher appreciation: A heartfelt gesture to celebrate educators

In the realm of education, teachers are the pillars that uphold the foundation of future generations. Recognizing their dedication, passion, and hard work is essential to foster a positive school environment and motivate educators to continue their impactful work. One meaningful way to express appreciation is through a well-crafted letter from principal for teacher appreciation. Such letters serve not only as tokens of gratitude but also as official acknowledgments of teachers' vital contributions to student success and school community. This article explores the importance of these letters, provides tips for writing impactful messages, and offers sample content to inspire your own expressions of gratitude.

The Significance of a Letter from Principal for Teacher Appreciation

A letter from the principal holds weight far beyond a simple note. It signifies formal recognition from the highest administrative level within the school and demonstrates that the efforts of teachers are valued and appreciated.

Why a Formal Letter Matters

- **Recognition and Motivation:** A written acknowledgment boosts teachers' morale and encourages continued excellence.
- **Fostering a Positive School Culture:** Public recognition promotes a culture of appreciation and respect among staff and students.
- **Building Strong Relationships:** Personalized messages from leadership strengthen the bond between teachers and administration.
- **Setting a Standard:** Demonstrating appreciation from the top sets an example for others to follow.

Impact on Teachers and School Community

When teachers feel appreciated, their job satisfaction increases, which can lead to improved teaching performance and better student outcomes. Additionally, such recognition can inspire other staff members to go above and beyond, creating a ripple effect of positivity within the school environment.

Key Elements of an Effective Teacher Appreciation Letter from the Principal

To craft a meaningful and impactful letter, certain elements should be included to ensure the message resonates and truly honors the recipient.

Personalization

Address teachers by name and mention specific qualities or achievements to make the letter genuine and heartfelt.

Recognition of Contributions

Highlight particular accomplishments, such as innovative teaching methods, mentorship, or community involvement.

Expression of Gratitude

Clearly state your appreciation for their dedication, hard work, and positive influence on students and colleagues.

Encouragement and Inspiration

Motivate teachers to continue their valuable efforts and acknowledge their role in shaping the future.

Professional Tone with Warmth

Maintain a respectful and professional tone while infusing warmth and sincerity to make the message heartfelt.

Sample Structure of a Teacher Appreciation Letter from the Principal

To help you get started, here's a suggested structure for your letter:

Opening Paragraph

- Greet the teacher by name.
- State the purpose of the letter, emphasizing appreciation.

Body Paragraphs

- Share specific examples of the teacher's positive impact.
- Mention any notable achievements or contributions.
- Express personal gratitude and acknowledge their hard work.

Closing Paragraph

- Reinforce your appreciation.
- Offer encouragement and best wishes.
- Sign off with a warm closing and your name and title.

Sample Teacher Appreciation Letter from Principal

Dear Ms. Johnson,

As we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, I want to take a moment to personally recognize and thank you for your exceptional dedication and unwavering commitment to our students and school community. Your passion for teaching and your innovative approach to education have truly made a difference in the lives of many.

Your ability to create an engaging learning environment has not gone unnoticed. The recent science projects you led have sparked curiosity among students and inspired them to pursue their interests further. Your mentorship of new teachers has also helped foster a collaborative and supportive atmosphere within our staff.

On behalf of the entire school community, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your hard work, patience, and positive attitude. Your efforts embody the spirit of excellence we strive for and set a shining example for everyone around you.

Thank you for your outstanding contributions. We are fortunate to have someone of your caliber shaping the future through education.

Warm regards,

Mr. David Smith

Principal

Tips for Writing a Heartfelt and Effective Teacher Appreciation Letter

To ensure your letter truly resonates and conveys sincere appreciation, consider these tips:

1. Be Specific and Sincere

- Mention particular achievements, moments, or qualities that stand out.
- Avoid generic statements; personalize your message.

2. Keep It Concise but Meaningful

- While detailed, ensure the message remains clear and impactful.
- Aim for a tone that is warm yet professional.

3. Use Positive Language

- Highlight strengths and positive contributions.
- Celebrate successes and progress.

4. Include a Personal Touch

- Handwrite the letter if possible, or add a personal note.
- Consider including a small token of appreciation, like a certificate or gift card.

5. Regular Recognition

- Don't limit appreciation to special occasions; make it a consistent practice.
- Regular acknowledgment fosters ongoing motivation.

Additional Ideas for Celebrating Teachers

A heartfelt letter from the principal is a wonderful gesture, but consider complementing it with other recognition activities:

- Organize a Teacher Appreciation Day event with speeches and awards.
- Create a wall of fame or appreciation board displaying messages from students and staff.
- Present certificates of appreciation or small gifts to teachers.
- Publish a special newsletter highlighting teachers' achievements.
- Encourage students and parents to write their own thank-you notes.

Conclusion: Making Teacher Appreciation Count

A well-crafted letter from principal for teacher appreciation is more than just words; it's a powerful affirmation of a teacher's impact and an encouragement to continue inspiring students. Genuine recognition fosters a positive school climate, boosts morale, and reinforces the vital role educators play in society.

Remember, the most meaningful messages are those that come from the heart. Whether you choose to write a formal letter, include personal anecdotes, or pair your message with a small gesture, your appreciation can leave a lasting impression. Celebrate teachers not just during designated appreciation weeks but throughout the year to cultivate a culture of gratitude and respect.

By taking the time to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of your teachers, you contribute to a more motivated, engaged, and effective educational community. Let your words serve as a reminder that their efforts are seen, valued, and appreciated because great teachers truly make a difference.

Letter from Principal for Teacher Appreciation: Recognizing Dedication, Impact, and Excellence

In the realm of education, teachers are the cornerstone of student development, societal progress, and future innovation. Their tireless dedication, unwavering patience, and inspiring mentorship shape generations and influence communities. Recognizing this vital role, school principals often take the initiative to craft heartfelt letters of appreciation to teachers, especially during designated appreciation periods or special occasions. Such letters serve not only as tokens of gratitude but also as affirmations of teachers' invaluable contributions. This article explores the significance of principal-written appreciation letters, their typical content, structure, and the profound impact they have on educators and school culture.

Understanding the Importance of a Principal's Letter of Appreciation

The Power of Recognition in Education

Recognition plays a pivotal role in motivating teachers and fostering a positive school environment. When principals publicly or personally acknowledge teachers' efforts, it boosts morale, encourages continued excellence, and nurtures a culture of appreciation. A well-crafted letter from the principal elevates this recognition, making teachers feel valued and understood.

Furthermore, appreciation letters reinforce the professional identity of educators. They affirm that teachers' dedication extends beyond classroom instruction to embody a commitment to student success and community well-being. In an era where burnout and stress are prevalent among

educators, such acknowledgment serves as an essential reminder of their significance.

Building a Culture of Appreciation

A principal's letter acts as a catalyst for cultivating a school culture rooted in respect and gratitude. When leadership openly celebrates teachers' achievements, it encourages peer recognition and collective pride. Over time, this culture can lead to increased job satisfaction, reduced turnover, and a more engaged teaching staff.

Moreover, the act of writing and sharing appreciation letters can inspire teachers to continually improve and innovate their practices, knowing their efforts are seen and appreciated at the highest levels of school administration.

Key Elements of an Effective Principal's Appreciation Letter

Personalization and Specificity

A compelling appreciation letter is personalized, reflecting genuine acknowledgment of individual teachers' unique qualities and contributions. Specific examples—such as innovative lesson plans, mentorship roles, or extracurricular involvement—highlight the teacher's impact and lend sincerity to the message.

For instance, mentioning how a teacher's dedication to integrating technology enhanced student engagement demonstrates attentive recognition that resonates with the recipient.

Professional Tone with Warmth

While maintaining professionalism, the tone of the letter should also convey warmth and heartfelt gratitude. Striking this balance ensures the message feels authentic and meaningful. Using inclusive language such as "We sincerely thank you," or "Your dedication inspires us all," fosters a sense of community and shared purpose.

Highlighting Impact on Students and School Community

Effective appreciation letters emphasize the ripple effect teachers have on students and the broader school environment. Recognizing how a teacher's efforts translate into improved student outcomes, positive classroom climate, or community involvement elevates the significance of their work.

For example, acknowledging a teacher's role in fostering a safe and inclusive space demonstrates understanding of their broader influence beyond academics.

Encouraging Future Excellence

In addition to expressing gratitude, the letter can motivate continued excellence by acknowledging ongoing efforts and future aspirations. Statements like "We look forward to your continued leadership and innovation" inspire teachers to remain committed and passionate.

Sample Structure of a Principal's Teacher Appreciation Letter

1. Opening Salutation

Begin with a respectful greeting, such as "Dear [Teacher's Name]," setting a warm and professional tone.

2. Expression of Gratitude

Open with clear acknowledgment of the teacher's contributions. Use specific examples to illustrate their dedication.

3. Highlighting Impact

Describe how the teacher's efforts have positively influenced students, colleagues, and the wider school community.

4. Personal Reflection or Anecdote

Share a personal story or anecdote that underscores the teacher's commitment or a memorable moment.

5. Encouragement and Future Outlook

Express confidence in the teacher's continued success and enthusiasm for future collaborations.

6. Closing Remarks

End with a sincere closing statement and best wishes.

7. Signature

Include the principal's name, title, and date.

Sample Appreciation Letter from Principal to Teachers

Dear Ms. Johnson,

On behalf of the entire school community, I want to extend my deepest appreciation for your unwavering dedication and exceptional teaching over the past year. Your innovative approach to integrating technology into your lessons has not only increased student engagement but has also set a standard of excellence that inspires your colleagues.

Your patience and compassion have created a welcoming environment where every student feels valued and motivated to learn. The positive feedback from parents and the noticeable growth in your students' confidence are testaments to your effectiveness and commitment.

One memorable moment was your leadership during the recent science fair, where your mentorship helped students develop their projects and present confidently to the community. It exemplifies your passion for nurturing curiosity and fostering a love for learning.

We are truly grateful for your contributions and look forward to seeing your continued impact in the coming year. Your dedication embodies the spirit of our school's mission, and we are proud to have you as part of our team.

Warm regards,

Dr. Emily Carter

Principal

October 25, 2023

Impact of Principal's Appreciation on Teachers and School Culture

Boosting Morale and Motivation

Recognition from the principal serves as a powerful morale booster. Teachers often face challenges like workload pressures, behavioral issues, and resource limitations. An appreciation letter validates their efforts and encourages perseverance.

Research indicates that teachers who feel appreciated are more likely to be motivated, engaged, and committed to their roles. This positivity translates into better classroom management, innovative teaching strategies, and higher student achievement.

Fostering Professional Growth

Acknowledgment can also motivate teachers to pursue professional development opportunities, contribute to school initiatives, and take on leadership roles. When principals recognize and celebrate excellence, they foster an environment where continuous improvement is valued.

Strengthening School-Teacher Relationships

A personalized appreciation letter enhances trust and rapport between principals and teachers. It demonstrates that leadership values individual contributions and cares about teacher well-being, which can lead to increased collaboration and a cohesive staff community.

Conclusion: The Significance of Thoughtful Appreciation

A letter from principal for teacher appreciation is more than a formal gesture; it is a vital component of a healthy, positive, and thriving educational environment. Thoughtfully written, personalized, and sincere appreciation letters affirm teachers' efforts, inspire continued excellence, and foster a culture of mutual respect and gratitude.

In an era where educational challenges are many, such recognition underscores the importance of valuing those who dedicate their lives to shaping future generations. Principals, by taking the time to craft meaningful appreciation messages, not only honor their teachers but also strengthen the foundation of a supportive and motivated school community.

Ultimately, these letters serve as lasting symbols of gratitude, reminding teachers that their hard work is seen, appreciated, and celebrated—fueling their passion to continue making a difference every day.

Question What should be included in a letter from the principal to appreciate teachers? The letter should include heartfelt gratitude, specific examples of teachers' dedication, acknowledgment of their impact on students, and encouragement for their continued efforts. How can a principal make a teacher appreciation letter more personal? By mentioning individual achievements, sharing memorable stories, and expressing genuine appreciation for each teacher's unique contributions. When is the best time for a principal to send a teacher appreciation letter? Typically during Teacher Appreciation Week or at the end of the school year, but it can also be sent on special occasions like Teacher's Day or school anniversaries. What tone should a principal maintain in a letter of appreciation for teachers? The tone should be warm, respectful, sincere, and encouraging, emphasizing gratitude and recognition of their hard work. How can a principal enhance the impact of a teacher appreciation letter? Including specific examples of teachers' positive influence, personalized messages, and perhaps a small token of appreciation or recognition certificate can enhance its impact. Is it appropriate for a principal to include future encouragement in a teacher appreciation letter? Yes, expressing confidence in teachers' abilities and encouraging continued excellence can motivate and uplift the staff. Can a principal send a digital letter for

teacher appreciation? Absolutely, digital letters or emails are effective and timely, especially when personalized and heartfelt. What are some creative ways to present a teacher appreciation letter from the principal? Presenting it in a beautifully designed card, framing it as part of a recognition ceremony, or including it in a school newsletter can make it more special. How often should a principal write appreciation letters to teachers? While formal letters can be reserved for special occasions, principals should regularly acknowledge teachers' efforts through personal notes or verbal appreciation. What impact does a letter from the principal have on teachers? Such a letter can boost morale, reinforce their value, encourage continued dedication, and foster a positive school environment.

Related keywords: teacher recognition, appreciation message, school leadership, staff acknowledgment, educational gratitude, principal's note, teacher motivation, staff appreciation letter, school positive message, educator recognition

free school employee appreciation days 2015

free school employee appreciation days 2015 marked an important opportunity for schools and communities nationwide to recognize and celebrate the dedicated efforts of educators and staff members. These appreciation days serve as a vital reminder of the crucial role that teachers, administrators, custodians, cafeteria workers, and support staff play in shaping the future of students and fostering positive learning environments. Understanding the significance, planning ideas, and historical context of these events can help schools maximize their impact and ensure staff feel valued and appreciated.

The Significance of Employee Appreciation Days in Schools

Recognizing Dedication and Hard Work

School employees are often the unsung heroes of education. Their daily commitment involves more than just teaching lessons; they develop relationships, support student well-being, manage administrative tasks, maintain facilities, and contribute to a safe and nurturing environment. Appreciation days serve to acknowledge these efforts publicly, boosting morale and reinforcing the importance of their roles.

Building a Positive School Culture

Celebrating school employees fosters a culture of gratitude and respect. When staff members feel appreciated, they are more motivated, engaged, and committed to their work. This positivity can

translate into better student outcomes and a more cohesive school community.

Overview of Free School Employee Appreciation Days 2015

In 2015, several specific days and initiatives were dedicated to honoring school employees across the United States. These days often coincided with national recognition campaigns or were organized locally by school districts, parent groups, or community organizations.

Key Dates and Events in 2015

While the exact dates of appreciation days can vary by region, some common observances included:

- **National Education Support Professionals Week** ? Usually held in late February or early March, this week honors support staff such as paraprofessionals, secretaries, bus drivers, and custodians.
- **National Teacher Appreciation Week** ? Typically in the first full week of May, this week celebrates teachers' contributions.
- **School Employee Appreciation Day** ? Often observed in April or May, this day is dedicated to recognizing all school staff members beyond teachers.

In 2015, many schools and districts aligned their celebrations with these national observances, tailoring activities to highlight the diverse roles within their staff.

Planning and Celebrating Employee Appreciation Days in 2015

Effective planning is key to making appreciation days meaningful. Schools often organized a variety of activities and events to honor their staff.

Ideas for Celebrations and Recognitions

Here are some popular ways schools celebrated in 2015:

- **Personalized Thank-You Notes**: Administrators and students wrote heartfelt messages to staff members, highlighting their individual contributions.
- **Staff Luncheons or Breakfasts**: Hosting a special meal provided an informal setting for appreciation and camaraderie.
- **Award Ceremonies**: Recognizing outstanding employees with awards or certificates fostered pride and motivation.

- **Decorations and Wall of Fame:** Decorating hallways with banners, posters, and photos celebrating staff achievements created a festive atmosphere.
- **Gifts and Tokens of Appreciation:** Small gifts, such as mugs, plaques, or school-branded merchandise, served as lasting reminders of appreciation.
- **Community Involvement:** Inviting students and parents to participate in appreciation activities strengthened community bonds.

Involving Students and Parents

Engaging students and parents in appreciation efforts can amplify the impact. Students can create artwork, write letters, or perform songs dedicated to staff members. Parent-teacher organizations can contribute by organizing appreciation events or providing resources.

Historical Context and the Evolution of Appreciation Days

Understanding the history of school employee appreciation days helps appreciate their importance and how they have evolved over time.

Origins of Employee Appreciation Events

Employee appreciation events in schools trace back several decades, evolving from simple gestures into organized national campaigns. The goal has always been to acknowledge the vital role of staff in student success and school operations.

National Recognition Campaigns

Organizations like the National Education Association (NEA) and the Department of Education have promoted appreciation initiatives, helping schools nationwide recognize their staff annually. These campaigns have increased awareness and provided resources for effective celebrations.

Impact of Appreciation Days on School Communities

Celebrating school employees can have tangible positive effects on school culture and performance.

Boosting Morale and Retention

Feeling appreciated reduces burnout and turnover among staff. Recognized employees are more likely to feel committed and satisfied in their roles.

Enhancing Teamwork and Collaboration

Recognition fosters a sense of community and encourages collaboration among staff members, leading to more cohesive and effective teams.

Improving Student Outcomes

A motivated and happy staff creates a more positive learning environment, which benefits students academically and socially.

Lessons Learned from 2015 Celebrations and Best Practices

Reflecting on the 2015 appreciation activities offers insights into what worked well and areas for improvement.

Best Practices for Future Celebrations

Based on 2015 experiences, successful strategies included:

- Personalization: Tailoring recognition to individual staff members' preferences and contributions.
- Inclusivity: Ensuring all staff roles are acknowledged, from teachers to custodians.
- Community Engagement: Involving students, parents, and local organizations to broaden the appreciation efforts.
- Consistency: Making appreciation a year-round practice rather than a one-time event.
- Creativity: Using innovative ideas to make celebrations memorable and meaningful.

Conclusion

In 2015, free school employee appreciation days played a vital role in recognizing the tireless efforts of educators and support staff who dedicate themselves daily to student success. These observances foster a culture of gratitude, strengthen school communities, and inspire continued excellence. As schools look to the future, embracing innovative and inclusive appreciation strategies can ensure that every staff member feels valued and motivated to contribute their best.

Recognizing school employees is more than a single day's event; it's an ongoing commitment to acknowledging their essential work. By learning from past celebrations like those of 2015, schools can craft meaningful recognition programs that uplift their staff and, ultimately, enhance the educational experience for all students.

Free School Employee Appreciation Days 2015: Recognizing the Unsung Heroes of Education

In 2015, educational communities across the United States once again took time to honor the dedicated professionals who keep schools running smoothly?teachers, administrators, support staff, custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and countless others. The annual observance, known as Free School Employee Appreciation Days, served as a vital reminder of the vital roles these individuals play in shaping the future of students and fostering a positive school environment. This article explores the origins of these appreciation days, their significance in 2015, how schools celebrated their staff, and the broader impact of recognizing educational employees.

Understanding the Significance of School Employee Appreciation Days

The Origins and Evolution of Appreciation Days

School Employee Appreciation Days have roots that trace back to broader efforts to honor workers in various sectors. Recognized as part of National Education Week, these days aim to spotlight the contributions of all personnel involved in education beyond just teachers. The concept gained momentum in the early 2000s as districts recognized that support staff are integral to student success and school operations.

In 2015, the specific days designated for celebrating school employees varied by state and district but generally fell within a week of early March, often aligned with National Teacher Appreciation Week. The emphasis was on acknowledging the often-overlooked roles that support the educational ecosystem.

Why Recognition Matters

Research in organizational psychology and education highlights that recognition and appreciation significantly boost morale, job satisfaction, and retention among school employees. When staff feel valued, they are more motivated, engaged, and committed to their roles, which directly impacts student experiences and learning outcomes.

Furthermore, appreciation days foster a sense of community within schools. They serve as an opportunity for administrators, students, and parents to express gratitude publicly, strengthening relationships and reinforcing the importance of teamwork in education.

How Schools Celebrated in 2015

The methods and scale of celebrations varied widely, from simple acknowledgments to elaborate events. Schools recognized their staff through various initiatives designed to make employees feel appreciated and valued.

Recognition Events and Ceremonies

Many schools organized formal appreciation ceremonies, including:

- Awards Banquets: Staff members received awards recognizing their dedication and specific contributions.
- Morning Announcements: Schools highlighted individual staff achievements during daily announcements.
- Assembly Programs: Student-led or staff-led assemblies celebrated the collective effort of the school community.

Personalized Appreciation Initiatives

To make the appreciation more personal, schools often engaged in:

- Thank You Cards: Students, parents, and administrators wrote personalized notes of gratitude.
- Staff Lunches and Breakfasts: Providing complimentary meals created opportunities for informal camaraderie.
- Gift Giveaways: Small tokens such as gift cards, flowers, or school-branded merchandise served as tangible signs of appreciation.

Community Involvement

Some districts extended appreciation beyond the school walls:

- Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs): Organized appreciation events involving parents.
- Local Businesses: Partnered with schools to provide discounts or gifts to staff.
- Media Features: Local newspapers or school newsletters highlighted staff stories and contributions.

The Broader Impact of Appreciation Days in 2015

Recognizing school employees goes beyond individual acknowledgment; it influences school culture and community perception.

Boosting Morale and Retention

In 2015, districts reported that appreciation events led to increased morale among staff. Teachers

and support staff who felt recognized were more likely to remain in their positions, reducing turnover and maintaining consistency for students.

Enhancing Student Outcomes

A positive school environment fostered by motivated staff correlates with improved student engagement and achievement. Appreciation days helped reinforce a culture where every role was valued, promoting teamwork and shared responsibility.

Fostering a Positive Community Image

Celebrating staff publicly contributed to positive community relations. Parents and community members gained a deeper appreciation for the complexities of school operations and the dedication of personnel.

Challenges and Opportunities in 2015

While many schools successfully celebrated their employees, challenges persisted.

Limited Resources

Budget constraints meant some schools relied on low-cost or volunteer-driven initiatives. Nonetheless, even modest gestures made a difference.

Inclusion of All Staff

Ensuring that all categories of employees—custodians, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, paraprofessionals, and administrative staff—received recognition was a priority but sometimes overlooked.

Expanding Recognition Efforts

The success of 2015's appreciation days inspired districts to develop more inclusive and creative recognition programs, integrating technology (such as social media shout-outs) and involving students more actively.

Looking Forward: The Legacy of 2015's Appreciation Initiatives

The efforts in 2015 underscored the importance of consistent recognition of school employees. Many districts adopted best practices from that year, incorporating appreciation into annual traditions. The emphasis on gratitude contributed to a shift in school cultures, fostering environments

where staff felt genuinely valued.

Moreover, the lessons learned in 2015 helped districts craft more meaningful and sustainable recognition programs, emphasizing genuine appreciation over superficial gestures.

Conclusion

The observance of free school employee appreciation days in 2015 served as a vital reminder of the pivotal role school staff play in shaping educational experiences. Their dedication, often behind the scenes, forms the backbone of effective schools. Recognizing their contributions not only boosts morale but also cultivates a positive, collaborative, and student-centered school climate. As educational communities continue to evolve, the spirit of appreciation initiated in 2015 remains a cornerstone for fostering motivated, engaged, and valued school employees?ultimately benefiting the students they serve.

Question What is the significance of Free School Employee Appreciation Days in 2015? In 2015, Free School Employee Appreciation Days highlighted the importance of recognizing and honoring the hard work of school staff without requiring any cost, promoting gratitude and morale among educators and staff. **When was the free school employee appreciation day held in 2015?** In 2015, many schools celebrated Employee Appreciation Days throughout the week of May 4th, with specific dates varying by district, often aligning with National Teacher Appreciation Week. **How did schools celebrate Employee Appreciation Days in 2015 without spending money?** Schools used free or low-cost methods such as student-made cards, thank-you notes, assemblies, social media shout-outs, and volunteer efforts to recognize staff during 2015's Employee Appreciation Days. **Were there any national campaigns or events supporting free employee appreciation in schools in 2015?** While there was no single nationwide campaign in 2015, many districts participated in local or online initiatives emphasizing appreciation and gratitude for school employees, often sharing ideas on social media.

Related keywords: school employee appreciation, teacher appreciation day 2015, staff appreciation week 2015, school staff recognition, educator appreciation events, school employee recognition ideas, teacher appreciation week dates 2015, staff appreciation activities, school district appreciation days, educational staff thank you

Read the full article online: [free school employee appreciation days 2015](#)