



Grand Prairie News

A Word from the Office

As the final month of school approaches, I would like to recognize our tremendous volunteers one last time. We honored all our volunteers the week of April 20th at all three schools. Banners recognizing our volunteers efforts were hung at each school. An article/ad expressing our thanks was placed in the local newspaper as well. Grand Prairie is a great place for kids thanks to the dedication and hard work of so many people.

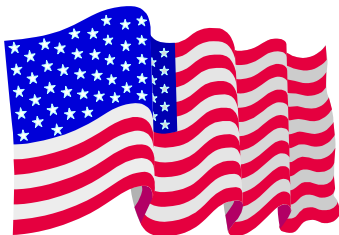
May is a busy month! As we wrap up the school year, please help us make the month of May as productive as possible by continuing to reinforce with your children the importance of staying on task, doing homework and having fun in an appropriate way here at school. It has been a fantastic year here at GP and I truly enjoyed every day working with the parents, community members, staff and most importantly..... the students. I look forward to many more successful years at Grand Prairie.

Mr. Hermanson

News from the District Office

The Frankfort School District 157C announces online registration payments via their RevTrak webstore. Registration payments for 2009-2010 are currently being accepted online for any returning 157C student. Simply go to www.fsd157c.org and click on the "online payments" link. The online payment service powered by RevTrak allows you to make your payment via Visa, Mastercard and Discover credit cards as well as any debit card with the Visa or Mastercard logo. The district is looking forward to incorporating the online payment webstore in the fall for the hot lunch program.

Supporting our Troops

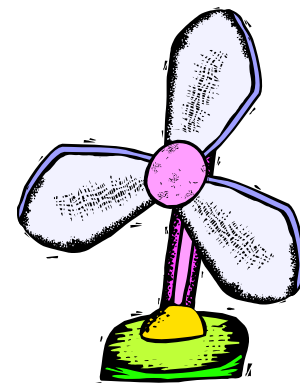


This is your last chance to help us raise over 1000 pounds in supplies for our troops. We are 150 pounds short of our goal weight. Please help us by sending in donations by May 15th. This will be the last day supplies will be collected. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

May 2009

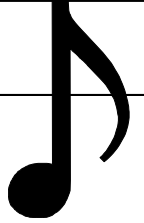
Special points of interest:

- ☺ May 4-8 Educator Appreciation Week
- ☺ May 15—Kindergarten Musical 9:30-10:00
- ☺ May 15—Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea 10:00-11:15
- ☺ May 19— Second Graders Step-up Day at Chelsea
- ☺ May 22—Early Dismissal, 11:20 a.m. NO KDG, EC, BEGIN CLASSES
- ☺ May 25—NO SCHOOL
- ☺ May 27—Field Day
- ☺ May 28 Last Day for EC & Project BEGIN
- ☺ May 29 Last Day for Kindergarten
- ☺ June 1—Last Day for 1st and 2nd grades 10:00 dismissal



Talent Week is Coming!!

As the end of the year approaches, we would like to provide students with the opportunity to share their talents! Starting Monday, May 18, 2009, students at Grand Prairie School will be having "Talent Week" during their assigned music class time. Please encourage your child to share their skills and talents with their classmates. Talents outside of the realm of music are ok to share as well.



The Reading Corner



Reading Strategy of the Month: Visualization

When a movie is made from one of our favorite books, sometimes we are disappointed with the outcome, but often we are thrilled because what is on the big screen is just what we've imagined or visualized from the text. **Visualizing** is a comprehension strategy where students are taught to stop and think about what they are reading by creating a picture in their mind. Teachers sometimes explain visualizing as creating a movie of the text in your head. **Visualizing** helps students to:

- Create mental images from words in the text
- Increase the meaning of the text through mental pictures
- Connect their past experiences to the words and ideas in the text
- Strengthen their relationship to the text
- Increase their imaginative thinking
- Make reading an enjoyable experience

While you and your child are reading together at home, practice **visualizing** by covering up the pictures while reading the text. Ask your child to tell you what they picture happening in the story. What do the characters look like? What do they picture the setting of the story to be? What does the action in the story look like to them? Then, uncover the pictures and discuss the similarities and differences between what they visualized and the actual illustration.

Nurse's Notes

Spring has finally arrived and the sun is out!! But with the sun, we need to think about protection from sunburn. In the past, I have seen some children come in from even a short recess with red skin. It takes only 15 minutes of mid-day summer sun to burn a fair-skinned person.

You may want to consider applying sunscreen to your child's skin before they leave for school, especially their face (avoid eyelids), back of neck, ears and forearms.

Choose a sun block with a SPF of 15 or higher, no sunscreen is better than covering your skin with clothing. Remember, it is estimated that we get 80% of our total lifetime of sun exposure in the first 18 years of life. Help reduce your child's risk by taking the time for sunscreen before school and continue this practice all summer long.

** Adapted from Parents Guide to Sun Protection for Children's American Academy of Dermatology.

Jean Dyer, RN

