

Grand Prairie Gazette

January 15, 2010

HOME OF THE WILDCATS

At A Glance

January 2010

- 18th No School –
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 19th No School – Teacher Institute
- 21st Market Day Pick-up in the gym
4:45 – 5:30 p.m.
- 21st Report Cards go home
- 21st Family Night Out-
Joliet Pottery Lounge
4:00 – 9:00 p.m.

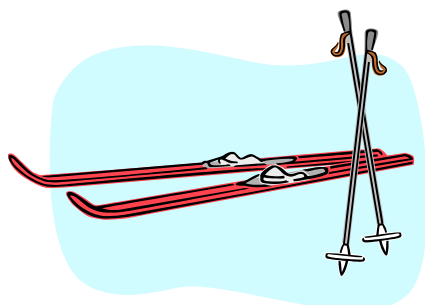
February 2010

- 1st Assembly- Historical Perspective
(*Martin Luther King*)
- 4th Family Reading Night
6:00- 7:00 p.m.
- 9th PTO Meeting – Media Center
6:30 p.m.



Responsibility is the
next piece of the
Character Counts Puzzle

During the months of January and February we will be focusing on being responsible at home, at school and in our community. Students have learned that responsibility is being accountable for our actions and choices and not blaming others for our mistakes. They are being encouraged to be responsible by always doing their best and thinking about how their actions affect others.





Holiday Gift Shop

We would like to thank everyone who helped with or who made a donation to the gift shop. Your help made the gift shop a success.

PTO Award forms went home with your youngest child. Please return forms to the school office by Jan.20th in an Envelope marked PTO AWARDS CONFIDENTIAL. Please fill out one form for each person you are nominating. You may nominate more than one person. The recipients will be honored at our February PTO Meeting held on February 9 at 6:30 pm in the Media Center. All are welcome. Also, nominations will be taken for the 2010-2011 PTO Board Positions.

Yearbook

If anyone has any pictures from the classroom parties or school events, please send them to Dena Berry at bemydena@sbcglobal.net. Also include the teacher's name and grade level. The first yearbook deadline is approaching soon.

FUN FAIR

Fun Fair is on March 20 and set up is March 19 starting at 4:00 p.m. We are in need of some muscle to help set-up and take down the games. If you are interested, please contact Jen Donnell at donnell5@sbcglobal.net. If you are interested in volunteering to run a game, please contact Kim Radaker at kimstamps@att.net.

Valentine's Parties

Valentine's Day parties are just around the corner and the Valentine's Day folders are ready to be picked up in the office. If you are a lead parent, please stop in and pick up your folder and return the volunteer sheet to the office by February 5th.

SCHOOL NEWS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

No Cell Phones in a School Zone Law-

Drivers, please be aware that it is now illegal to talk on cell phones while driving through a school speed zone or a construction zone, unless using a hands free device or speakerphone is enabled, except in cases of emergency to contact law enforcement, health care providers, fire department and other emergency response personnel.

It is also now illegal to compose, send or read text messages, read or compose e-mail, look at the Internet or otherwise compose or send any type of electronic message while driving.

For more information on the new laws, visit <http://www.drivinglaws.org/ill.php>.



Music



Save the date for the 3rd grade music show. It is on Tuesday, March 23rd. We would love to have all 3rd graders present. More information will be coming home soon.

Student Council

Thanks to all the families who donated boots, coats, hats, and gloves/mittens, to the Grand Prairie Mitten Tree. It was a huge success. Once we took care of our Grand Prairie Families who needed items, we packed up 7 boxes and delivered them to the Lambs Fold shelter in Joliet. In November, we also sent 9 cases of non-perishable food items to the Peter Claver Center in Joliet; and with your donations, we helped make care packages for our soldiers. Thanks to everyone who purchased taffy apples in October and to the students who purchased spirit items during their lunch periods. Thanks to everyone who donated baked goods and purchased items at the bake sale during the winter musical.

The money we earned from these fundraisers helped student council make wishes come true this Christmas for so many families at Grand Prairie. We couldn't have done so much without the generosity of our Grand Prairie Families. You truly are the best.

Recycling..... Remember you can send in your used athletic shoes for recycling all year long, just drop them off in the box by the front office. Thanks for helping Grand Prairie GO GREEN!!!

Grand Prairie 5th Grade Student Council is taking part in a community service project to make valentines for our soldiers. If you would like to get involved, you can make a special Valentine of your own for our soldiers. You can drop off the card in the box located in front of the office on or before January 24. Your participation is greatly appreciated. This is a great way to show our soldiers how much we care.



Building Readers

How families can help children become better readers

Your child can't get too much practice reading. Children who learn to enjoy reading early will become better readers. And they are more likely to become lifelong readers. You can encourage your child to read by giving him books he will enjoy. Ask your friends and neighbors for suggestions. Check the book review sections of newspapers and magazines for ideas. Ask your child's teacher. Ask the librarian. And, of course, encourage your child to choose his own books, too!

Reading Rockets, www.readingrockets.org

Six Flags Reading Club 2010

It's that time of year again! Six Flags is offering a free student ticket to each student who completes 6 hours of recreational reading. Reading Log Sheets were sent home with your child. Please initial each entry and then sign the reading log to show the six hours of reading has been completed. Return the log to your classroom teacher by **Friday February 26, 2010, 1:00 pm**. Late entries will not be accepted.



Happy Reading!!

Any questions, please contact Lorie Enright in the Media Center!!

Notes from the Office

- **We are encouraging parents to stand at the bus stop with your student each day, if you are available.**
- **Just a reminder—students cannot change busses to ride home with a friend. The bus company does not allow this.**
- **Please remember students are not allowed to bring toys of any kind to school.**