

Grand Prairie Gazette

February 26, 2010

HOME OF THE WILDCATS

At A Glance

March 2010

1st	Yearbook orders Due!
1 st -5 th	ISAT Testing 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Grades
2 nd	PTO Meeting - Media Center 6:30 p.m.
18 th	Spring Picture Day
23 rd	3 rd Grade Performances 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
25 th	½ day of school -1 st -5 th grade 11:55 a.m. dismissal— Parent/Teacher Conferences
26 th	No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences
29 th - April 2 nd	Spring Break

Reading Aloud

"I always stumble because I read too fast."
"I'm afraid my child won't listen to me." "I was
laughed at when I read aloud at school."
Do you have worries like these when you read
aloud? You're not alone. Many parents avoid
reading aloud to their kids.

However, reading aloud is one of the best ways
to help your youngster succeed in school. Keep
these tips in mind:

- **Everybody makes mistakes. If you make mistakes when reading aloud, your child will learn that it's okay for them to do so, too.**
- **Practice makes perfect. Find a book that you like and read it aloud by yourself until you feel comfortable.**
- **Involve your youngster in the story. Have them turn the pages. Or read one line and let them read the next.**
- **Take your time and don't rush the story. Your child can tell if you're in a hurry. Reading slowly will help you read clearly.**
- **As you feel more comfortable, try changing your voice to show the characters' feelings- joy, sadness, fear. These variations can make the story more exciting for both of you!**
- **Remember that you are helping your youngster learn to enjoy reading. Try different types of reading materials, such as comic strips and poetry.**
- **Above all, try to relax and enjoy the time you're spending with your child.**



PTO NEWS

Spring Fundraiser Our Yankee Candle Spring Fundraiser is under way. Order forms are due back by March 15th, and items are expected to be available for pick up April 12th. Pick up date is Monday, April 12 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

PTO Meeting Please join us on Tuesday, March 2nd for our monthly PTO meeting in the Media Center at 6:30pm. At the March meeting, we will vote in the new by-laws and will take nominations for the 2010-2011 PTO Board.

School News

ISAT Testing will take place March 1st – 5th for all 3rd – 5th grade students. Please make sure that your student is well rested and has a good breakfast each day during test week. A snack will be provided during testing.

Hot Lunch You can check your student's balance and make deposits on the Sodexo's website at www.mymealtime.com . You will need to add 0's to the beginning of you student's ID # to get a total of 9 digits in order to access your account (Example 000123456).

Spring Picture Day is Thursday March 18, 2010. Picture forms will be coming home soon so be on the lookout for them. Don't forget that picture forms need to be with your student at the time of picture taking. There will NOT be retakes for Spring Pictures.

Notes from the Office

Kindergarten registration for 2010-2011 school year will begin April 5th. Registration will take place at Grand Prairie by appointment. We will begin taking appointments starting April 5th. You can make an appointment by calling the school office at 815-436-7000 on or after April 5th.

“Update Earth!”

March 23rd - 3rd Grade Show

5:30 p.m. The classes performing are Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Ray, Mrs. Matheis.

7:30 p.m. The classes performing are Ms. Staszak and Ms. Jones.

Students should meet in their homerooms 15 minutes prior to the show.

It has come to our attention through the Joliet Police Department that the following city laws apply to the use of recreational air guns. We thought our families should be aware of these laws as they pertain to the student age groups attending Grand Prairie.

- **“Air Rifle”**

“Air Rifle” means and includes an air gun, pistol, spring gun, spring pistol, B-B gun, pellet gun or any implement that is not a firearm which impels a breakable paint ball containing washable marking colors or, a pellet constructed of hard plastic, steel, lead or other hard materials with such force that reasonably is expected to cause bodily harm”. 720 ILCS 535/1

- 720 ILCS 535/2

- It is unlawful for any dealer to sell, lend, rent, give or otherwise transfer an air rifle to any person under the age of 13 years...
- It is unlawful for any person to sell, lend, rent, give or otherwise transfer an air rifle to any person under the age of 13 years except where the relationship of parent and child, guardian and ward or adult and pupil, exist between such person and the person under 13 years of age,...

- 720 ILCS 535/3

- It is unlawful for any person under the age of 13 to carry any air rifle on the public streets, roads, highways or public lands within the State, unless such rifle is unloaded.
- It is unlawful for ANY person to discharge any air rifle from across any street, sidewalk, road, highway, or public land or any public place except on a safely constructed target range.

- City ord. 32.4

- “No person shall at any time discharge or set off anywhere within the city or have in his possession for such a purpose any toy firearm, air rifle, toy cannon or any gun that discharges projectiles either by air, spring, explosive substance or any other force.”