



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 19th 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. We truly couldn't do what we accomplished each year if it wasn't for you.

The Frankfort School District participated along with the entire Lincoln-Way school district in a toy drive for the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation. We wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all that participated in this community service project. Adding all the donations together, they collected **over 7400 items!** This was their most successful toy drive ever and we continue to be the largest contributor in the country to the POTCF, each and every year! This is a shining example of how the Lincoln-Way community works so well together. The cooperation and diligence from all those involved, has been very heartwarming and greatly appreciated.

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.

I just wanted to wish all the Grand Prairie families a safe and fun summer. Enjoy each day with your family and friends. Whether you're taking a little vacation, relaxing in your backyard or running around to athletics/clubs/activities for your children...enjoy the time with your family. We all know time flies and they grow up quick.

I wanted to thank all of you and the students for a great year at Grand Prairie. The communication between home and school made the year a successful one. The teachers are extremely dedicated and caring, the parents are supportive and involved and the students work hard and make us smile each day. Having those components and characteristics is a recipe for a successful school. We all make Grand Prairie what it is as a team. Enjoy summer!

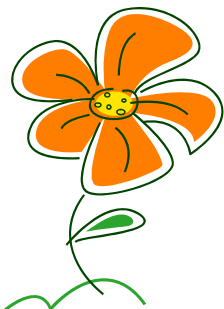
Mr. Hermanson

The Reading Corner

Strategy of the Month: Summarizing

When students know how to **summarize** they understand better what they have read. When a student summarizes they are able to recognize and choose what is most important in the story. Parts of a good summary include:

- the characters in the story
- the setting of the story (where and when it takes place)
- the plot of the story (beginning, middle, and end of the story)



May 2010

Special points of interest:

- ☺ May 3-7 Educator Appreciation Week
- ☺ May 7—Kindergarten Musical 10:30--11:00
- ☺ May 7—Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea 12:15-1:15
- ☺ May 12— Second Graders Step-up Day at Chelsea
- ☺ May 24—Early Dismissal, 11:20 a.m. NO KDG, EC, BEGIN CLASSES
- ☺ May 26—Field Day
- ☺ May 26 Last Day for Kindergarten, EC & Project BEGIN
- ☺ May 27—Last Day for 1st and 2nd grades 10:00 dismissal
- ☺ August 12—Mailing home for classroom teachers, bus routes, etc.
- ☺ August 23—Teacher Institute Day
- ☺ August 24—First Day of School

Note from a Soldier



Below is a note we received from a very grateful soldier and we would like to share this with you.

"I just wanted to take a moment to thank you and your students for the care package that was sent for me to share with my troops. It is absolutely wonderful that the students rally support for us over here! We are all honored & privileged to serve our country, & even MORE honored that you all take time out of your busy schedule to think of us. Life here in the desert is very fast paced, & work days are extremely long. We do not often get a chance to relax & enjoy some of the simple pleasures that we can get back home. When we receive packages, cards, & letters from back home, it reminds us what this is all about. It is not about us, but it is about all of you back there. It is a true honor to serve YOU, our American citizens! I am a graduate of the Frankfort School District, as well as Lincoln-Way! I don't think we need to discuss how long ago that was, let's just say that it was before there was a Lincoln-Way East! Again, please thank your students for being great Americans! Their patriotism does not go unnoticed."

Multiple Intelligences



The final unit of Multiple Intelligences for first and second graders is on our state of Illinois. Students will use various intelligences to learn our state symbols, about our state flag, our state song, and other information about Illinois. This information is a base that will be supported with future social studies objectives. Did you know one of the slogans for our state is The Prairie State? Are you aware the largest crop in Illinois is corn? These are but a few of the interesting facts students have been learning in M.I. classes.

Mrs. Nagy and Mrs. Stanek

PE News

Our students are in the midst of a little friendly competition between boys and girls. Who will collect the most pop tops by Tuesday, May 11th for our Ronald McDonald Charity? Money generated from pop top collections helps allow parents to stay with their children while in the hospital. Christ Hospital has a Ronald McDonald House! A special thanks to Mrs. Pavlik who kindly brings our pop tops to the downtown location for redemption.

FIELD DAY is Wednesday, May 26th. Weather permitting we will be having outdoor activities so please dress your child accordingly; gym shoes, comfortable shorts and t-shirts, etc. For the first time ever, students will be able to enjoy an exciting assembly called Wonder Wheels- a BMX professional stunt show! Field Day activities are for students only, select parent volunteers will be the only parents permitted to attend. Thank you for your cooperation.

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

