



The Hawk Herald

Prairie View Elementary



Dr. Irene Gonzales, Principal

December 1, 2021

A Note From the Office



Dear Prairie View Families,

I am pleased to report that the 2021-2022 school year is off to a great start! Our dedicated staff is working hard every day to ensure students are engaged in learning. We continue to be grateful for the partnership with our families and the trust you have in us to educate your child.

In our busy world, we can get wrapped up in the hustle and bustle, and may have a hard time slowing down. It is also easy to get stuck thinking about things from the past or in the future, while forgetting to focus on the here and now. We all start out with a healthy ambition to accomplish and grow our abilities. Sometimes along the way when things don't seem to come naturally to us, it is easy to give up. We can't! We need to think positively and persevere. At some point, everyone has come upon hard times. They succeeded because they persevered and learned through experience. The children are our future. We are role models for them. Let us take this busy time of year to reflect and be prepared to hit the reset button starting January 1!

How can you help your child be successful in school through the year? 1. Talk about school with your child. Discuss the happy experiences that took place during the school day. 2. Listen to your child. Discuss concerns that he/she expresses. Encourage and be reassuring. 3. Establish good routines for eating, sleeping, and doing homework. Homework should be done in a consistent location and away from distractions. 4. Read to your child every day. 5. Ask your child at dinner what they studied in school during the day. Ask specific questions about school to engage in meaningful conversations. Lastly, show enthusiasm for their school work. They get excited when we are excited!

Throughout this season and as we begin 2022, may your homes and our classrooms be places of peace and goodness. Wishing you a happy holiday season. I hope you find time to do everything that is important to you and your family.

Dr. Irene Gonzales

Important dates in December

- Dec 1-13** Tree of Sharing Tags available
- December 4** 5 Mile Grange Cookies w/Santa
- December 6** Hanukkah Ends
- December 6** PTO Meeting @ 6 pm
- December 14** Tree of Sharing Gifts **DUE**
(In office, wrapped with the tag)
- Dec 20-31** Winter vacation
- December 21** Winter Solstice
- December 25** Christmas Day
- December 26** Kwanzaa Begins
- December 31** New Year's Eve



TREE OF SHARING

The tradition of giving continues for another year at Prairie View with our annual "Tree of Sharing"! If you are a family in need of help this holiday season, please contact Mrs. Toth at 465-7849 or by email at linsey.toth@mead354.org. If you are a family who would like to reach out and help another Mead family, our Tree of Sharing is now up in our lobby thru December 10th. Please come look at the tree, choose a tag, and write down your name, phone number the number of the tag and return the gift to our office by December 14th. Have your gift wrapped with the tag attached to the front for easy distribution. Thank you for helping make the holidays special for everyone!



ANNUAL VANESSA BEHAN

SUPPLY DRIVE

Please click [HERE](#) for an extensive wish list from the nursery.

The nursery's most urgent needs include:

- diapers
- non-perishable food items
- household cleaning supplies
- personal hygiene products



Prairie View and Skyline are joining together to serve our community with our annual supply drive to benefit the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery. This nursery is the only facility of its kind in Spokane that assists families with emergency childcare needs at no cost. The nursery runs completely from donations. While we cannot accept money for the nursery we would like to support them with donated items.

Please join staff from both schools on December 11 from 10-11 in the Prairie View bus loop. If the drop off time doesn't work for your family please feel free to send your donations to school prior to December 11.

All families are invited to participate. So much joy can come from helping others. Therefore, we are encouraging students to ask for a few chores to earn the money to purchase an item for a child in need.

Lunch Menu

Supply and shipping issues are making it difficult for the schools to plan meals. Our staff do their very best to have accurate menus for you and your children to count on. Please check [HERE](#) each week to make sure you know what will be served for breakfast and lunch.

Want to know what is happening around School?

*Visit our website with this [LINK](#) and take a look at the school and district calendar.



*Follow us on Facebook for all the latest news! Join us [HERE](#).

Report to Parents Setting Goals

Setting goals motivate students and is as an invaluable skill needed for school and beyond. Families can support students in the process by following these steps.

Pick It

Encourage your child to consider their dreams and passions and pick goals that are important and meaningful.

Map It

Help map the path from where they are now to where they want to be.

Do It

Encourage them to take action, focus on the first step, and give it their best effort.

Own It

Help them take responsibility for making it happen, keep a positive attitude, and own mistakes as well as successes.



Celebrate It

Acknowledgment and celebration build confidence and motivation.

Make It a Family Affair

Pick a family goal and work to achieve it together. After the family experience, have each family member pick a personal goal.

Upcoming Events in January

- January 1** New Year's Day – Happy 2022!!!
Kwanza Ends
- January 3** Back to School
PTO Meeting @ 6 pm
- January 14** MLK Assembly/Activity (Virtual)
- January 17** NO SCHOOL – MLK Jr Day
- January 28** Secondary schools - early release
Elementary schools – regular day



ARE YOU READY FOR COOKIES WITH SANTA?



LIVE REINDEER SANTA

SCAVENGER HUNT

Please bring non-perishable donations for the Mead Food Bank and your own camera for pictures!

Questions? Send an email to fivemilegrange@hotmail.com

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



FIVE MILE PRAIRIE GRANGE #905 SURE IS!
JOIN US FOR A DRIVE THRU HOLIDAY EVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 FROM 4-8 P.M.
3024 W. STRONG ROAD, SPOKANE



Ms. Martin's Music Notes



Ukulele Fever? November has been so fun for our 3rd-5th graders as we've been learning some basics about the ukulele. Many kids may be asking for a ukulele for Christmas so I wanted to give PV families some tips on purchasing a decent ukulele. Amazon has many to choose from and a decent one will cost anywhere from \$40-\$75. Make sure to buy a soprano or concert size ukulele with machine head tuning pegs (look like little gears). Solid wood is better than plastic and makes for a nice quality sound. Many ukuleles come in a kit that includes a case, digital tuner, and a strap. I recommend getting a digital tuner for sure so kids can tune the instrument themselves. Finally, youtube has great beginner play along videos for kids to practice. Wouldn't a ukulele make a fabulous Christmas gift? Reach out to me if you have further questions! Lisa Martin, music teacher, lisa.martin@mead354.org.



Spokane County Fire District 9 2021 Santa Schedule by Date and Station



| <u>Dec.</u> | <u>Station</u> | |
|------------------|----------------|--|
| 4 th | (98) | Santa and his firefighter helpers will be traveling through the Morgan Acres neighborhood from 5-9pm. |
| 8 th | (92) | Santa will be making his way through Upper and Lower Gleneden, and then into the Blackhawk neighborhood from 5-8pm. |
| 9 th | (91) | Santa will be visiting the Brentwood neighborhood from 5-8pm, starting at Mill & Woodway and visiting as many streets as possible before finishing up in the Bellwood apartments area. |
| 10 th | (91) | Santa will be in the Fairwood and Stone Horse areas from 5-8pm, starting at the Fairwood south entrance and heading north towards Mill. He will then head over to the Stone Horse neighborhood where he will start on Dakota and work his way towards Palomino. |
| 13 th | (92) | Santa will be visiting the Camelot area between 5-8pm, starting at the Hwy 2 entrance and working through Camelot into Forest Glen. |
| 14 th | (94) | Santa and his firefighter helpers will be visiting Frasier Estates and the eastern portion of Northwood. |
| 15 th | (99) | Santa will visit South Linwood from 5-8pm, starting at Francis & Atlantic and crisscrossing the neighborhood between Division & Monroe, heading north to finish up near Cascade & Wall. |
| 16 th | (99) | Santa will visit the North Linwood area between 5-8pm, starting at Washington & Cascade crisscrossing the neighborhood between Wall and Division, then heading north and finishing up in the Hawthorne & Wall area. |
| 17 th | (93) | Santa will be in the 7 & 9 Mile areas between 5-8pm, starting at Tormey & Charles, then working down Hedin and adjacent streets. He will then head to the 7 mile area making a loop through Parkside & Kendick before finishing with visits to Johannsen, Dogwood & Birchwood. |
| 17 th | (96) | Santa will be at Forker and Scribner at 6pm, then he will stop at Forker and Temple at 6:30pm and then onto Forker and Lincoln at 7:15pm. |
| 17 th | (97) | Santa will visit the Nine Mile area starting at 5:30pm from Station 97 to Inch, down Charles to Highland, back to Katie and Maybob, to Birdie, to Bluegrass, to the end of Westshore, back past Station 97, down Charles to Southbank, Waterview and Westlake. |
| 18 th | (95) | Santa will be visiting the Falcon Ridge, Prairie Breeze & Granger Terrace neighborhoods on Five Mile Prairie north of Strong and west of Five Mile Road from 5-9pm. |
| 19 th | (95) | Santa will be visiting the Jesse's Bluff & Northview Estates neighborhoods on Five Mile Prairie north of Johannsen and east of Five Mile Road from 5-9pm. |

Look for live updates on Santa's nightly progress by following him on SCFD9's Facebook page — Spokane County Fire District 9.

Donations of non-perishable items go to the Mead Food Bank.



Helping Children Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

Mead School District



December 2021

Improve conversations with your child about the school day

Talking with your child about school every day shows her that you think her education is important. And discussing what she's learning and doing is a great way for you to get a sense of her strengths and areas she might need help with.

But if all you hear when you ask your child how school is going is "fine," try these conversation strategies:

- **Talk about your own day first.** Give your child the kinds of details you'd like to hear from her. For example: "I did a lot of different things today. I had a meeting with my boss in the morning. I took Grandma to her doctor's appointment this afternoon. Afterward, we stopped at the store to pick up some milk and vegetables." Then ask her to tell you about her day.
- **Ask specific, open-ended questions.** "Is your schoolwork too hard, too easy or just right?" "What did you do today in class that made you feel good?" "What was the funniest thing that happened today?"
- **Look over your child's schoolwork.** Did the teacher return a worksheet or drawing? Make several observations about what you see—what you remember liking about the subject, what it reminds you of, etc. Then say, "Tell me about what you learned about this."



Celebrate accomplishments

He did it! Your child raised his math grade this quarter. Or he finally finished reading a book series. The good feelings that come with reaching a challenging goal are great motivators. To encourage them, help your child celebrate his hard work and accomplishment. Post a picture of him with his report card or book in a place of honor, or serve a victory dinner of his favorite foods.

Strengthen study skills

Study skills are increasingly vital as students reach upper grades. Help your child practice:

- **Taking notes.** When she reads at home, have your child write down key words, facts and main points.
- **Planning study time.** Have her make a to-do list before a test: Review, draw diagrams, solve sample problems, etc. Then help her schedule time for each task.



Highlight character heroes

You are your child's primary role model. But you don't have to be the only one! Draw on other people to provide examples of positive traits and actions. Point to:

- **Relatives, friends** or celebrities who show respect, responsibility, honesty or other desirable behavior.
- **Your heroes.** Talk with your child about people such as John Lewis, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Corrie ten Boom and John Glenn and why you admire them.



Explain to your child that heroes aren't always famous. They can be familiar people like a grandmother who worked to put a child through college. Encourage your child to find or draw pictures of his heroes.



Respond to cheating by addressing the reasons why it happens

When elementary schoolers cheat in school, understanding the reasons why is an essential part of stopping the behavior. Here are four common reasons:

1. **They are afraid** of what their parents will do if they earn a poor grade. Make it clear that a low grade would not be the end of your love for your child. Say that you would be more concerned about the situation than angry.
2. **They have high expectations** for their own academic achievement. Remind your child that a grade on a test or assignment doesn't reflect a person's worth or intelligence.
3. **They think cheating** is no big deal. For many children, the line between right and wrong is still a bit blurry. Tell your child that cheating is *always* wrong. Cheaters rob themselves of learning, and they are unfair to honest students.
4. **They were asked to.** Help your child role-play turning down a request to cheat.

Source: A. Morin, "How to Discipline Your Child for Cheating in School," Verywell Family.



How can I help my child learn to be more patient?

Q: My son wants everything now. He complains loudly when he has to wait. His teacher says his impatience is becoming a problem in class. What can I do about this?

A: It takes patience to wait for a turn to speak, to read all the way to the end of a long book, or to understand something that isn't immediately clear. Helping your child develop more patience will make learning easier for him—and his classmates.



To strengthen patience:

- **Acknowledge the challenge.** Let your child know you understand how hard it can be to wait for something. Then explain that everyone has to learn patience, and that you will help him with this skill.
- **Set an example.** When you're stuck in traffic, for example, stay calm. Say something like, "Let's use this waiting time to make up a story."
- **Provide practice.** When your child asks for something, say, "In a minute." Enjoy activities together that require patience, such as putting together puzzles and baking.
- **Share strategies to use** while waiting, such as observing things around you and reading to pass the time until another activity.
- **Notice and praise success.** "You waited patiently while I listened to your brother. Now I am going to listen carefully to you."

Parent Quiz

Is your child spending leisure time wisely?

All work and no play is a dull way to live. But all play and no work leaves your child unprepared for life. Are you helping your child use time out of school in productive ways? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

1. **Do you set** limits on recreational screen time?
2. **Do you make** reading together a regular family activity?
3. **Do you ensure** that your child takes part in daily physical activity?
4. **Do you help** your child find out more about topics that interest her?
5. **Do you ask** your child to help you with tasks you are doing around your home?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are encouraging your child to spend free time in positive ways. For each no, try that idea.

"The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot."
—Michael Altschuler

Promote persistence when the going gets tough

Schoolwork can be challenging, and there may be times your child will feel like giving up. To encourage her to persevere:

1. **Discuss past successes.** Has she overcome obstacles like this before? How did she do it?
2. **Set a realistic short-term goal.** Learning the two times table is a key step toward mastering multiplication.
3. **Recognize improvement.** Trying hard and learning from mistakes are major accomplishments!

Use family meetings to teach leadership skills

Leadership develops important school skills like communication and problem-solving. But kids need to learn that good leaders aren't bossy—they make people *want* to work together. Family meetings are a great way to help your child consider other people's points of view as you work toward shared goals. Let your child take a turn chairing the meetings and making sure everyone gets a chance to be heard.



Make responsibility easier

Elementary students are still learning how to be responsible. To help your child understand and carry out responsibilities:

- **Use checklists.** Write down what your child is expected to do: chores, self-care responsibilities, tasks for school. Let him check items off as he completes them.
- **Designate places** where he should store his things when he's not using them.
- **Show him how** to track assignments and commitments on his own calendar.

Helping Children Learn[®]

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