



The Hawk Herald

Prairie View Elementary



Dr. Irene Gonzales, Principal

February 1, 2022

A Note From the Office



Dear Prairie View Families,

Happy New Year! I wish to thank you all for your continued support of our wonderful school and amazing students and teachers. I feel blessed to be part of such a wonderful community, and have been so impressed with the dedication you all show to us each and every day. We truly appreciate all that you do to partner with our staff to make your child's learning experience the best it can possibly be.

As you may know, spring conferences this year have been postponed until March 9th, 10th and 11th. This change allows teachers to have an added month of data to assess students and provide parents with a more accurate picture of student progress. In addition, better assessment data will help teachers and staff chart each student's plan for the remainder of the year more accurately.

Teachers are excited to share all of the progress students have made so far this year and how we can work together to start the second half of the year strong! This is a wonderful opportunity to partner with your child's teacher and to see how they are continuing to grow, so please be sure and schedule your conference in March once the link goes live on February 25 at 7pm.

Sincerely,

Irene Gonzales, Principal

Important dates in February

- February 1** Box Tops DUE
- February 2** Groundhog Day
- February 4** Early Dismissal @ 12:45 pm
- February 7** PTO Meeting @ 6 pm
- February 14** Valentine's Day
- February 18** Class Picture & Personality Portraits
- February 21** NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day
- February 25** Pick-A-Time Conference Scheduler live @ 7pm



Valentine's Day can be a fun and exciting time in school! Due to some Covid restrictions that are still in place, we ask that you not send any outside food or treats to be shared by the whole class. Many teachers are asking that you send a "double snack" that day with your child so they have something to snack on during their party. As always, class Valentine cards are welcome and encouraged to be handed out to their classmates.

Lost and Found



Our Lost and Found is full!

Items will be kept at school through mid- March. Shortly after parent/teacher conferences we will send out any unclaimed items to a local charity. Come see if any of these unclaimed coats, hats and gloves are yours.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Friday, February 4th is an early dismissal day. Students will be let out at 12:45 pm and lunch will be provided that day for all grade levels. Buses will also run this day. If it takes your child 15 minutes to get to their stop after school lets out, please plan to meet them 15 minutes after the 12:45 dismissal and so on. Thank you!

NO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS DAY



Monday, February 21st is Presidents Day. There will be no school on this day.

Enjoy the long weekend!

ATTENDANCE CALLS

If you email a teacher about your child's absence, please also call into the office or student attendance line (465-7884) to report your child ill. We are here to answer your questions and are a great resource to help you navigate through all the protocols that are in place this year.

Also, please understand that the teachers may not read their email in time to get information to us and we could need more information. A call home will be going out if your kiddo is absent without further information. *Thank you!*

Upcoming Events in March

March 1	22-23 School Year Registration Opens
March 7	PTO Meeting @ 6pm
March 9	Early Release @ 12:45 pm Student Conferences 1-5:25 pm
March 10	Non-Student Day Student Conferences 12-7 pm
March 11	Non-Student Day Student Conferences 8-11:25 am
March 13	Daylight Savings Time (Spring Ahead!)
March 17	St Patrick's Day
March 18	LID Day – Non-Student Day
March 20	Spring Equinox



Sponsored by the PV PTO

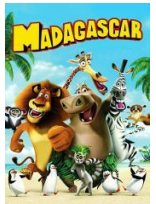
Just take a look at some of the wonderful opportunities that have been given to our students through the PTO...



Prairie View was fortunate to win a "field trip" from the Blue Zoo in January. Thanks to the generosity of our PTO, our entire school was able to attend in three separate sessions and still follow all Covid protocol! The kids had a blast as they were introduced to several "scaly friends"! And if that weren't enough, PTO also purchased a "Children's Matinee" ticket for each and every one of our kids! Enjoy the movies and thank you PTO for bringing fun to winter days!!



MINIONS



Report to Parents

Combat Cold and Flu



Get Your Flu Vaccination

One of the best ways to help slow the spread of seasonal, germ-causing illnesses is to receive immunizations, like the flu shot. The CDC recommends anyone above the age of six months receive a flu vaccine every year.

Wash Your Hands

Washing your hands for 20 seconds is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others.

Disinfect High-Touch Surfaces

Lysol Disinfecting Wipes and Lysol Disinfecting Spray make it easy to disinfect surfaces like desks and door handles at home and at school.

Support the Kinsa FLUency Program

Encourage your child's school to apply for the Kinsa FLUency program, an early detection program for illness in schools. Participating schools will receive free Lysol Disinfecting Wipes and Kinsa smart thermometers that help notify school nurses and officials, as well as parents, of illness levels and trends in the community.

Content Courtesy
NAESP Partner Lysol

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National Association of
Elementary School
Principals

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](#).

Dressing for the Weather



Winter is in full swing! Please remember the following when sending kids to school:

We **will** be going outside every day, weather permitting. That is, if it isn't snowing or raining heavily, or the temperature isn't below 17 degrees (with the wind chill), we will go outside. Please dress your child in appropriate clothing for the weather:

- a warm coat and hat
- mittens or gloves
- snow pants
- boots



An extra pair of socks/pants in your child's backpack will help ensure they can be warm and dry for the entire day.

Please make sure your child's name is on all items. You would be surprised how many pairs of black snow pants we get!

Helping Children Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

Mead School District



February 2022

Enjoy learning activities that honor notable February figures

February is filled with birthdays of people you and your child can have fun learning about. Here are just a few heroes, writers, inventors and artists to celebrate together:

- **Langston Hughes** (Feb. 1). Read *Dreams*, a poem by the renowned Harlem Renaissance poet. Ask about your child's dreams for the future.
- **Abraham Lincoln** (Feb. 12). Challenge your child to memorize the 16th president's Gettysburg Address.
- **George Washington Gale Ferris, Jr.** (Feb. 14). Have your child write a poem or story about a ride on this engineer's most famous invention: the Ferris wheel.
- **Nina Simone** (Feb. 21). Listen to the singer's music and learn about her life and work.
- **George Washington** (Feb. 22). What would your child want to do if she were President of the United States?
- **Pierre-Auguste Renoir.** (Feb. 25). Look at the Impressionist artist's paintings in a book or online. Ask your child to paint one of her own.



✓ Try techniques that teachers use to improve cooperation and behavior

Teachers share a lot of the same challenges parents do—getting children to pay attention, complete work and respond to requests, etc. And the solutions they use to keep a class full of kids on task also work for families at home.

- Try these teacher-tested strategies:
- **Focus on the tasks** that you want to be routine. Explain step-by-step what you expect your child to do.
 - **Post a schedule.** Knowing what to do when without being told lets your child feel independent.
 - **Prepare your child** for transitions. Let him know how many minutes he has left before he has to stop and do something else.
 - **Use silent signals.** Flick the light off and on to give a five-minute warning before bedtime.
 - **Give your child** meaningful things to do. Ask him to help the family by doing household chores. Put him in charge of making and updating the grocery list.

Plan for responsibility

Some children have a hard time taking responsibility for their schoolwork. To help your child become more responsible:

- **Ask her to make a plan.** "What could you do to help you remember ... ?"
- **Let her try out her plan.** If it doesn't work, let her learn from the consequences.
- **Suggest changes** she could make, but let your child put them into action.

Expect your child's best

Expressing realistic, high expectations for your child increases the chances that she'll meet them. To help her along:

- **Don't show surprise** when your child does well. Instead, act like you never doubted that she would.
- **Accept that she'll** mess up sometimes. Show your love when she does.
- **Empower your child** to take action when something goes wrong. Help her think about what she can learn from it to use in the future.



Encourage your child to think before writing

Thinking and planning are important parts of the writing process. To help your child organize his thoughts when writing:

- **Suggest** that he talk through his ideas with you before he begins to write.
- **Encourage** him to make an outline. This helps him present his points in an order that makes sense.
- **Help him focus** on what he wants to say when he writes his rough draft. He can correct spelling and grammar later.





My child believes that faster is better. What should I do?

Q: My son loves to race, in sports and in school. He rushes through his work and doesn't take time to be neat or check his answers. How can I convince him to slow down and work carefully?

A: Your son seems to view school as a competition. But being first isn't what matters when it comes to schoolwork. Accuracy is far more important.

To help your elementary schooler learn to take more care:

- **Consult his teacher.** Say that you would like to work together on a plan to help your child focus on quality work, not speedy work.
- **Talk to your child.** Since he likes competitive sports, you might compare schoolwork to shooting free throws in basketball. It's not speed that matters—it's whether the ball goes in the basket.
- **Review your child's completed assignments.** Let him know you are going to check for neatness and accuracy. If his work is not up to a reasonable standard, you'll ask him to redo it, since he is responsible for the quality of his work. He'll soon figure out that by slowing down, he can do the work right the first time—and that takes less time in the long run.



Parent Quiz

Are you using report cards effectively?

Your child's report card should be a conversation starter. Whether she does well or worse than you feared, do you talk with your child about what's working, what's not, and how to move forward? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

1. **Do you show** that you take report cards seriously by making time to discuss them?
2. **Do you ask** if your child thinks her grades reflect her effort and progress, and why or why not?
3. **Do you stay** calm and focus your talk on what your child can learn from her grades, rather than criticizing?
4. **Do you help** your child plan steps to maintain good grades and improve poor ones?

5. **Do you bring up** questions or concerns with the teacher?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are using report cards as learning tools. For each no, try that idea from the quiz.

"Excellence is the gradual result of always trying to do better."
—Pat Riley

Share household math tasks

Involving your child in everyday math activities helps him understand just how useful math skills can be. Together you can:

- **Start a family project.** Planning to paint a bedroom? Have your child help you measure and figure out how much paint you'll need.
- **Clip coupons.** "If we use this coupon, will the item cost less than the other brands?"
- **Save for a goal.** Help your child choose an item to save for, such as a toy he wants. How much will he need to save each week for how long? Keep track on a chart.



Think about how you talk to your elementary schooler

Whether you are encouraging or correcting your child, the way you speak can affect her response. Consider your:

- **Words.** Be specific.
- **Tone.** Aim to sound confident, rather than stern or unsure.
- **Expression.** A relaxed look encourages cooperation better than an angry one.
- **Body language.** If possible, get on your child's level and face her eye-to-eye.

To encourage skill-building practice, 'gamify' it

Children love games. Making a learning activity into a game is a great way to keep your child interested. After reading together, for example, you could challenge your child to summarize the story using only three sentences. Or take turns making up a new story, sentence by sentence, using the same the characters as the story you read.

Source: M. Sailor and L. Hornner, "The Gamification of Learning: A Meta-analysis," *Educational Psychology Review*, Springer.

Helping Children Learn[®]

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Report to **PARENTS**

Combat Cold & Flu

Get Your Flu Vaccination

One of the best ways to help slow the spread of seasonal, germ-causing illnesses is to receive immunizations, like the flu shot. The CDC recommends anyone above the age of six months receive a flu vaccine every year.¹

Wash Your Hands

Wherever the winter months may bring you, always be sure to wash your hands thoroughly and often. Taking the recommended twenty seconds to wash your hands with soap and water is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others!²



Stay Home if Sick

If your child is exhibiting any cold or flu symptoms, it is recommended to stay home from school. The same goes for staying home from work or running errands if you are sick yourself! This will help prevent you from spreading your illness to others.²

Disinfect High-Touch Surfaces

Lysol Disinfecting Wipes and Lysol Disinfecting Spray make it easy to disinfect surfaces at home and school. Disinfect frequently touched areas from desks to door handles to help protect you, your family, and the community from the spread of illness-causing germs. For more information, visit Lysol.com/HERE.

Support the Kinsa FLUency Program

Encourage your child's school to apply for the Kinsa FLUency program, an early detection program for illness in schools across the country. While

cold and flu begin to peak during this time of year, participating schools will receive free Lysol Disinfecting Wipes and Kinsa smart thermometers that help notify school nurses and officials, as well as parents, of illness levels and trends within the community.

Content courtesy of NAESP Partner Lysol.

¹ CDC.org, "[Who Needs a Flu Vaccine](#)"

² CDC.org, "[Healthy Habits to Help Protect Against Flu](#)"

Life is tough! And things are harder now more than ever before. We all feel alone, down in the dumps or frustrated from time to time. If someone around you needs a little “pick me up”, try one of these suggestions below! A little kindness can go a long way...

Friendly February 2022

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

1 Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them

2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone

4 Organise a virtual 'tea break' with a colleague or friend

5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while

7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others

8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust

9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you

10 Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

14 Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you

15 Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message

16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

18 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today

23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them

25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why

26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together