



The Prairieland Press

"It's a Great Day to Be a Cougar!"

March 2024

Attendance Line: 557-4473 Please use the attendance line to report an absence or late arrival.	Principal: Scott Peters Office: 557-4424 Hours: 6:45-3:15	School Website: www.unit5.org/prairieland Calendar: http://www.unit5.org/Page/38
---	--	---

Principal's Message:

We have completed two thirds of our school year and we are headed into the home stretch. During the next few weeks our 3rd-5th grade students will be participating in the state testing known as IAR. (Illinois Assessment of Readiness). They will take multiple tests in both Language Arts and Math. Also, our 5th graders will be taking the state Science tests during the week of April 4-8. Teachers will be sending information soon regarding their testing schedules. Please make every effort to have your children here on testing days.

Kindergarten Registration & Preview

Kindergarten registration and preview for the 2024-25 school year is quickly approaching. On March 6th we will be having future kindergarteners sign up for a time slot to come in and meet with a kindergarten teacher. In order to get started with registration for your kindergartener, you must first contact the main office at 309-557-4424, even if you are an existing family. **Also, if you have existing students in the district, registration is now open for the 2024-25 school year.**

Reading:

March Madness is almost upon us! The last several years we have had staff record books and have the students listen and choose their favorite book as they go head to head in competition. We have the winning books progress through the bracket until we have a winner chosen by the students. We will be starting soon, so be sure to ask your students what their favorite books are in the contest. Maybe you have one or two at home that you can read-a-loud together!



Young Author Winners!

Each year students get a voluntary option to write a story of their own to submit to the Young Authors contest. The stories are submitted from all over the district to the Unit Office and voted upon by a selected committee. I am excited to announce that we had two winners this year from Prairieland. Congratulations to Aaditha Simon and Shriya Patel. They will now make displays about their books that will be showcased in the community at a location yet to be determined.



Arriving on Time

I want to continue to emphasize the importance of getting the kids here and into class on time. Our school day starts at 7:45. Students begin their daily routines at 7:45, which sets the tone for the day. When students arrive on time it gives them a sense of calm. Being on time is a life skill which students need to learn and understand for the rest of their lives! Thanks for your help with this!

Volunteers:

If a teacher is in need of a volunteer during the year they may be reaching out for your assistance. We then will make sure the volunteers have gone through the appropriate steps to be cleared.

PBIS: Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports:

PBIS is the system we use to provide an overall structure for behavior within our classrooms and school. Each month throughout the year we emphasize basic vocabulary and affirmations. During the month of February our theme was empathy and kindness. Each month students can earn a fun “Out of the Blue” activity. Our out-of-the-blue for February was another round of our virtual bingo! The kids love this event each year!

Family Bingo Night!!

Save the Date: PIECE's Family Fun Night, Pot-O-Gold Bingo, will take place on Saturday, March 16th at Prairieland. Doors will open at 3:30 p.m., with bingo beginning at 4:00p.m.

A-To-Z Catering will be back with food specials from their truck. Pre-sale ticket orders have been sent home for the event.



Attendance Call In:



This is just a reminder that any time your child is going to be absent, **we do need a call to our attendance line with the reason for their absence.** We are required to document the reason for your child's absence on a daily basis. Please use the attendance line phone number to record the absence. That phone number is 309-557-4473. This number can be called 24/7.

Upcoming Calendar Events:

March

- 1 **Women's History Month Begins**
- 5 Spirit Day: Sports Team/Jersey Day
- 6 **Kindergarten Preview Day**
- 10 Daylight Savings Time
- 11-22 State Testing Grades 3-5
- 11 P.I.E.C.E. Meeting-6:30p.m.
- 16 **Family Bingo 4-6p.m.**
- 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
- 22 Last Day Before Spring Break
Talent Show
- 25-29 Spring Break**

April

- 1 School Resumes

