



Paw Prints

Volume 2, Issue 26

October 2, 2009

Sponsored by Tutor Train

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Grant Ranch is Proud to Announce... Walk to School Day

Denver Public Schools is celebrating is "Walk to School Day" on Wednesday, October 7, 2009. "Walk to School Day" began in 2007 when millions of children, parents, and community leaders from 42 countries around the world joined together in celebration of the International Walk to School Month.

"Walk to School Day" is more than getting together with children and going for a walk to school as a special event. This is certainly important but there are other goals:

- *Encourage physical activity
- *Raise awareness of how walk able a community is.
- *Raise concern for the neighborhood.
- *Reduce traffic congestion and
- *Share valuable time with community leaders, parents and children.

Come join us on "Walk to School Day!"

Welcome to Grant Ranch!

We are proud to announce that we have one hundred fifty new students! Grant Ranch staff and members of the PTO would like to welcome each and every one of them to our school.

This week we are welcoming the following Early Childhood Education (ECE) students:

Danessa Chavez	Kaden Hall	Natalie Jessen
Jensen Martineau	Ethan Martinez	Mia Martinez

Volunteer of the Week

Congratulations, Anita Hansen and Blanca for volunteers of the week! They have been so great by coming to classroom 3 days a week and reading with students.

Cookie Dough and Limo Ride

The Cookie dough will be arriving on Wednesday, October 7, 2009. It will be available for parent/student pick up from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Congratulations to the 131 students whose cookie sales earned them a limo ride to lunch!

Parent Teacher Conferences

In order to accommodate the various schedules of our parents/guardians and the change to trimesters, Grant Ranch School will be conducting formal parent teacher conferences on Thursday, October 22, 2009 and Monday, October 26, 2009 from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The locations of the conferences for each grade level will be communicated in upcoming "Paw Prints."

Journey Through Grant Ranch ECE-8 School

Primary

Kindergarten students have been studying apples and just enjoyed making applesauce with many parent volunteers. Many thanks to all of you whom were able to help!

The primary teachers would like to remind parents to continue to read with their children. As the saying goes, the more you read the better you get. The better you get the more you like it. The more you like it the more you do it. SO, keep on reading!

Second grade students have been studying and exploring Earth's Materials during science. This coming week, on October 6, the students will be attending their annual SPREE field trip. This trip will expand the curriculum of Earth's Materials in a fun, hands on approach outside of the classroom.

Please read individual class letters for information about Halloween celebrations. Due to fall break, many rooms will not be having parties, instead the children will be encouraged to wear their costumes and join us at the Fall Festival. We look forward to the festival being a wonderful and exciting event again this year!

Intermediate Level

KKids needs YOUR **HELP!!!!**

KKids, the community service club at Grant Ranch School (sponsored by the Grant Ranch chapter of Kiwanis International) is already hard at work. We've found some needs and are asking the community to help us meet them. Please consider if you can help with one or both of the following projects and then stay tuned to hear how they went and what the next ones are! *Together* we CAN make the world a better place!! Thanks in advance for your support.

From member Aaron Abai: *We need your help by collecting new pink erasers for kids who need school supplies. We are collecting them from September 28 – October 8. Please place them in the box outside room 176, Mrs. Wilson's room.*

Also, we are, once again, collecting juice pouches. They can be any brand at all. Please make sure they are empty and the straws and straw wrappers are removed. We are doing this to keep trash out of the landfill and to earn money for the school.

KKids thanks you!

Upper Grades

Beginning October 8, Mrs. Patz will be sponsoring an after school math homework help session for middle school students. Any student who is having difficulty in math or would just like some extra help is welcome to attend. The only students who may *not* attend are those are required to attend the regular Tuesday after school program due to missing work from tardies or absences.

There is a bus available at 4:00 p.m., so students who choose to stay will have transportation available.

NOTE: Students **MUST** contact Mrs. Patz no later than the Monday before the Tuesday on which they would like to stay to make a "reservation." This is only to ensure that there are not too many students in any session.

Tutor Train

Are you interested in getting your child some extra help? Does your child need to be challenged academically? Tutor Train's program works with students at all levels and can make sure your child has a successful school year. Our diagnostic exams are free and help us know what the right path is for your student. We are a fee-based after school program, but do have scholarships and financial assistance available for those who qualify. Registration for Tutor Train is open now. This is a great opportunity to make sure your child gets the upper hand this school year. Call to enroll (303) 833-2552 and visit our website at www.TutorTrain.com.

Specials

GRANT RANCH MUSIC HAPPENNINGS

Well, we are off to a great start in all music activities this year. We have 32 aspiring musicians in the fourth grade band and 35 future opera/rock stars in the elementary choir.

Please mark your calendars with the following dates for upcoming performances:

November 10, 2009, 7:00 P.M. - Fifth grade salute to our homeland
Middle School Choir sings the 1960's

December 8, 2009, 7:00 P.M. – Fifth grade and Middle School bands concert

December 15, 2009, 7:00 P.M. – Second grade holiday songs
Grant Ranch Singers holiday songs

Hope to see you there. Thanks for your continued support of Grant Ranch Music!

Community Corner

As a result of the recent hail storm, many homes and businesses in the Grant Ranch area received extensive damage to roofs, windows, siding, etc. As a fund raiser, Grant Ranch School will receive donations up to \$250.00 from S & K Homes when individual use S & K Homes to repair hail damage. There are flyers available in the school lobby for interested parties. Thank you, S & K Homes!!

Are you receiving Paw Prints electronically?

There are nearly 300 people currently receiving their weekly newsletter electronically. Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far. This is saving our school lots of paper and saving our teachers time too!

If you have not yet signed up, you can register yourself by visiting www.ptomanager.com. Just click on the link that says "New User for a school using PTO Manager?" and Register. The quickest way to find our school is to search for Grant Ranch School PTO by entering just the state and zip code. You can then select our school. If you've already registered, you can enter your login and password or select the "Click Here" on the right for "New PTO Manager User". Create a login, password and provide your email information so you can begin receiving weekly updates. Again, thanks for your participation and for being part of a successful school year for all of our students!

Friendly Reminders

Yearbook

Check out the Grant Ranch Website for the new links for the yearbook. Families can now purchase the yearbook on line by clicking the link provided. It is located on the left side of the website right under the Parent Portal link. You will also notice a second link to upload your pictures that you might want to place in the yearbook. The yearbook editor will make the final decision as to which pictures are placed in the yearbook but all pictures will be considered.

Grant Ranch School
5400 S. Jay Circle
Littleton, CO 80123

Phone: 720-424-6880
Fax: 720-424-6905
Attendance: 720-424-6951
Student Hours: 7:55am to 2:45pm



Upcoming Events

October 7, 2009	“Walk to School Day” Cookie Dough Arrival “Limo Rides”
October 16, 2009	Early Release
October 22, 2009	Picture Retakes Parent Teacher Conferences
October 23, 2009	Fall Festival
October 26, 2009	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 28-30, 2009	Fall Break

Grant Ranch PTO News

Grant Ranch Logo wear is now available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at <http://GRSK8.logosoftware.com> there are many different styles and colors to choose from. If you play a Fall Sport (football, cross country, softball or volleyball), there are shirts on there for you too!!!! Order one for everyone in your family! The link is also on the home page of the School website.

SAVE THE DATE!!! The Fall Festival is going to be Friday evening October 24th. There will be food, games, bounce houses, and more!!!! Many volunteers are needed to make this event fun and successful. If you are able to volunteer any amount of time, please sign up at the PTO table in the main lobby. We are also going to be accepting donations of Candy and/or prizes. Contact Dana Smith at Mom2BooBoo@MSN.com for any questions.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS AT THE GRS FALL FESTIVAL FOR FREE!!!!!!!!!!

FRIDAY OCTOBER 23rd 5 – 8 PM

This year at the Grant Ranch Fall Festival, we would like to offer businesses the opportunity to advertise themselves for **Free** to over 500 people!!! If you can do all of the following, then please join us for a fun evening of games, music, haunted houses, bounce houses, a cake walk and more!!!!

- Be a family friendly business
- Bring a carnival game—you can do this as easy as you want, or get complicated it is up to you!!! (For example—lollipop tree, knock over cans, ring toss, clothes pin drop, be creative!!!) OR
- Bring a mascot and walk around handing out prizes and coupons
- Bring Candy and Business Cards, Coupons, etc to hand out as prizes

Have FUN!!!!!!

We will have limited space, and I will take people on a first come first serve basis. You may begin to set up your booth at 4:00pm.

Please return the following information to: Dana Smith c/o GRS PTO

5400 South Jay Circle

Littleton, CO 80123

Or email the info to: Mom2booboo@msn.com

Name of Business _____

Contact Person _____

Phone Number _____ best time to call _____

Email address _____

Brief description of the game/activity you will do:

Prizes/promotions you will hand out: _____

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
900 GRANT STREET / DENVER, CO
TELEPHONE (720) 423-3200



GRANT RANCH SCHOOL
5400 s. Jay Circle, Denver, CO.
Telephone: 720-424-

To All Parents:

Thank you for choosing Denver Public Schools to provide educational Services to your child. We are proud to be able to serve you and your children and we will continually strive to provide a safe learning environment for them.

The safety of your child and all children in our schools as well as the safety of the school staff and support personnel is very important to us. In order to maintain a safe environment for our children to study and learn, it is necessary that we practice our emergency and crisis response plans by having drills designed to exercise our procedures.

We will be conducting various drills through out the school year. This letter is to help you understand the importance of this as well as to understand each type of drill.

The students and staff of your school will be practicing 3 primary emergency drills each year. They are "FIRE DRILLS"; "LOCKDOWN DRILLS"; and "SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILLS". Each type of drill is explained below.

FIRE DRILLS

The school will conduct a "fire drill" each month that school is in session. This is a Fire Code requirement as well as a requirement by Denver Public Schools. We want each student to understand and be aware of the importance of this drill and not be afraid when the fire alarm is sounded. By practicing they will know what to do and how to do it.

LOCKDOWN DRILLS

The school will conduct one "Lockdown Drill" each semester of the school year. This type of drill will secure the school building and safely shelter all students, staff and visitors inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to keep the students safe from any danger outside or inside the building. During

a “lockdown drill” all of the perimeter doors to the school building will be locked and will remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. To enable everyone to remain safe, no one will be allowed to enter the building or leave the building until the authorities authorize such a release.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILLS

The “Shelter-in-Place” drill will be conducted 1 time a semester each school year. The purpose of this drill is to be prepared to move to a safe location within the building in case of severe weather or tomados.

Please remember that these safety practice drills are done to help maintain our schools as a safe place to learn and work.

If you have any questions regarding any of these Safety Drills or other safety concerns, please contact your school office. The telephone number is 720-424-6883

Sincerely,

Sandra Blomeyer

Sandra Blomeyer
School Principal
Security
Public Schools

Edward Ray, Chief
Department of Safety and
Denver

SPREE Schools Give Back

Who: YOU, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR TEACHERS, AND YOUR FAMILY.

What: A FUN DAY OF HELPING TO CLEAN UP THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

Where: CHECK IN AT GRANT FRONTIER PARK AT 2190 S. PLATTE RIVER DR, DENVER, CO 80223

When: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2009. 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

Why: GIVE BACK TO THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER AND HELP KEEP CHOMPERS' HOME SAFE AND CLEAN!

How: RSVP ONLINE AT:
[HTTP://WWW.SPREEWEB.ORG/RSVP](http://WWW.SPREEWEB.ORG/RSVP)
OR CALL (303) 743-9720 EXT 801.



**RSVP by
September
18th!**

Other Upcoming SPREE Events

October 18th

Art on the River

When: Sunday, October 18th,
10:00 am-1:00 pm

Where: Grant Frontier Park at 2190 S
Platte River Dr, Denver, CO 80223

What: Paint, mold, create. Let the South Platte River inspire your inner artist. Move through various art stations using different mediums. Finish by working with professional artist Emanuel Martinez to create the first three panels of the Mile High Mural!

November 15th

Fishing For Kids

When: Sunday, November 15th,
10:00 am -1:00 pm

Where: Overland Pond Park at 861 E
Florida Ave, Denver, CO 80223

What: Hook, line, and sinker. Learn about aquatic ecology, fishing etiquette, and fishing technique, and then explore the fishing opportunities at Overland Pond (stocked with rainbow trout). Kids will get to keep their fishing rod at the end of the day!

March 21st

Get Outside and Play Day

When: Sunday, March 21st,
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Where: Grant Frontier Park at 2190 S
Platte River Dr, Denver, CO 80223

What: Learn about fun ways to get active and get outside. Use the South Platte River, and the adjacent trails and parks, to build healthy habits. Learn training tips for the Mile High Mile and other fun games and activities that incorporate nature into a healthy lifestyle.

April 18th

Mile High Mile

When: Sunday, April 18th, 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Where: At the State Capitol building in Downtown
Denver

What: Chompers has thrown down the challenge to all SPREE kids to get active, get outside, and to push themselves to run the fastest mile they can. The race starts and ends at the State Capitol building. Trophies will be awarded to the fastest boy and girl from each SPREE School, and the giant Chompers' Challenge Trophy will be awarded to the school with the highest participation.

May 1st

SPREE Force Special Agent Celebration

When: Saturday, May 1st, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Grant Frontier Park at 2190 S Platte River Dr,
Denver, CO 80223

What: A special event for SPREE Force Special Agents only! Details of this event are highly secretive and completely mysterious. SPREE Force Special Agents will receive a Top Secret invitation in April. Stay tuned...



(303) 743-9720 - info@spreemail.org - www.spreeweb.org