



Paw Prints

Volume 2, Issue 24

September 17, 2009

Sponsored by Tutor Train

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Journey through GR | 2 |
| Artsonia | 2 |
| Tutor Train | 2 |
| Show Your Child How Much You Care | 3 |
| Specials | 3 |
| Paw Prints Request | 3 |
| Upcoming Events | 4 |
| PTO News | 4 |
| Friendly Reminders | 4 |
| Fall Festival Sign-Up | 5 |
| Flu Information | 6 |

Grant Ranch is Proud to Announce...

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:

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Zoe Mikelis | Tyler Proctor | Allison Renshaw |
| Kaitlyn Taylor | Christian Valencia | Keith Wetzig |

Assessment Day

Denver Public Schools will not be in session on Friday, September 18, 2009 for Assessment Day. During this time, teachers will be collaboratively planning lessons and scoring the District Benchmark Assessments. Classes will resume on Monday, September 21, 2009.

Grant Ranch is Growing

With the increase in student enrollment comes an increase in funding for instruction. As a result, Grant Ranch will be adding instructional staff with new teachers, and paraprofessionals. In addition, elective classes that address the needs of higher achieving students will be offered.

Yearbook

By law, each family must be given a copy of the Annual Notification of Parent and Student's Rights Brochure each school year. This brochure has been updated for the 2009-2010 school year and is included with this week's Paw Prints.

In addition, Denver Public Schools may disclose "directory" information unless the parent/eligible student annually objects to such disclosure in writing to the Superintendent and/or the student's school of enrollment within two weeks of enrollment. The directory information includes: name, date of birth, gender, participation in officially recognized activities, weight and height of athletics, degrees and awards received, dates of attendance and photographs.

Please complete the "Parent Permission and Release Form" and return it to your child's teacher.

Oops!

Some students have forgotten that "gum, candy, toys, game cards, radios, pop, glass bottles, cameras, CD players, iPods, palm pilots, games, electronic devices, and other nonessential school items are NOT ALLOWED at school. If any items above are brought to school, they will be confiscated by the teacher and held in the office until claimed by a parent. Cell phones are not to be kept by the student on their person during the school day. They must be kept in the locker (upper grades) or backpack (lower grades) and turned off during the day. Cell phones are not to be used in the building. After school, students must step outside of the building to use their phones." (Grant Ranch School K-8 Code of Conduct 2007-2008, Section F).

Journey Through Grant Ranch ECE-8 School

Primary

ECE Parents-Just a reminder that there is no ECE on September 30, 2009.

Kindergarten will be celebrating Apple Week September 21-25th. They will be making applesauce as a culminating activity. Yum, yum!

First graders should be reading at home each night for at least 20 minutes. September Reading Logs are to be turned in at the end of the month. Thank you!

Intermediate Level

Denver Public School students just finished the first set of Benchmark Assessment. These tests assist the teachers get acquainted with the student's knowledge and allow them to closely monitor their academic progress, as well as, what we need to teach them in reading, writing, and math.

Several students were pulled out of school for a variety of reasons during the testing period. These disruptions not only hurt the student being taken out, but also disrupted the students trying to concentrate. Please mark your calendar for future testing dates. 2nd Benchmark Assessment 11/16 – 11/20, 3rd Benchmark Assessment 4/12-4/16, 3rd Grade Reading CSAP 2/9-2/10, CSAP 3/1/10 – 3/19/10. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Upper Grades

Beginning Tuesday, September 22, the upper grade teachers are instituting a new procedure. At the teachers' request, an after school club will be held to help certain students get caught up with work that may have been missed due to illness or lack of effort. Students who are in danger of falling behind in their core or elective classes will be asked by one or more teachers to attend the after school group to make up time, work, or both. Before Tuesday afternoon, a child will be asked to call home and let his/her parent know that the student is to stay for the after school program on the next Tuesday. There is an after school bus available, so transportation will be provided. The club runs each Tuesday from 2:50 – 4:00, and the after school bus leaves Grant Ranch at 4:05. Reminder: Students will attend this program at the request of teachers; this is not a homework help club. Hopefully, details for such a club will be forthcoming soon.

The 8th grade field trip, Lost in the City, is on September 25, 2009. Permission slips went home on September 15, 2009. Student council representatives were selected and the first meeting is during lunch on September 17, 2009. In addition, parents should be checking planners and or snap grades on a regular basis to be informed of assignments and student progress.

Artsonia

At the end of this week you will be receiving a code and an introduction letter to www.artsonia.com, an online virtual art gallery for grade school children and their families. With this code you will be able to manage their account, send their art work images to relatives and purchase items with your child's artwork on them. (Grant Ranch art dept. gets 15% of proceeds) Please know that I will try to get your child's art work as soon as possible, but each piece has to be photographed, edited, entered into the artsonia one at a time. Basically if the art is hanging in the hallway, it will be entered into artsonia. Please watch for information and when you get it, please log in and view & share your child's work!!

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.

Show Your Child How Much You Care

Your child is in his or her current grade only once in a lifetime. Once this year is over, it's gone forever. But one way he or she can remember this year is through the school yearbook. Give the gift of the Grant Ranch Yearbook to your children and show them that you care about the time they spend each and every day at school. Reserve your copy now so you don't miss out on these precious memories.

Yearbooks may be purchased by completing a yearbook order form, available in the school office. Yearbook forms and payment can be returned to the school office. Yearbooks may also be purchased online at www.yearbookordercenter.com (Grant Ranch School's order number is 18389). Online orders are subject to a credit card processing fee of \$3.50. New this year is the option of choosing a hard cover for \$28 or a soft cover for only \$18.

Specials

Punt, Pass, and Kick Contest: The PE Department is holding its annual Punt, Pass, and Kick contest for all 3rd – 8th grade students. This contest is sponsored by the NFL and Pepsi.

The participants will punt, pass, and kick a football for distance during their PE classes. The highest scoring male and female from each age group will advance to the next level of competition. The age groups are 8-9 years old, 10-11 years old, 12-13 years old, and 14-15 years old.

Grant Ranch has always performed well in this competition and hope we do as well again this year!

For more information, please contact Mike Riedel or Kathy Dentino
Grant Ranch Singers

If you are in 3rd, 4th or 5th grade and you like to sing, come join us in the music room for elementary choir! We will be performing our first concert in December.

We will be meeting on Tuesdays after school. Students may ride the activity bus home.

The first meeting will be on September 22, 2009.

Hope to see lots of you there! Mrs. Westra

Grant Ranch School Paw Prints Request 2009-2010

Grant Ranch School is making a conscious effort to help save the environment by first implementing a recycling program and now by "going green" with an electronic "Paw Prints." "Paw Prints" can be found at <http://grantranch.dpsk12.org/>

Beginning October 3, 2008 a paper version of "Paw Prints" will be available only upon request. If you would like to continue receiving a paper version of "Paw Prints," please complete the form below and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support in this matter!

Student's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

_____ Yes, I would like a paper version of "Paw Prints."

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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

September 18, 2009 Assessment Day—No School

Grant Ranch PTO News

Our cookie dough fundraiser is in full swing. Thanks to all the families who turned in their forms on Wednesday. If you didn't get your forms in, it is not too late! A special thank you to Deb Rodarte, our Fundraising Chairperson, for all her hard work on the cookie dough fundraiser! The PTO had their second meeting of the year on September 8th. The PTO board voted and approved to give the school \$5,000 towards after school programs. Without the generosity of our parents and teachers who contribute to our fundraisers, the after school programs would not exist. A "Thank you" to everyone who donated! There are many exciting events coming up! Don't forget to join us for our second PIE night, an open forum to discuss school improvement, on Thursday, September 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. We have a mom and muffin day on September 24th, and our Fall Festival on October 23rd, information will follow soon. The PTO is working hard to input all of the data collected during registration for directory, volunteer information, and those requesting to receive Paw Prints, the school's weekly communication, via email. We thank you for your patience and hope to have everything in the new system by September 25th.

Thanks,
Amy Austin
Grant Ranch School—PTO President

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.

Grant Ranch School
P.I.E NIGHT
Thursday, September 17th, 2009
Grant Ranch School Library
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Please join our administrators, teachers, PTO, and CSC for our second P.I.E. night - "Positive Influence in Education", an open forum to discuss current school issues, address outstanding concerns from the previous meeting, what went well and what needs improvement in the fall registration process, volunteer opportunities, and Fresh new ideas!

Please RSVP to Amy Austin at 303-795-1234 or reply to this email if you would like to join us! Please feel free to contact Amy with any questions! We look forward to seeing you!

Friendly Reminders

Join Us for Breakfast! In an effort to continue to promote good nutrition, Denver Public Schools will continue to provide breakfast at no cost to our students. Breakfast will be served Monday through Friday from 7: 15 am to 7: 55 am in the cafetorium.

School/Parent Agreement: According to Goal III of the Denver Plan, "collaboration among the Denver community and all DPS stakeholders will support our children in a safe, orderly and enriching environment in every school and classroom." Therefore, we are requesting that Grant Ranch School parent/guardians read and sign our School/Parent Agreement. This document should be returned to the classroom teachers. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

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: _____

1-2-3 and You're Flu Free!

Learn about seasonal flu and H1N1 flu,
and how you can
Protect yourself and your family,
Presented by
Dr. Chris Urbina,
Director, Denver Public Health

Choose the date and location that fits your schedule
All meetings are 6-7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 21
East High School,
1600 City Park Espl.

Wednesday, September 23
West High School,
951 Elati St.

Tuesday, September 22,
South High School,
1700 E. Louisiana Pkwy.

Thursday, September 24
Martin Luther King,
Jr. Early College, 19535 E. 46th Ave.

Contact CoHelp at 1-877-462-2911 with any questions

