

Greetings from Grant Ranch School.....

The month of October not only includes fallen leaves, pumpkins, a book fair, staff development and a Fall Festival but also student recognition and parent-teacher conferences. The Scholastic Book Fair will be held from Friday, October 16, 2009 until Friday, October 23, 2009. We encourage parents and guardians to stop in to shop at the book fair. Books make wonderful Christmas presents and there are lots of other fun and useful items to be found at the book fair. Profits from the book fair are used to purchase additional materials from Scholastic for the library. Come browse and see what the book fair has to offer!

Fourth grade students will be participating in the SPREE Program on Thursday, October 8, 2009 and October 9, 2009 while fifth grade students will be participating from Tuesday, October 13, 2009 through October 15, 2009. SPREE, the South Platte River Environmental Education Program, is sponsored by the Mayor's South Platte River Commission, the Denver Public Schools, and the Greenway Foundation. The SPREE Program not only takes students to the river but also brings the South Platte River into our classrooms. The curriculum blends the historical, environmental and recreational aspects of the South Platte River with our classroom studies in history, math, science, civics, physical education, art, music, and drama.

Grant Ranch School staff members will be attending professional development activities on Friday, October 16, 2009. October 16, 2009 is the first of six "Early Release Days" that are scheduled throughout the 2009-2010 school year.

Although school will not be in session on Friday, October 31, 2009, the Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Kindergarten students will be participating in the Boo Bash on October 27, 2009. Over one hundred students in their Halloween costumes will be dancing in unison to the "Monster Mash." Staff members, students, and parents/guardians will also have the opportunity to wear their costumes during the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)'s Fall Festival. The Fall Festival will be held on Friday, October 23, 2009 and includes food, games prizes, a cake walk and fun for all!

Students will be rewarded for their salesmanship of cookie dough, magazines and/or discount store cards in the PTO fundraiser. The top sellers will have the opportunity to participate in the H2 Hummer limousine ride on October 7, 2009. In addition, the top selling student will receive two tickets to a Denver Broncos football game.

The monitoring and reporting of student progress during the 2009-2010 school year will be based upon trimesters. This student progress will be communicated through the standard based report cards and parent-teacher conferences. Although the first trimester ends on November 7, 2009, Grant Ranch School will be conducting parent-teacher conferences from October 22, 2009 and October 27, 2009 in order to accommodate the schedules of working parents/guardians.

School will not be in session from Wednesday, October 28, 2009 through Friday, October 30, 2009. During this time staff, students and their parents/guardians will be enjoying a well deserved Mini Fall Break. Classes will resume on Monday, November 2, 2009.

Sandy Blomeyer