

PRAIRIE ROSE ELEMENTARY  
MARCH 2022

# PANTHER BUZZ

*Learn Together - Live Together - Lead Together*

## A Word from Weiler

Dear Panther Families -

Spring is approaching and learning is in full swing here at Prairie Rose Elementary. This is the time of year that students make the most academic and social learning gains. Make school a priority! It can be challenging to keep children focused on learning. What can you do to make school a top priority for your child?

- Make attendance your number one priority.
- Talk with your child about school activities and projects.
- Remain positive - even if your own day has been challenging

Educators are often asked one important question, "What do you think I can do at home to help my child be more successful at school?" Our answer is very simple, "Read with your child every day. Let them see you read. Engage in conversation with your child about the text read. Make the time an enjoyable experience and let your child see that reading is fun."

We are here to serve your children and our families. As always, THANK YOU, for being our partners in this important work helping your child enjoy learning and prepare for a bright future!

With warmest regards,  
Ms. Weiler - Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES

**3.1**

**End of second trimester**

**3.4**

**NO SCHOOL**

**3.8**

**Spring Picture Day**

**3.9**

**PAC Meeting at 6:30PM**

**3.13**

**Daylight Savings time begins**

**3.14**

**NDSA begins**

**3.25**

**Early Release at 1PM**

## COLD WEATHER GUIDELINES

Please send your child(ren) with their warmest winter clothing. Students need warm coats, hats and gloves. Snow pants and boots are required to play in the snow. If possible, please write their name inside their coats, snow pants, gloves and hats.

## NO SCHOOL

There will be no school on Friday, March 4th. Enjoy your long weekend!

## NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK

March 7th-11th is National School Breakfast Week. It is a good time to remember that we serve breakfast in our cafeteria from 7:40-8:10AM. Prairie Rose families can be proud of the number of students that eat breakfast at our school. Even if your child does not eat breakfast at school, please encourage them to eat a good breakfast at home as it gives them the energy to think clearly and helps them to feel satisfied. Breakfast truly is one of the most important meal of the day.

## TEACHER REQUESTS FOR FALL

The assigning of students for the 2022-23 school year will begin at the end of April. We take a great deal of time in assigning students to the appropriate classrooms. We take into consideration the needs of all of our students and decide the best placement based on their learning styles and the teaching styles of teachers. Requests will be taken into consideration but there are no guarantees that those requests will be granted.

If you have a request for a particular teacher, you must make that request in writing. Please list your child's name, the teacher you would like, and the reason for making that request. In order to be considered, all requests need to be turned into the office by Thursday, March 31st.



Congratulations to our certified and classified staff members of the year! Staff members are nominated by fellow colleagues. McKenzie Gardner - *Special Education Teacher*; Amelia Dustin - *Library Paraprofessional*







### **SPRING AHEAD!!!!**

Daylight Savings Time occurs on Sunday, March 13th. This means that we will need to spring ahead and turn our clocks forward one hour so we are not late for school!

### **REPORT CARDS**

The end of the second Trimester will be Tuesday, March 1st. Report cards will be sent home on Monday, March 7th.

### **PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)**

Prairie Rose Elementary encourages parents to become involved in school decisions and activities. PAC is an important committee used to share information and receive feedback about academics, events and programs. PAC may also be leaders in special events within the school or may head up fundraising for special projects. The next PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9th at 6:30PM.

For the past month, 4th grade students have worked on their 5-paragraph opinion essays. They concluded their hard work with an ice cream party!



## **NORTH DAKOTA STATE ASSESSMENTS**

NDSA will begin Monday, March 14th and will run through Friday, May 6th. Third and fifth graders will be taking the assessment for Reading, Writing and Math. Fourth graders are testing in Math, Reading, Writing and Science. The assessment will be taken on the computer. It will measure school and district progress. Students will be given an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the tools needed to navigate the test. Your child's teacher will let you know when their specific grade levels will be testing. Attendance on those days, as is with any day, is very important.

## **SPRING PICTURES**

Spring pictures will be Tuesday, March 8th.

## **MUSIC NEWS**

My 5th grader just had instrument fittings, now what? Please take a brief moment to scan the QR code or click [HERE](#) so your child can BE PART of the BAND! Filling out this survey is a way for us to keep the Middle School Music Instructors informed on students interested in taking band as a 6th grader. This survey is NOT registering for band, you will still need to register for band when picking elective classes.

## **ICE SKATING**

On March 7th and 9th our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) will be sponsoring ice skating at the West River Ice Center for all PRE students. Each class will have a scheduled time on one of the two days in which they will have the chance to go ice skating. Classes will be mixed together so there's enough skates of various sizes to accommodate everyone. Permission slips with more details were sent home and should be returned to the teacher.

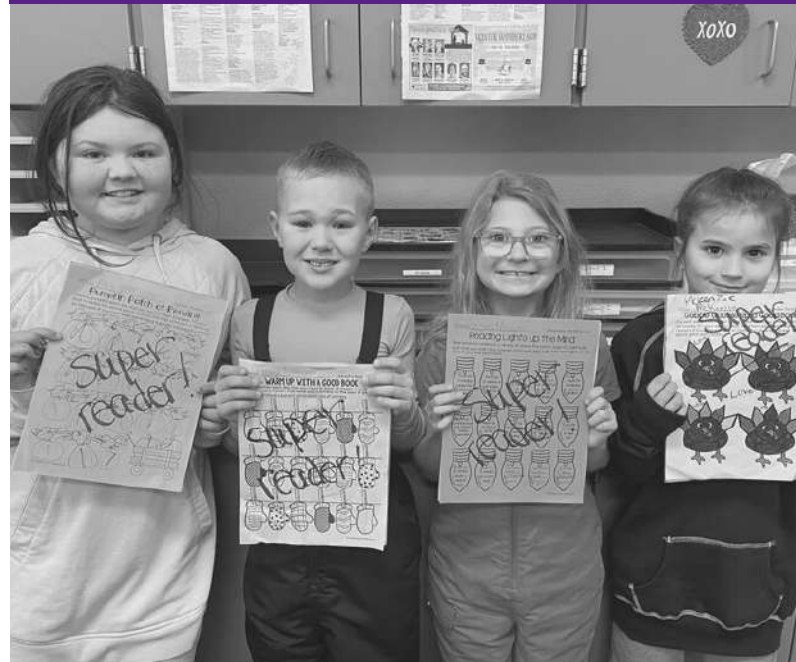
## **EARLY RELEASE**

On Friday, March 25th, students will be released at 1PM so staff can participate in District Wide Professional Development.

## **MARCH IS READING MONTH AND MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH!**

This year Mr. Kuntz, Mrs. Dustin, Mrs. Kilwein, and Mrs. Wagner have teamed up to plan an ultimate celebration of music and reading. Mystery and Music Month will be full of activities focused around mystery books, mystery library challenges, and sharing what our students are working on in music class. We are excited to team up for this celebration and share our love of music and literature with the entire Prairie Rose Panther family!

Congratulations to Myla, Nash, Zoey and McKenzie! They are super readers and turned in 3 months of reading logs and chose a prize from the super reader prize bucket!





## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD WITH... PHONEMIC AWARENESS



### WHAT IS PHONEMIC AWARENESS?

Phonemic awareness is the ability to manipulate individual sounds in our language. (Think: taking the word cat and being able to say the sounds c-a-t.)

### WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN I DO?

To build your child's phonemic awareness, play with sounds!

Examples:

1. Say the sounds in a simple word (mat, cop, cash, etc) and ask them to put the sounds together and tell you the word.
2. Do the reverse! Tell your child a word, and ask them to give you the sounds.
3. If your child is struggling to do this out loud, use blocks, chips, coins, etc. to represent each sound. Have them touch a block for each sound in the word.

### WHAT IS TAPPING SOUNDS?

Tapping your sounds means touching something each time you say a sound. For example, when I say cat, I can touch three blocks and say /c/-/a/-/t/. I can also just hold up a finger for each new sound. This helps students to see and understand how many sounds a word represents.

### WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Phonemic awareness and letter-sound knowledge are the two biggest indicators of how well a child will learn to read in the first two years of school.

If we can teach children to play with sounds, and then teach them the letters that go with those sounds, then they have a great chance of being successful in school

### IT DOESN'T END WITH SOUNDS!

While it's important to play with sounds, it doesn't end there. Phonemic awareness should be taught with letters as soon as possible. Once your child knows most of the sounds that letters make, you can start adding them in!

So, when you are asking children to spell a word like mop, ask them to repeat the word and then say the sounds. Before they spell the word, have them draw a line for each sound they hear. As they are spelling the word, ask them to say each sound as they spell.

# Make a difference

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