

Paw Prints

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

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March 2017

About Paw Prints 2016-2017

GRANT RANCH SCHOOL ECE-8





These publications are available online @ <u>http://grantranch.dpsk12.org/?page_id=432</u> Grant Ranch Webpage - <u>http://grantranch.dpsk12.org</u>



Paw Prints is a monthly newsletter for Grant Ranch School. This is an important communication link for parents and includes important happenings at our school.

You can read, download, and print this newsletter monthly on the Grant Ranch Webpage.

<u>http://</u> grantranch.dpsk12.org ubUSA fitness your family destination



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Excellent service. Every patient. Every time. Your trusted family medicine physicians to care for the whole family.



<u>Check out our school's new webpage!</u> <u>https://grantranch.dpsk12.org</u>

Upcoming Dates

March 2 – Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30 – 7:30 pm

March 6 – PTO/FACE Committee Meeting 6:00 – 8:00 pm

March 9 – Grant Ranch Showcase Night 5:00 – 7:00 pm

March 14 – April 21 – PARCC/CMAS Testing

March 27-31 – Spring Break – No School





March 2017



PARCC/CMAS Testing

Dear Grant Ranch parents,

This Spring, your child will participate in the **Colorado Measure of Academic Success** (CMAS) English Language Arts and Math Assessments as well as Science (5th and 8th grade). These new assessments will provide our teachers, students and their families with a clear and accurate picture about how students are performing on high academic standards and key skills needed for success.

The testing window for Grant Ranch School will open on **Tuesday**, **March** 14th and will close on **Friday**, **April 21**st.

Because CMAS measures critical skills not measured by previous assessments, it is crucial for your child to take this assessment in order to have accurate information regarding his/her readiness for College and mastery of academic standards. As well, the results that this assessment provides will allow the school leadership and staff to identify professional development for teachers to ensure that every student receives rigorous, joyful and personalized instruction every day. If for any reason you wish to opt your child out of testing, the deadline to do so is Thursday, March 9th at 03:00pm. Please go to the DPS Parent Portal website and under *Parent Resources* please find the *Assessment Parent Opt Out* form. Once you have filled the form out, please return it to Mr. Roadruck in the main office.

Thank you for your support as we work to prepare all our students to be ready for college and careers in the 21st century. The new academic standards and these new assessments are key steps on our journey to ensure our students have the necessary tools to succeed in life.

Thank you for your support. Rick Roadruck, Assistant Principal



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...to learn more about these great companies!

Showcase Night – Thursday, March 9 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Please join us for an evening of food and fun! All classrooms will be open, and teachers will be showcasing student work!





BE THE M-V-PARENTS OF SPRING BREAK.

Start planning your ultimate family adventure at KeystoneResort.com



Kids ages 12 and under ski free when you book 2 nights or more through Keystone Hospitality

THE CITY OF DENVER DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & THE DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY ARE HIRING SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

WANT TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR INCOME FOR JUST A FEW HOURS A WEEK?

School Crossing Guards help school children cross the street safely. School

Crossing Guards are required to be dependable and able to work outside during adverse weather. This position offers Ten (10) hours per week, \$12.00 per hour. Crossing Guards will be asked to work mornings and afternoons (hours will depend on assigned school start and dismissal times): \$240.00 (before taxes) every 2 weeks.

Qualifications include:

- Must be eighteen (18) years of age
- Responsible
- Trustworthy
- Dependable

SPECIAL NOTES:

As a condition of employment, all candidates must pass a thorough criminal

background check. This is also a great opportunities for internal paraprofessionals to bring weekly hours to 40.

Applications are accepted online @ http://careers.dpsk12.org/



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Preparing your child for PARCC/CMAS

Parents should know whether or not their children are gaining the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in today's complex world. Our state's new testing systems, called Colorado Measures of Academic Success and Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for college &



career, provide an academic checkup and helps teachers and parents know whether students are on track to be college and career ready.

CMAS are the new state tests in English language arts, math, science and social studies that are given to all Colorado students in grades 3-12. The tests are aligned to the shared expectations for what students across Colorado should know and be able to do. These expectations are known as the Colorado Academic Standards, and they emphasize critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration and communication as important life skills in the 21stcentury.

Your child's teacher is bringing the Colorado Academic Standards to life every day through curriculum that is developed by your school. Because the tests are aligned to the standards, your child is preparing for these tests during his or regular instruction. There is no need for additional study. Your child should get a good night's sleep and arrive to school on time the day of the test. You and your child can become familiar with the test by taking an online practice test at

Practice Tests –

http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/

continued...



Preparing your child for PARCC/CMAS, *continued...*

Helping to prepare your child for testing:

Consider the following tips on preparing your child below:

The night before:

- Help your child get to bed on time. Research shows that being well rested help students do better.
- Mention the test to show you're interested, but don't dwell on it.

<u>The morning of the test:</u>

- Get up early to avoid rushing. Be sure to have your child at school on time.
- Have your child eat a good breakfast but not a heavy one. Research shows that students do better if they have breakfast before they take tests.
- Be positive about the test. Acknowledge that tests can be hard and that they're designed so that no one will know all of the answers. Explain that doing your best is what counts.

After the test:

- Talk to your child about his or her feelings about the test, making sure you acknowledge the effort such a task requires.
- Explain that performance on a test is not a condition for you to love your child. You love your child just for the person he or she is.



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Communications Agency

Contact: Cynthia Hall (720) 771-6131

4th-8th Grade Students: Breaking Barriers Essay Contest

Write & Win Prizes!! Laptops & a trip to the 2017 World Series are possible prizes!!!!!

Each year, April 15th marks the anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in 1947. Honoring this important event, the "Breaking Barriers Essay Contest" is a chance for students across the country to share their personal stories & how they have displayed Jackie Robinson's nine values – citizenship, commitment, courage, determination, excellence, integrity, justice, persistence, & teamwork.

**Essays need to be submitted by March 14th. See Mrs. Eikenbary or Mrs. Shields or Ms. Smith for more information.



