



# Paw Prints

Grant Ranch School  
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Denver, CO 80123

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(720) 424-6961

March 2019

GRANT RANCH SCHOOL ECE-8

## About Paw Prints 2018-2019

These publications are available online @  
[http://grantranch.dpsk12.org/?page\\_id=432](http://grantranch.dpsk12.org/?page_id=432)

Grant Ranch Webpage - <http://grantranch.dpsk12.org>



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.

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## Message from the Principal

Greetings Grant Ranch Families!

Welcome to spring and planting season. Our classes will be planting our garden right after spring break. We will plant vegetables that can be made into a salad! If you are interested in helping put please call the office.

We are in the process completing our CMAS assessments with students in 3rd-9th grades. These results will be announced in July and help the district determine how well we are doing as a school on the School Performance Framework.

Three Destination Imagination Teams participated in the district competition and all three teams have advanced to the State Competition in April! Congratulations to our teams on their accomplishments as a result of hard work and practice.

With spring we start to plan for the end of the school year. Please keep your eyes and ears open as we have many upcoming activities. The third trimester showcase will occur May 22nd. We invite you in to see your child's work completed during the 3rd trimester. Students are planning for the annual talent show on May 14th, Mr. Hooker is preparing for field day, and our 8th graders are preparing for continuation on May 30th!

As always, I invite you to stop by and visit our school to see the many wonderful things are students are accomplishing!

Dr. Hurrieta



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## Mensaje del director

Familias de Grant Ranch,

Bienvenidos a la primavera y temporada de sembrar. Después de las vacaciones de primavera, nuestras clases estarán plantando nuestro jardín. Plantaremos vegetales los cuales se pueden usar para hacer una ensalada! Si usted está interesado en participar y ayudar nos puede llamar a la oficina.

Estamos en el proceso de completar nuestros exámenes de CMAS con los estudiantes del tercer al octavo grado. Los resultados de estos exámenes se anunciarán en julio y ayudarán al distrito escolar a determinar que tan bien nos estamos desempeñando como escuela en el marco de rendimiento escolar.

Tres equipos de nuestro programa Destination Imagination participaron en la competencia del distrito y los tres equipos avanzaron a la competencia estatal en abril! Felicidades a nuestros equipos por sus grandes logros que han resultado de su esfuerzo, práctica, y empeño en su trabajo.

Con el comienzo de la primavera comenzamos a planificar el fin del año escolar. Por Favor manténganse al pendiente, se nos aproximan proximas actividades. El evento en el cual pueden ver los trabajos de sus estudiantes de aproxima el 22 de abril. Los invitamos a ver los trabajos y logros de sus estudiantes durante el tercer trimestre. Nuestros estudiantes están preparándose para el espectáculo anual de talentos que se llevará a cabo el 14 de mayo. El profesor Hooker se está preparando para el día de campo y nuestros estudiantes del octavo grado comienzan a preparar para la continuación el 30 de mayo.

Como siempre, los invito a visitar a nuestra escuela y ver los excelente y maravillosos logros de nuestros estudiantes.

Dr. Hurrieta

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## Upcoming Events

March 19 – April 18 - CMAS Testing

March 25 – March 29 – Spring Break No School

April 6 – Destination Imagination State Competition

April 26 – DPS Shakespeare Festival

April 29 – No School – Teacher Planning/Professional Day



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## CMAS Testing Continues



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March 1, 2019

Dear Grant Ranch Families:

We will begin the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessments on 3/19/18. These assessments focus on the knowledge and skills our kids need for success in our global economy, including skills such as analytical thinking and the ability to solve complex problems. The CMAS assessments focus on different content areas depending upon the grade your child is in. Here is our testing schedule:

Grant Ranch School Testing Dates			
March 19, 20, 21	English Language Arts: Grades 5, 6, 7, 8		
April 2, 3, 4	English Language Arts: Grades 3, 4	Math: Grades 5, 6, 7, 8	
April 9, 10, 11	Math: Grades 3, 4	Social Studies: Grade 7	Science: Grade 8
April 16, 17, 18	Social Studies: Grade 4	Science: Grade 5	

We want to help parents and families with information to support student success during this time. These assessments will give our teachers critical information to help our students be on track for college and career readiness and help us understand whether our students have the necessary skills to succeed after high school.

**Calendar :** The schedule above was created to communicate to you when the CMAS assessments are occurring. We ask parents and families to ensure their children get plenty of sleep and a healthy breakfast every day, but especially on assessment days. In addition, if there are doctor’s appointments or other appointments that need to be made, we hope this schedule will help you to make those appointments on non-assessment days.

**Volunteers :** Please also note the days in which we cannot allow volunteers in certain floors of our building. This is to adhere to the ethics and other policies set forth by DPS and the State of Colorado to maintain a secure testing environment

*continued...*

**Attendance** : We also want to communicate that all students should be in school on-time, all day and every day, regardless of whether assessments are occurring or not. Important teaching and learning happens in between testing, so it is imperative that students are here. All testing will happen in the morning hours.

**Make-Ups** : Students do best when they are in their classroom environment for testing. In the event that your child has to miss a test session, they will have to make up the test another time and will be pulled during their instructional time to do so.

**Phones** : Cell phone use is not permitted during testing. Phone use during the test will result in the phone being confiscated and sent to the Colorado Department of Education. CDE will go through the entire contents of the phone and the phone may not be returned. Please help us by either having your child keep their phone at home or reminding them to keep their phones powered off and in their backpacks during testing.

We appreciate your support during this time. Assessments, including CMAS as well as those taken throughout the year, are vital tools for teachers to support student success. There are online resources to help parents and families support their student during CMAS testing, located at [standards.dpsk12.org](http://standards.dpsk12.org). If you have any questions, please reach out to me. Thank you, and go Grizzlies!

Sincerely,



Patricia Hurrieta,

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 Main Office/Línea principal: 720-424-6880  
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1 de marzo de 2019

Estimadas familias de Grant Ranch:

Vamos a comenzar los exámenes de Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) en 3/19/18. Estos exámenes se enfocan en el conocimiento y habilidades que nuestros estudiantes necesitan para el éxito en nuestra economía global, incluyendo habilidades como pensamiento crítico y la habilidad para resolver problemas complejos. Los exámenes CMAS se enfocan en diferentes áreas de contenidos según el grado en el que se encuentra su hijo/a. Aquí está el horario de los exámenes:

Fechas del examen en la escuela Grant Ranch			
19, 20, 21 de marzo	Artes del lenguaje inglés Grades: 5, 6, 7, 8		
2, 3, 4 de abril	Artes del lenguaje inglés: Grades 3, 4	Matemáticas: Grades 5, 6, 7, 8	
9, 10, 11 de abril	Matemáticas: Grades 3, 4	Ciencias Sociales: Grade 7	Ciencia: Grade 8
16, 17, 18 de abril	Ciencias Sociales: Grade 4	Ciencia: Grade 5	

Queremos ayudar a los padres y familias con información para apoyar al éxito de los estudiantes. Estos exámenes proporcionan a los maestros información crítica para ayudar a nuestros estudiantes hacia el camino de la Universidad y para que estén preparados para una carrera. También nos ayudarán para entender si nuestros estudiantes tienen las habilidades necesarias para tener éxito después de la escuela preparatoria.

**Calendario :** El horario mencionado en la parte superior fue creado para comunicarles cuando tienen lugar estos exámenes. Queremos pedir a los padres y las familias que se aseguren que sus hijos/as duerman suficiente y coman un desayuno saludable todos los días, especialmente en los días de estos exámenes. Además, si hay citas con el doctor u otros tipos de citas, esperamos que este horario les ayude para no hacer citas en los días de los exámenes.

*continuado...*



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**Voluntarios :** Por favor, sepan que en estos días no podemos tener voluntarios en ciertas áreas de nuestro edificio. Esto es para cumplir con la ética y otros principios establecidos por DPS y el Estado de Colorado para mantener un ambiente seguro en los exámenes.

**Asistencia :** También queremos comunicarles que todos los estudiantes deben estar en la escuela, a tiempo, cumplir todo el día y cada día, sin importar si va ver examen ese día o no. Enseñanza y aprendizaje sucede entre los exámenes, por lo tanto, es importante que los estudiantes permanezcan en la escuela. Todos los exámenes tomarán lugar por la mañana. Recuperaciones: Los estudiantes hacen mejor cuando están en el ambiente de su clase para los exámenes. Si su hijo/a tiene que perder una sesión de un examen, tendrá que recuperar este examen otro día y será sacado/a durante el tiempo de instrucción.

**Teléfonos :** Teléfonos celulares no están permitidos durante los exámenes. Teléfonos que sean usados durante el examen serán confiscados y enviados al Departamento de Educación del Estado de Colorado (CDE). CDE examinará todo el contenido del teléfono y su teléfono puede no que no sea devuelto. Por favor, ayúdenos a que su hijo mantenga su teléfono en la casa o recuérdelo de que lo mantenga apagado y en su mochila durante el examen.

Apreciamos su apoyo durante este tiempo. Los exámenes, incluyendo CMAS y todos los demás que se toman durante el año, son instrumentos muy importantes para que los maestros apoyen el éxito del estudiante. Hay recursos en internet que ayudan a los padres y familias a apoyar a sus estudiantes durante el examen de CMAS, localizado en [standards.dpsk12.org](http://standards.dpsk12.org). Si tienen alguna pregunta, por favor pónganse en contacto conmigo. ¡Gracias, y vivan los Grizzlies!

¡Atentamente!

*Patricia Hurrieta*

Patricia Hurrieta, Directora

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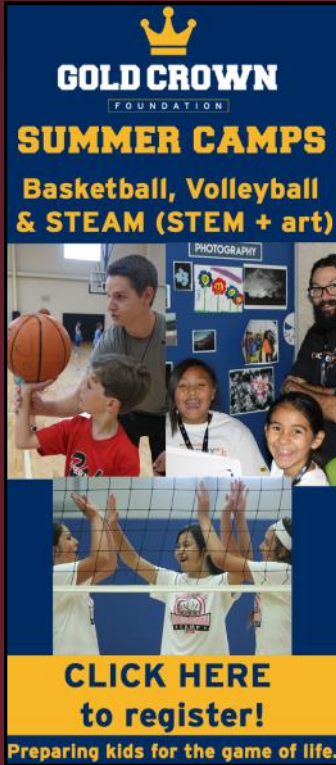
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## Destination Imagination

They did it! The Grant Ranch Destination Imagination (DI) Teams all earned a bid to States on April 6, 2019 at the Auraria Campus in Denver. Our teams will be competing against other teams throughout the state of Colorado! Congratulations to our teams as this is a huge accomplishment as Denver DI is the largest regional tournament in Colorado this year.

Each time competed in the Improv challenge. During this challenge teams had to research between 6-8 different figureheads that appear on coins. Before the start of their challenge, teams had to randomly draw two figureheads, a tale and genre (comedy or tragedy). Teams then had 2 minutes to plan and 5 minutes to perform based on this information. During their performance there was an unknown flip (a problem) that they must overcome during the performance, and they also had to switch genres after the flip while becoming completely non-verbal.

The 5th grade team (Aiden, Ian, Izzy, Evan, Josslyn, Lexi) placed 2nd in the elementary level and earned the highest Instant Challenge score in their elementary challenge area. (The Instant Challenge is a secret until they walk in the challenge room and they must react immediately to the challenge. They also have taken an oath not to share the Instant Challenge information with anyone until May!)

The 6/8 team (Tracy, Isabel C, Jeremiah, Mikayla, Belen and Cora), La Royal Chimichangas, earned 4th place in the middle level. This is the first time that all of these students have competed in DI!

The 6th grade team (Karissa, Naomi, Sariah, Maria, Kayleigh, Celesta), The Prickly Pineapples, are the team that advanced to Globals last year in Tennessee. This year they earned 2nd in their category which is also were they placed last year at Regionals! The team improved upon their Instant Challenge score, as well as their team challenge score from last year at Regionals.

Destination Imagination prepares our students for jobs that don't even exist yet. Students must be able to identify a problem, identify creative solutions to the problem, implement their ideas, reassess their progress while changing course if needed, and then celebrating their success. DI is amazing for our students and as it not only builds on academic standards, but also incorporates collaboration and team work while hitting on standards for the National Association of Gifted Children.

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### **Destination Imagination, *continued...***

For those that are new to DI, this is an incredible program. There are six central team challenges that teams can select from that cover STEAM topics. You can view this video to learn more about Destination Imagination. <https://youtu.be/dntLYGIXAdU>

We invite all of you to come and cheer for us at States on April 6 for more support. Come see why our students are so amazing!

Mrs. Holden, Grant Ranch Gifted and Talented



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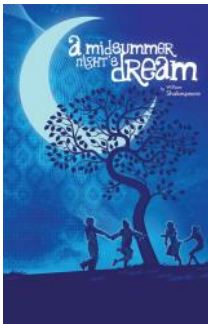
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## News From 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

5<sup>th</sup> Grade has a lot of exciting things coming up! In April, the fifth graders will be spending three days and two nights at Balarat Outdoor Education Center! The Students will explore nature, learn more about Colorado history with trappers and Native Americans, hike, practice teamwork skills while adventuring on a low ropes course, and of course, the most exciting part of Balarat, participate in the night walk! In April the fifth graders will also take a field trip to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and participate in a Heart Lab!



## Shakespeare

Grant Ranch's 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Shakespeare Club has been hard at work! They will be performing two scenes from A Mid Summer's Night Dream. Auditions will take place the week of March 18<sup>th</sup> and the Festival is Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>! The team will travel downtown to the Performing Arts Center where they will walk in a parade with thousands of DPS students before performing their scenes on Stage!

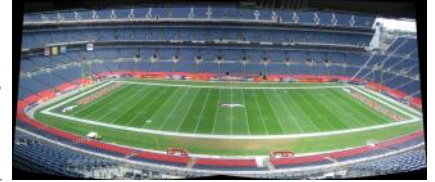
## The Grant Ranch 2019 Science Expo

The Grant Ranch 2019 Science Expo was a fantastic success this year! Students throughout the school completed independent science experiments over a course of up to six weeks. Student projects were displayed in the atrium over three days; there was an immense amount of joy that came from listening to students and adults excitedly peruse the projects! In total, we had 86 projects displayed. Thank you to all of the students who showed zest, curiosity and grit with their science projects. Thank you to all of the families who supported students by helping at home and attending the expo at school. Additionally, we would like to thank all of the teachers for supporting our students!



## Articles written by Grant Ranch Students News and Happenings @ Grant Ranch

The STEM club from last year went on a field trip. We went to the Broncos stadium. First we met a cheerleader. She told us about her life. She also works at Lockheed Martin. After that we saw the press room. Then we went to the floor with the suites in it. We went to see all the other special rooms. After we went to go see all of the control rooms where the press sits to watch the game. We went back to the first floor and saw the visitor's locker room. When we lined up to go Miles the mascot came in. We took pictures with him. Then we went to the field. We got Miles' autograph. Miles left and we got on the bus and went back to school. It was the best field trip ever!!!!



By Gracie Filostin-Abeyta, Grade 2



In Mrs. Huston's 2nd grade class we are doing a STEM project. The project is if corn grows from the cob or the kernel? People in our class got to pick if they wanted to plant the cob or the kernel. I picked the cob. Another thing we are doing in our class is in writing we are writing about an invention that we want to make in real life. Maybe we can build it when we are older. I wanted to make a robot that can do anything for you. If you want it to turn on you say Robo. If it is a girl it has a pink shirt and if it's a boy it has a blue shirt. Second grade is fun!

By Alana Jarmillo, Grade 2

Do you like science fairs? Well we do so we will tell you about ours. We thought it was great. It went on from Tuesday to Thursday. Many students participated including some of our class. In fact, 92 people did projects. One project was salt and sugar crystals. The student wanted to see how she could grow crystals best. She used salt and sugar to grow crystals but the sugar just molded. Salt grew a small crystal. Another project was testing how well people washed their hands. The students concluded that we can wash our hands better. Did you know hand sanitizer doesn't clean germs very well? Our class grew corn right on the corn cob. We found that corn grows from each kernel and not from the cob. We recommend everyone should participate in the science fair next year!



By Emma H. and Sophia G. – Grade 2

## GRS SCIENCE FAIR 2019

Students from ECE-8th grade, are doing the science fair and almost 83 boards were shared today. Here are some kids who we interviewed:



Vivian Levstek Nawrocki, in Ms. Williss' class, shared that electricity is a flow of atoms, and that different colored hair does not have different effects on electricity.

Mackenzie Gonzales, in Mr. Swanson's class, did a research project on growing a cactus, and told us that a cactus can go 2-3 months without water, and it can take about 3 years to grow a cactus that is smaller than a fist.

Tracy Hoang, also in Mr. Swanson's class, did a project about how hobbies can affect your mood, and she did an experiment where, one week she did her hobbies, and one week, she didn't. She found out, that hobbies can, and will affect our moods.

Diego Jaramillo's project is the most popular, as he has free chips. Diego is in Ms. Williss' class, and he wanted to find out which kind of chip had the most grease, and he found out, that cheetos had the most grease.

Mia is in 7th grade, and she really liked The great pumpkin experiment. Her favorite part was the conclusion.

Savannah Smith, in Ms. Williss' class, researched how well different laundry detergents cleaned. She had a hands on experiment, where you could dip a cue tip into laundry detergent, and then dip it into water, with pepper. The result was, the pepper spread away from the detergent on the cue tip.

This year we had some interesting and unique questions such as, how do mirrors work, What can keep an ice cube from melting, how does wind work, what is the best way to excavate a lego person from a block of ice, what restaurant has the cleanest lemons, what colors are dogs attracted to, what can keep an ice cube from melting, and how can hobbies we enjoy affect our moods?

This year we had some popular topics such as, weather, health, human body and plants. Also, there were some popular experiments such as, lava lamps, elephant toothpaste, and growing crystals. Two ECE classes did some whole group experiments. Ms. Mettler's class did a skittle experiment and Ms. Pullis's class did lemon volcanoes. All in all, the 2019 science fair was a blast, and we hope it will be this fun next year.

By Marlowe Mortimer, and Kayleigh Thorstad, Grade 6