



# Paw Prints

**Grant Ranch School**  
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Denver, CO 80123

Office  
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(720) 424-6961

Sept./Oct. 2018

GRANT RANCH SCHOOL ECE-8

## About Paw Prints 2017-2018

*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>*



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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.

<http://grantranch.dpsk12.org>

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## Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, October 9 - PTO Meeting - 6:00 - Library
- October 10 - 12- Book Fair
- **Parent Teacher Conferences**  
**Wednesday, October 10, 2018 3:00 PM-7:00 PM.**  
**Tuesday, October 16, 2018 3:00 PM-7:00**
- Friday, October 19 - No School
- Monday, October 22 – No School
- Tuesday, October 23 – No School
- Friday, October 26 PTO Fall Festival – Friday, October 26

DPS Calendar -

[https://www.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/Approved-Calendar\\_1718\\_color.pdf](https://www.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/Approved-Calendar_1718_color.pdf)

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## My Portal

Parents/Students,

Use the <https://myportal.dpsk12.org> which directs parents and students to the same site, where they can then access the Parent Portal or Student Portal.

## Congratulations

Congratulations Nicole Huston, 2nd Grade Teacher for being selected as a 2017-2018 Tackle STEM Coach of the Month Award Recipient, which recognizes Colorado's most innovative science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) educators. Colorado Technology Association and the Denver Broncos have teamed up for the third year to celebrate and acknowledge Colorado's most innovative science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) educators. Mrs. Huston will receive a prize package from the Broncos, which includes a Broncos Tackle STEM jersey and a STEM-focused tour of Sports Authority Field at Mile High with her students.



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Grant Ranch School is excited about our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair.

An amazing selection of books is headed our way! You will find the latest and greatest titles for students, as well as books of interest to parents and teachers. And, you can contribute books to classroom libraries. The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone excited about becoming a star reader!

When: Wednesday, October 10th, 8:00 am-7:00 pm

Thursday, October 11th, 8:00 am-3:30 pm

Friday, October 12th, 8:00 am-3:30 pm

Where: Library

What: Titles such as *Dog Man Lord of the Fleas* by Dav Pilkey, *The Three Little Super Pigs* by Claire Evans, and *Try a Little Kindness* by Henry Cole. Or preorder *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown* by Jeff Kinney!

Volunteer and earn free books! Contact Jacquie Hemphill at

[Jacquie\\_hemphill@dpsk12.org](mailto:Jacquie_hemphill@dpsk12.org)

Learn more and buy online at

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/grantranchelementaryschool>

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable! Reach parents in your local community & support schools! Businesses that want to sponsor this school, please contact TSCA at [info@tscaschools.com](mailto:info@tscaschools.com) or 970-239-1641.

## The ABC's of Back to School for Parents

by [Education.com](http://Education.com)

As the new school year begins, we all want to encourage success for our children. However, getting books and backpacks can sometimes overshadow the little things that make for a smooth and successful start to the school year. Here's an alphabetical guide to the 26 details not to forget this Back to School season.

- A. Ask questions.** Ask your child about her day at school. Try to ask questions that encourage more than yes-or-no answers. What did you learn? Who did you sit with at lunch? What books did the teacher read to you?
- B. Breakfast.** Kids learn best when they've had a nutritious breakfast. Schools often remind parents of this on testing days, but it's important for kids to get off to a good start every day.
- C. Communication.** Communicate with your child's teacher. Share your concerns, what you feel is working well for your child, and ask for clarification if something is unclear.
- D. Dates.** Check dates of school holidays and plan accordingly. Calendars vary by district.
- E. Effort.** Praise your child's best efforts. Not every child is a straight-A student. Let her know how proud you are when your child has truly done her best.
- F. Friends.** Get to know your child's friends, and encourage relationships with those who are a positive influence.
- G. Guidance counselor.** Ask the school guidance counselor to talk with your child if she seems stressed by the birth of a sibling, the loss of a family member, or school relationships.
- H. Homework.** Provide a quiet place that is free of distractions, and help your child as needed, without doing the work for her.
- I. Illness.** Keep your child home if she is sick. Germs spread quickly in a classroom, and one sick child quickly becomes 25 sick children.

*continued...*



**PreK - 12 Colorado Teachers!**  
Apply for a Teachers and Technology Grant for the 2018 - 19 school year for your school  
**Grant Ranch Elementary School**  
Grants range from \$500 to \$5000 and are available to full-time classroom teachers in public or private school. The CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation's Teachers and Technology grants are designed to help fund projects that advance student success through the innovative use of technology in the classroom.

Click [centurylink.com/teachersandtechnology](http://centurylink.com/teachersandtechnology)  
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## The ABC's of Back to School for Parents, *continued...*

- J.** Jot a note. Be sure to send a written excuse when your child is absent. Too many unexcused absences can affect your child's grades, or raise concerns of truancy.
- K.** Know the rules. Be familiar with school rules, policies and dress code. If the code of conduct isn't sent home with your child, check for it online.
- L.** Listen. Really listen when your child talks to you. Put down the newspaper, turn off the TV, close the laptop and listen.
- M.** Make choices. With your child, choose which after-school activities are the most important. Kids need downtime, time for balanced meals and plenty of sleep.
- N.** Newsletter. Read school and classroom newsletters regularly.
- O.** Open House. Attend your school's open house. Find out what's going on in your child's class, get to know the teacher and look over your child's work samples.
- P.** Praise good behavior. It's easy to take positive behavior for granted, but good kids need to be praised for following the rules.
- Q.** Quality time. Busy lives make quality family time hard to find. Eat dinner together, go for a walk or play a game with your child.
- R.** Read your child's textbooks. Glance through the table of contents to find out what will be taught. Then talk about what your child is learning to help build excitement and make connections with the topics.
- S.** Smile. Mornings can be hectic, and a lot of kids bring this stress into the classroom with them. Try to send your child off with a smile and a hug to set a positive tone for the day.
- T.** Tardiness. In some schools, a certain number of tardy slips count as an unexcused absence. Be careful!

*continued...*



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## The ABC's of Back to School for Parents, *continued...*

**U.** Update the teacher. If there are things going on that are affecting your child, let the teacher know. Kids react to separations, friends moving away and the loss of a pet. Teachers can offer extra sympathy, understanding and support.

**V.** Volunteer. If your schedule permits, offer to help in the classroom each week. If not, help from home by typing the class newsletter, cutting out art projects or planning class parties. A parent's involvement in the classroom promotes success in school. For more volunteering ideas, check out [A Guide to Getting Involved at Your Child's School](#).

**W.** Website. Check out the school website. You'll find important information, changes in dates and suggestions for ways to support your child.

**X.** Don't focus on the X's. When graded work is returned, don't focus on the problems that are marked wrong. Rather than saying, "You only missed 7," say, "You got 93 right!"

**Y.** Yell and shout. Be your child's biggest cheerleader when your child scores on the football field, participates in the science fair or recognizes all of the letters of the alphabet. Your praise is more precious than any prize or sticker from the teacher.

**Z.** Zip your mouth. When you disagree with the teacher, go to her directly to discuss your concerns. Venting these frustrations in front of your child will undermine the teacher in your child's eyes, and cause confusion. Work out your differences privately.



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