

Kirsten McNeill- Principal



Prairie Ridge Post

Greetings, Prairie Ridge!

A month into 2015, we are focused and ready to continue our learning during the winter months. Our new state assessments will soon be upon us. Dates and times for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will come home soon. More information about what you can do as a parent to prepare students will come at a later date.

Parent Teacher conferences are February 10th, 11th and 12th. You can sign up online. There is a quick link on our website. The online scheduler will be open until Friday, February 6th. PTO will be selling spirit wear so stop by their table!

Congrats to the Soaring Singers for their participation in the CMEA (Colorado Music Educators' Association) Clinic-Conference. What a wonderful performance and a spectacular way to represent PREL.

Remember that the fire lane is for drop off only. You cannot leave your car unattended. Violators may be ticketed by the Firestone PD.

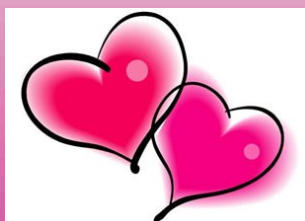
Just a reminder that February 16th and 27th are non-contact days. Students and teachers will not attend.

Check my FACEBOOK page, Prairie Ridge Elementary Page to get updates and information in a timely manner.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Warmly,

Mrs. Kirsten McNeill



- Important Dates**
- 4 LATE START
 - 10-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - 16 NO SCHOOL
 - 18 CLASS PICTURES
 - 25 5th Grade Program
4th Grade Field Trip
 - 20 Kaiser Assemblies
 - 26 End 2nd Trimester
 - 27 NO SCHOOL



- Looking Ahead**
- 2 3rd Trimester Begins
 - 4 LATE START
 - 9-20 ButterBraid Sales!!
 - 9 CMAS testing Begins
 - 17 1st Grade Program
2nd Grade Program

6632 St. Vrain Ranch Blvd.
 Firestone, CO 80504
 Phone: 720-494-3641
 Fax: 720-494-3642
 Email: stvrain.k12.co.us/pre/

Lost & Found

The Lost and Found is overflowing!
Please come find your child's items that
have been lost and need to be found.
All items not "found" will be donated.



Music News

Mark your calendars for your
respective *grade-level* programs:

- ◆ 5th Grade—Wednesday, Feb. 25th
- ◆ 4th Grade—Friday, May 8th
- ◆ 3rd Grade—Tuesday, April 21st
- ◆ 2nd Grade—Tues., March 17th @ 7pm
- ◆ 1st Grade—Tues., March 17th @ 6pm

Check out the music website to find
out more information!!!

[https://sites.google.com/a/svvsd.org/
prairie-ridge-elementary-music/](https://sites.google.com/a/svvsd.org/prairie-ridge-elementary-music/)

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Tues., Feb. 10th –Thurs., Feb. 12th!
See you there!!!

The 5th Grade Students

proudly present...

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

an exciting, fact-filled, energetic show based
around the lives & accomplishments of an elite
group of American presidents and statesmen
whose portraits appear on our most frequently
used American currency.

Come support the 5th graders as they
perform their grade level program,
and learn about some important men in
our American history.

When: Wed., Feb. 25th

Time: 6:30pm

Location: PRE gym

Contact Mrs. Keller with questions @

keller_catherine@svvsd.org

From the Health Office

CLOTHING NEEDED!!!

Our health office is in need of any clothing of any size. Please
bring any items to donate to the front office or call

Lyn Shaklee at 720-494-3641.

We need smaller sizes of...

- ◆ Underwear
- ◆ (Stretch or sweat) pants
- ◆ Shirts (t-shirt or long-sleeve)

BUS PARKING LOT

- * Please refrain from using the Bus lot for pick-up/drop-off or parking.
- * Students & parents walk on the sidewalks, to and from school not through the bus lot. We want all students & families to remain safe.



WEATHER TIP

As the weather is getting colder & snowier, students need to wear appropriate cold-weather clothing items to school *everyday* to stay warm at recess.

Please make sure your child has:

- ♦ Hat
- ♦ Gloves
- ♦ Snow boots
- ♦ Winter coat



Please send action shoes with your child on PE days. Thank you!

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

After School Plans:



- Plans need to be set *before* school. Be sure your child knows if he/she is to walk, ride the bus or wait for his/her ride. If plans change, please notify the office *before* 3:15. We will notify your child.
- Please no dogs or other pets on school grounds, including during recess, and especially before and after school. Dogs are NOT allowed on school property for your safety and for the safety of the students.

Friendly Reminder!

Absolutely no moving traffic while crossing guards are in the street!



'Tis the Cold and Flu Season!

Here are some tips to help you through this season of sickness:

- ♦ **Cough into elbows, not hands.**
- ♦ **Cough drops are allowed at school with parental written permission. (Drops must be kept in the Health Office and dispensed according to directions by the Health Clerk.)**
- ♦ **Wash hands with warm, soapy water.**
- ♦ **Students are *required* to stay home if sick with fever until he/she is fever free without medication for 24 hours.**
- ♦ **Dress appropriately for the weather!!!**

PARKING LOT & LANE GUIDELINES

- * Available parking spaces for parents are in the main lot as well as the lot west of the playground.



For pick-up & drop-off follow these guidelines:

- * **RIGHT LANE:** drop-off/pick-up ONLY along curb in front of school.

NO PARKING AS THIS IS A FIRE LANE AND YOU MAY BE TICKETED.

- * **LEFT LANE:** Thru traffic ONLY. NO DROP-OFF/PICK-UP.

P.R.I.M.E. Time

Prairie Ridge is looking for PARENT VOLUNTEERS to be a member of our P.R.I.M.E. Time team! Members will assist with and occasionally lead our weekly All-School P.R.I.M.E. Time on Fridays. We will meet monthly to share and prepare our weekly Friday P.R.I.M.E. Time.

If interested, please contact Mrs. Kempf at kempf_sloane@svvvsd.org.

PTO News

Yearbook Photos

PTO needs your photos!! [Click here](#) to upload your photos for the 2014-2015 Prairie Ridge Yearbook! The username is: 401983600.

Yearbook Order Forms

Yearbook order forms were sent out in Thursday folders on 1/29/15. [Click here](#) to download an order form if you did not receive one or if you need a new one!

February 4th: Late Start Breakfast

Slots still available! [Click here](#) to volunteer to bring a dish!

February 10th-12th:

Parent Teacher Conference Meals! Slots still available! [Click here](#) to volunteer to bring a dish!

PTO will also have a Spirit Wear Re-order Table at Conferences; drop by to order your PREL Spirit Gear!

February 14th: Pay for PJs or Hat Day! PTO will be hosting a Pay For PJs or Hats Day!! \$1 - your choice!

Qdoba Coupons will be available at the front office or with a PTO Board Member beginning Friday, January 30th! \$10 for huge savings! All proceeds will benefit next year's 5th Grade Cal-Wood Experiential Education Trip!

SPRING CARNIVAL!!! - The PTO will be hosting a Spring Carnival at Prairie Ridge! Volunteer sign-ups will be sent out in February!

For more information on all of these exciting items and more, please visit the [PREL PTO blog](#) or Like us on [Facebook!](#) Bring your family for food, fun, games and a great evening from 5p-8p on April 24th!!!

Start & End of the School Day

School begins at 9:05am,

The front office closes at 4:00 p.m. *daily.*

Students are to arrive NO earlier than 5-10 minutes before the bell. Please note:

Supervision begins at 8:55a.m.

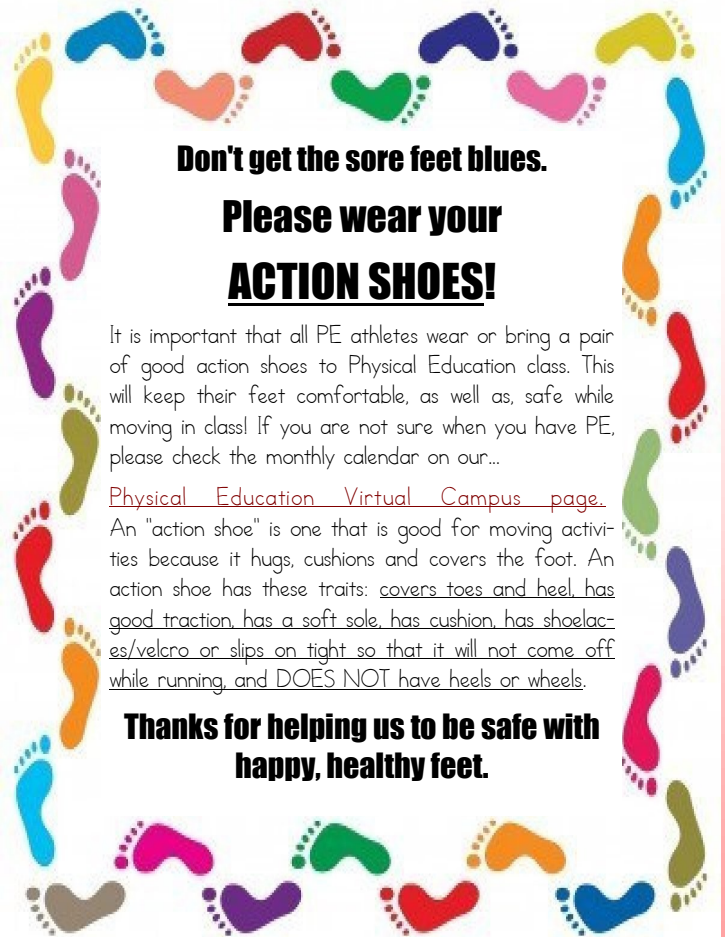
Donations Needed!

Please help out our Autism classroom by making a donation.

* a wee tent

* extra playground toys

Thanks for your support!!!



Don't get the sore feet blues.

**Please wear your
ACTION SHOES!**

It is important that all PE athletes wear or bring a pair of good action shoes to Physical Education class. This will keep their feet comfortable, as well as, safe while moving in class! If you are not sure when you have PE, please check the monthly calendar on our...

[Physical Education Virtual Campus page.](#)

An "action shoe" is one that is good for moving activities because it hugs, cushions and covers the foot. An action shoe has these traits: covers toes and heel, has good traction, has a soft sole, has cushion, has shoelaces/velcro or slips on tight so that it will not come off while running, and DOES NOT have heels or wheels.

**Thanks for helping us to be safe with
happy, healthy feet.**



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

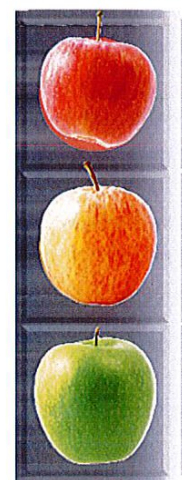
- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



CHRONIC ABSENCE
18 or more days

WARNING SIGNS
10 to 17 days

SATISFACTORY
9 or fewer absences

Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org