

# The Prairieland Press

*"It's a Great Day to Be a Cougar!"*

October 2023

<b>Attendance Line: 557-4473</b> <b>Please use the attendance line to report an absence or late arrival.</b>	<b>Principal: Scott Peters</b> <b>Office: 557-4424</b> <b>Hours: 6:45-3:15</b>	<b>School Website:</b> <a href="http://www.unit5.org/prairieland">www.unit5.org/prairieland</a> <b>Calendar:</b> <a href="http://www.unit5.org/Page/38">http://www.unit5.org/Page/38</a>
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## Principal's Message:

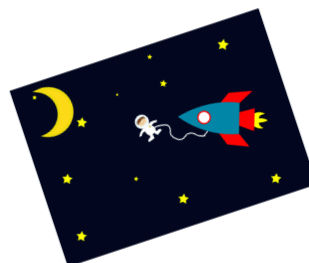
Happy Fall everyone and welcome to October! I am excited to say that it has been an outstanding start to the school year. The kids are settling into the routines and growing day by day! It is always exciting to see our students develop new relationships with their classmates and teachers. As we go throughout this school year I want to emphasize how much it means to us to partner with you in your child's educational experience here at Prairieland. We are here to help so please reach out to your child's teacher when you have questions.

Speaking of fall, continue to dress your students in layers as it is usually chilly in the morning and warmer in the afternoons. We will continue to go outside on cold days as long as it is 20 degrees or warmer with windchill. We love the outdoors!

### Attendance & Timely Arrivals

This is a reminder of the importance of having your child at school each and every day and ready to go by 7:45. When your students are in class and ready to go they feel at ease and ready to learn. This also teaches your children the life skill of being prepared and on time for things they will be a part of in the future. We do track attendance and arrivals on a daily basis and we want to partner with you to make sure students are here and ready to learn.

**"Reach for the Stars! Anything is Possible!"**



### **Reading Time**

Families often ask our teachers what they can do to help their child become a better reader. One of the best things you can do is to make sure there is a designated reading time each and every night of the week. For the younger students, taking time to read to them helps create an early love for reading. As they begin to develop their skills you can alternate reading pages of a book with them. Even as kids get a little older in their elementary school years, kids still enjoy sitting and listening to a book being read to them, even if it's a few pages a night from a longer novel. Once kids become proficient readers, having a window of time where everyone sits and reads quietly together as a family in the same room can be a very powerful thing.

### **Cougar Course!**

This Friday, October 6, is the Cougar Course Obstacle Run put on by our P.I.E.C.E. group. While this is a fundraiser for our school, it is also an awesome physical activity for all of our students. Each grade level has a designated time throughout the day that they work their way through the course. Parents are welcome to come and watch and cheer the students on! You can park out back. The obstacle course is set up all the way around the back trail. Thanks for everyone's support with this event.

### **Parent/teacher conferences:**

P/T conferences will be held this year on Friday, November 3, 2023. Your classroom teachers have the information regarding the sign up. This year you will have the option of in-person, or virtual conferences. If you have not seen the sign up, please reach out to your child's teacher(s). You also may want to check your spam email as it seems that some of our school emails find their way there. Please reach out to area teachers(Art, PE, Music, or IMC) if you would like to have a conference with any of them.

### **Halloween Festivities**

- Here is a rundown of what will be happening at the end of the month for all of the Halloween festivities!
- **P.I.E.C.E. Trunk or Treat!! Saturday, October 28-4:30-6:00-Back Parking Lot.**
- **Rain Date: Sunday, October 29-2:00-3:30**
- Come on out and see your friends, meet new Prairieland families, and show off your costumes! Groups will be spread out and able to walk amongst vehicles decorated with Halloween themed trunks. Students will receive candy and/or non-edible treats at each stop. After you have "*trunk or treated*," join other Prairieland families for, PIECE provided, popcorn and apple cider. \*While supplies last\*  
Grownups are encouraged to dress up as well, *just please no scary costumes.*

- Halloween Parade and Parties: These will take place on **Tuesday, October 31**. Our parade will start at 1:15 and be held out in front of the school. We will parade through the bus lane, down the front of the school, around Evergreen Village next door and back into the building.

\*\*\*If the weather does not cooperate, we have an alternate route inside the building. Parents are invited into the building for that parade as well.

- Parties will follow the parade in the classrooms.
- **\*\*\*Please note: Only parents with a “golden” ticket will be allowed to go to the classroom before the parade to help with costumes and setup.**
- Costumes: Kids will put their costumes on at school in the afternoon. Please do NOT send them to school in their costumes. Also, we tell the kids we want appropriate, kid friendly, costumes for school. That means we want to avoid scary masks, weapons, or things with blood on them. Have your students talk to their teachers or Mr. Peters if they have a question related to their costumes.

### **Homecoming Parade!**

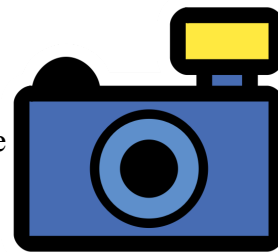
This Wednesday, October 4, is the Normal West Homecoming Parade! Once again some of our Prairieland 5th graders will be carrying on the tradition of representing our school. The theme this year is “A Night out in the City.” The parade will start at approximately 4:15! Come on out to enjoy the parade!

### **Volunteers:**

If a teacher is in need of a volunteer during the year they may be reaching out for your assistance. We then will make sure the volunteers have gone through the appropriate steps to be cleared. Please allow a couple weeks for your volunteer screening to clear. It is taking longer this year.

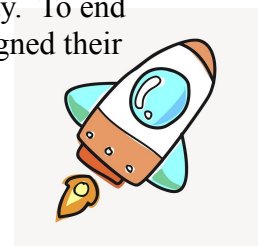
### **Picture Retakes:**

School picture retakes will be on Friday, October 6, 2023. Please send your student’s picture package with them if they are getting retakes. These must be turned in to the photographer in order to have their picture retaken.



### **PBIS: Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports:**

PBIS is the system we use to provide an overall structure for behavior within our classrooms and school. Each month throughout the year we emphasize basic vocabulary and affirmations. During September the focus was on building our class and school communities. The focus for October is on respect. Each month students can earn a fun “Out of the Blue” activity. To end September the classes got to be part of our water rocket launching! Each class designed their own 2 liter bottle and watched as we launched them high into the sky!!



### **Twitter:**

Follow us on twitter for quick updates on upcoming events, as well as highlights of the fun things that are happening. Our twitter handle is @PrairielandUni5 if you would like to follow us. You will also see district updates as well on our feed!

### **Upcoming Calendar Events:**

#### **September 15-October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month**

#### **October**

- 6      Cougar Course! All Day Throughout the Day**
- 6      Picture Retake Day**
- 9      No School: Indigenous People/Columbus Day**
- 16     P.I.E.C.E. Meeting-6:30**
- 18     Early Release-Students dismissed at 10:45 a.m. Please have arrangements for your student to get home.**
- 28     Trunk or Treat & Fall Get Together: 4:30-6:00p.m.-Back Parking Lot at Prairieland**
- 31     Halloween Parade-1:15-Rain or Shine**  
**Halloween Parties-Following parade. Parties will conclude at 2:15.**

#### **November**

- 1      First Day of American Indian Heritage Month**
- 3      No School for Students-Progress Conferences for families with teachers.**
- 9      Early Release-Students dismissed at 10:45 a.m. Please have arrangements for your student to get home.**
- 11     Veterans Day-Observed on the 10th at school**
- 13     P.I.E.C.E. Meeting-6:30**
- 22-24 Thanksgiving Break**

