



The Prairieland Press

“It’s a Great Day to Be a Cougar!”

December 2022

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

Welcome to December everyone! While the weather outside is getting colder, things are cookin here in the building. We start to see more and more growth from the kids when we reach the middle of the year. It is so exciting to see the natural progression of student learning in all areas. Thank you for all of your continued hard work and support at home as well.

I also want to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a Happy Holidays! For me, the most important thing I value during the holidays is the gift of time with family. Make time for yourselves and your family to just be together whether that is watching a movie, playing a game, or just sitting and reading in the same room. Make the most of your time together!



Holiday Parties:

Our winter parties will take place on Thursday, December 15 this year. That is the next to last day before winter break. Parties will be at various times and coordinated with the classroom teacher & room parent. Our P.I.E.C.E. group is coordinating with the room parents to provide support for the classroom teachers. For this party we are asking to only have parents that are specifically assisting with the party and have coordinated with the room parent. Our spirit day on the 15th is “Holiday Parties” so the kiddos can dress up in a wide variety of Christmas apparel.

12 Days of Spirit

We are once again doing the 12 Days of Spirit as we roll towards Winter Break. These days are 100% optional. The spirit days were sent out via email and can also be found on the front page of our school website at [Prairieland Elementary Homepage](#)

McDonalds Partnership

We want to thank all of the families who made it to McDonalds during October to buy Happy Meals to support our school. Our school received a check for \$156.00 from that one week period of purchases!! Also, throughout the year grade levels will be sending student art to be displayed in the store so that may be a good time to visit and support our local business. Thanks again!!

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.

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 the month of November our word was “Relationships.” We talked with the kids about relationships we have with our teachers, classmates, friends, and family members. Each month students can earn a fun “Out of the Blue” activity. Our out-of-the-blue for November had kids that had the opportunity to have their name drawn to “Bug Spray” staff with silly string! One student from each class got to empty a can of silly string on 6 different staff members.

Playground

As I’m sure you all know....the playground is finally officially open!! The playground was officially opened by town officials on Monday, November 28. The children have had a blast exploring and trying out all of the new equipment. A big shout out to our P.I.E.C.E. group for adding the merry-go-round to this playground. It has been a big hit! The Town of Normal is continuing their work and putting in a new shelter to the west of the playground.

Book Fair Thank You:

We want to thank all of our students and families for supporting the book fair again this year. We were able to raise \$2100 dollars for the library for Mr. Ford to purchase new books for the students!

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!

Weather and Dressing Warmly:

It is that time of year when we work very hard with the students to make sure they are dressed appropriately for going outside in the cold. We will go outside for recess all the way down to 20 degrees, with windchill. It can often be very cold as they wait for their rides after school as well. We emphasize with the kids to wear layers as it is easier to be too warm and take off a layer than be freezing cold. Please help us out as they leave the house in the morning! If for any reason you need assistance in getting hats, coats, or gloves, please reach out to the main office and we can help! Thank you!

Attendance Call In:

This is just a reminder that any time your child is going to be absent, we do need a call to our attendance line with the reason for their absence. We are required to document the reason for your child's absence on a daily basis. Please use the attendance line phone number to record the absence. That phone number is 309-557-4473. This number can be called 24/7.

Upcoming Calendar Events:

December

8 Early Release-kids dismissed at 10:45

15 Holiday Parties

16 Last Day before Winter Break

19 - Jan 3 Winter Break

January

4 School Resumes for Students

