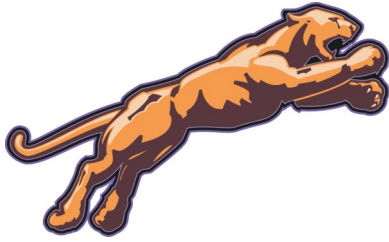


PRAIRIE CREEK ELEMENTARY

“Home of the Panthers”



654 YMCA Drive
Andover, KS 67002
316-218-4830
www.usd385.org



Shelley Jonas, Principal

**February 3rd,
2012**

It is officially the state assessment time of year. All of our third, fourth, and fifth grade students will be taking the Kansas State Reading and Math assessments at the end of February through the middle of April. Our fourth grade students will also take the Kansas State Science assessment. The tentative schedule for testing is shown below and will be posted on the PCE website. Please take some time look at when your child is testing. It is very important that your child is here for testing, unless of course there are extenuating circumstances such as illness or family emergency. Below are some things that parents can do to help their children do their best:

- Make sure your child gets plenty of rest.
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast
- Encourage your child to do his/her best. Let them know that their effort is important to you.
- Schedule appointments and other events around the testing schedule.

The state assessments are high stakes tests and we do encourage our students to do their best. The test has five scoring categories: Exemplary, Exceeds Standards, Meets Standards, Approaching Standards, and Academic Warning. Our goal is for all of our students to be at Meets Standards or above. In the spirit of encouragement, we are implementing an incentive punch card in which the students can earn punches for the following reasons:

Present Participant
Always use your tools
Non-stop positive attitude
Take your time
Have you checked your answers
Effort , Effort, Effort!!!
Record your work

Students will have an opportunity to earn prizes and rewards such as a Panther party, treats, etc. The prizes earned are solely based on the effort and attitude checkpoints listed above. We in no way make grades or scores a part of earning rewards on the state assessment.

We all appreciate your help in having our students successfully complete the assessments.

February 28th - March 1st - State Reading Assessment

9:00-10:30 Goering , 10:30-12:00 Button, 1:15-2:45 Moffett

March 6th – March 8th – State Reading Assessment

9:00-10:30 Becker, 10:30-12:00 Hayden, 1:15-2:45 Goering

April 3rd – April 5th State Math Assessment

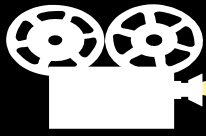
9:00-10:30 Henry, 10:30-12:00 Hayden, 1:15-2:45 Becker

April 10th – April 12th - State Math Assessment

9:00-10:30 Moffett, 10:30-12:00 Button, 1:15-2:45 Goering

March 29th – March 30th: State Science Assessment (Fourth Grade Only)

9:00-10:30 Becker, 1:00-2:30 Henry



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Kim Bradford
School Counselor

Hi! My name is Kim Bradford. This is my third year as a counselor at Prairie Creek Elementary. I have a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Pittsburg State University, a Master's degree from Emporia State in Learning Disabilities, and a Master's degree in School Counseling from Wichita State University.

I have been married to my husband, Paul, for 27 years. We have two children who both attend Andover High School. Our daughter, Karlyn, is a sophomore and our son Connor is a freshman.

In my spare time I love reading and listening to music. I'm also looking forward to spring time, when I can get outside and work in my yard and flower gardens again! I love working as the counselor at Prairie Creek and feel very blessed to be a part of this staff!



Trisha Leibold
Early Childhood Para

Hello, my name is Trisha Leibold. This is my fourth year as an Early Childhood Para. Before working, I was blessed to be a stay at home mom with my four children. I volunteered at the schools my children attended, church activities, coached various sports and was "Taxi Mom".

I have been married to my husband, Tim, for 26 years. We have three daughters and one son. Janelle is 24 and working on her communications degree at WSU. Joshua is 22 and serving in the United States Air Force. He is currently deployed in Kandahar, Afganistan. Brianna is 18 and Miranda is 16, both are working on graduating from high school.

In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, watching my kids' sports, gardening, walking my dogs, nutritional research, bible studies and woodworking. I find it entertaining to take things apart, figure out how it works and then put back together again. I believe duct tape can repair many things! I really enjoy the youngest students of the school!



Stephanie Anderson
Early Childhood

Hello, my name is Stephanie Anderson and I have been an Early Childhood para in Andover since 2006. I have a BGS from WSU with an emphasis in Sociology.

I am married to my middle school sweetheart! Rick and I have four children. Kelli, 24, is a para at Andover High and is pregnant with our first granddaughter. Skylar, 22, works for my parents and attends Butler County Community College. Garret, 20, also works for my parent's construction company. Molly, 17, is a senior in high school at AHS. We have one grandson, Brice, who is 4 years old and our dog, Izzy, and cat, Jake.

One of my favorite things is...SHOES. I love them! When I am not working, I enjoy spending time with my family and doing yoga. I have really enjoyed my time here at Prairie Creek working as an Early Childhood para!



Kellie Bamford
District Lead Nurse

Hello there! Everyone, even my family, calls me Nurse Kellie! I have been at USD #385 since 1988 and have worked as the nurse for every grade level in the district. I came here from Pediatric Intensive Care where I was first a Staff Nurse and then the Charge Nurse for the unit. It was SO GREAT to come here and see kids whose lives we had saved in PICU attending my schools! I have a BSN (Bachelors in Science of Nursing) and a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

I have two children who have graduated from the Andover school system. My oldest, Aubrey, graduated from KSU and is currently attending KU Med School in KC. She gets to transfer to Wichita in June to complete her next two years of schooling. She is doing great in school! My son, Ted, finished two years at KU and is now at Berkley College of Music in Boston. Berkley is a sister college of Julliard. Many of the students at Berkley are international students. We met kids from France, Australia, Morocco, England, and Sweden within the first 30 minutes of starting to move in! Aubrey is striving to become a pediatrician, and Ted is a drum set performance and music producer major.

Nearly everyone who knows me can tell you that UNICORNS are among my most favorite things. Not as well known is that I LOVE Kitties, and all kinds of animals! I own a dance studio where I teach Ballet, Jazz, Stage Dance, Contemporary, Lyrical, Pointe, etc... types of dance. I also do choreography throughout the state of Kansas, which lets me work with kids of all ages! I am thrilled to be a part of the Prairie Creek Family!!



Andover Pre-Kindergarten Program

The Andover school district is taking applications for the Pre-Kindergarten Program held at Prairie Creek Elementary School. This is a free program for children throughout the district who will be 4 years old as of August 31, 2012 and who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- 1) child lives in a single parent household
- 2) one of the child's parents was a teenager at the time of the child's birth
- 3) parent(s) do not hold a high school diploma or GED
- 4) there is limited English proficiency in the home
- 5) the child's family qualifies for the free Federal lunch program
- 6) the child has a developmental delay - as documented through assessments
(*Child cannot be receiving services through an IEP)

Enrollment is limited and student selection for the program is based upon need. Transportation is available throughout the district for those who are enrolled in the program.

If you are interested in this program, please call Prairie Creek Elementary School (218-4830) for more details and a program application. Applications are also available at all elementary school offices and on the district web page.

Early Childhood Peer Model Openings for 2012-2013



The Andover Early Childhood Program is currently taking applications for Peer Model students for the 2012-2013 school year. The selections for the Peer Model Program are based on a lottery drawing each year. Once the lottery selection has taken place, the Early Childhood staff will schedule a screening for the child to visit the classroom. This screening will include observation with other peers, a basic screen of motor, social, cognitive and language skills as well as overall behavior. The selection is then made based on the positions available, skills observed during the screening, and ration of gender.

Applications for the lottery drawing are due in the Prairie Creek Elementary school office by Friday, March 2nd, 2012. The drawing will be held on Friday, March 9th, 2012. The visitation for screening will be hosted on Friday, March 30th, 2012. The notice for our final selection of peer model students will be mailed out on Friday, April 13th, 2012.

A peer model student must demonstrate age-appropriate skills in the areas of play, social, behavior, speech and language, cognitive and motor functions. Additionally, all peer models must be toilet-trained and speak English fluently. These students must be 3 years, 6 months by September 1st, 2012, to qualify for this program.

To find out more information, please go to the district website at www.usd385.org and click on the parent tab. Scroll to the tab titled Early Childhood and find out about our program.

Valentine's Day Parties!

Schedule for Tuesday, February 14th

Pre-K: AM Classes 10:45-11:30, PM Classes 12:45-1:30 p.m.

Early Childhood: AM Classes 10:30-11:30 a.m., PM Classes 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Kindergarten: Cottrill 9:00-10:00 a.m., Hicks: 10:45-11:30 a.m.

1st Grade: 2:30-3:30 p.m.

2nd Grade: 9:00-10:00 a.m.

3rd Grade: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

4th Grade: 2:30-3:30 p.m.

5th Grade: 2:30-3:30 p.m.

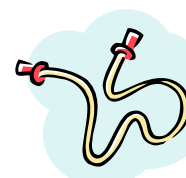


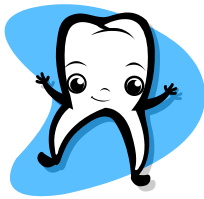
PE NEWS...



This month (Feb. 29th-Mar. 13th) the students of Prairie Creek in grades K-5 will be participating in "Jump Rope for Heart". This is a great opportunity for our students to learn about the importance of health and nutrition and how they can take care of themselves through physical activity. A collection envelope will be sent home with your child on Monday, February 27th. All donations will go to the American Heart Association to help those who have been affected by cardiovascular disease. Donations will be due no later than Tuesday, March 13th. The class who raises the most money will be going to the YMCA to go swimming and/or rock climbing! I will be sending home a schedule showing what time your child will be jump roping that week. Please feel free to come and watch, it will be a fun time! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me at menardj@usd385.org.

Jason Menard, PE





From the Nurse's Corner...



Hello! February is National Dental Health Month. We will be having dental checks on Thursday, February 16th.

Did you know that tooth decay affects children in the United States more than any other chronic infectious disease? Untreated tooth decay causes pain and infections that may lead to problems such as eating, speaking, playing, and learning.

The good news is that tooth decay and other oral diseases that can affect children are preventable. The combination of dental sealants and fluoride has the potential to nearly eliminate tooth decay in school-age children.

What Parents and Caregivers Can Do

Here are some things you can do to ensure good oral health for your child:

- Encourage your children to eat regular nutritious meals and avoid frequent between-meal snacking.
- Protect your child's teeth with fluoride.
- Use a fluoride toothpaste. If your child is less than 7 years old, put only a pea-sized amount on his/her toothbrush.

If your drinking water is not fluorinated, talk to a dentist or physician about the best way to protect your child's teeth. Also, talk to your child's dentist about dental sealants. These products protect teeth from decay.

Have fun brushing and flossing!

Nurse Kellie



Staff Birthdays

this month...

Kacy Lentz 2/3

Stacey King 2/17

Kim Bradford 2/28

Happy
Birthday!



"Donuts with Daddies"

Kindergarten classes
will be having "Donuts
With Daddies" on
Friday, February 18th
at the following times:



Mrs. Cottrill - 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Hicks - 10:30-11:30 a.m.



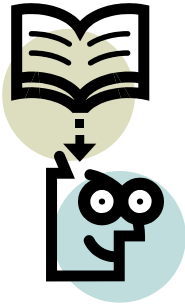
Prairie Creek Elementary School

SPELLING BEE 2012 PRESS RELEASE

The annual Prairie Creek Elementary Spelling bee took place on Wednesday, January 11th, 2012. The 2012 winner is Devin Gerber, a fifth grade student from Ms. Goering's classroom and our runner-up is, Benjamin Canfield, grade four from Mrs. Henry's class. There were twelve contestants in this year's bee. Other contestants included: 3rd Grade – Olivia Lara, Katelyn Hedger, Maya Sanchez, and Andrew Canfield – 4th Grade – Julia McKenzie, Alex Roos, and Alexis Jimenez – 5th Grade – Ryan Lara, Cortnie Golden, and Stephan Anthemides. Mrs. Betsy Bumgarner pronounced the words to the students with Mrs. Peckham and Mr. Menard serving in the role of judges for the bee. Devin will be representing Prairie Creek Elementary at the Butler County spelling bee on February 10, 2012 at Butler County Community College in El Dorado, Kansas.

Congratulations to all of the spellers for a successful spelling bee!





KNOWLEDGE MASTER OPEN **PRESS RELEASE**

Prairie Creek Elementary's fifth grade students took 10th place in the 43rd Annual Knowledge Master Open academic competition in Kansas and 5th place in the Andover Public Schools division. The competition took place on Wednesday, January 25, 2012. Andover's elementary 5th grade teams competed in an academic competition across the state of Kansas. The competition was sponsored by the Extended Learning Program teacher, Stacey King, and was assisted by paraprofessionals, Andi Crouse and Celia Ralston. The team of fifth graders scored a total of 503 points. The 2012 Knowledge Master Open team members included: Alex Roos, Julia McKenzie, Megan Wanzek, Devin Gerber, Ryan Lara, Magavin Carroll, Cortnie Golden, Cade Westervelt, Stefan Anthemides, Zoey Matacchiera, and Dalton McCucheon.



Our Box Tops Winners are:

1st Place - Henry (4th gr) 1,000 Box tops

2nd Place - Cottrill (Kindergarten) 774 Box tops

3rd Place - Hayden (3rd Gr) 539 Box tops

The approximate total of all Box Tops collected was 5,000! Great job Prairie Creek students!!!



Food Services Update

Lunch Account Email

Lunch email notification is sent each Thursday for each meal account with a balance of **+\$30.00 and below**. You will be notified at your PowerSchool email address.

How to setup PowerSchool Email Notifications:

1. Log into PowerSchool, using your parent login username and password. If you do not have your username and password, contact your student's school.
2. Click the Email Notification icon at the top of the page.
3. Check the box beside any information you would like sent to your email address.
4. Select how often you would like to receive the emails.
5. Type in your email address.
6. Click submit.

Please remember that this is the email address that will be shared with Nutrikids, our lunch cashier system. We do not use PowerLunch, which is the lunch management portion of PowerSchool.

If you are having trouble receiving lunch email notifications, please review these steps:

1. Wrong address in PowerSchool
2. No email address in PowerSchool
3. Multiple email addresses in PowerSchool
4. Email provider is blocking email from Nutrikids

To correct items #1-3, please verify your email address in the *Guardian Email Notification* section of PowerSchool for each of your students. For item #4, contact your email provider to learn why this email is blocked. You may also contact Bonnie Scarth in the Food Service Office at bonnies-carth@usd385.org to verify your email address or to substitute a different email address.

If you do not have email or access to online account information, please contact the Food Service Office, (316) 218-4603, to receive current account information.

Ann Katt
Food Service Director
katta@usd385.org



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Family Read Night!

Please mark your calendars! We will be having our 2nd Annual Read Night on Tuesday, April 17th, from 5:30-7:30. This is a great opportunity for you to come to school and spend some quality time reading with your child and taking AR quizzes. This will help our Kindergarten - 5th grade students to reach their personal AR goals and all of our students help the school reach their goal of reading 5,000 books. We hope to see you there. More information will be coming home soon!

