



Prairie Lane ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January 2015 - PTO Newsletter

From The Principal's Desk

So, I suppose I do have a New Year's Resolution.

Keeping up my regular exercise regime over break, I was in class when the instructor asked if any of us had resolutions for the New Year. In my head, I said, "no." After all, most resolutions are about exercising (I already do that), eating well (I'm better than most), and being happy (I can check that one off, too). Then one of my kiddos had to open his mouth...

My eldest, Jack, reminded us that he only has "two and a half years left at that school". He did not say it in a snotty way, as some teens might. Jack loves school. It was just matter of fact. That got me thinking, my family only has two and a half years to be the unit that we currently are. That's it. Two years after that, my daughter, Layne will be gone as well. It's what I've always dreamed about – kind of. I have not gone soft about last month's note regarding allowing our kids to experience the results of their decision making. I believe that with all of my heart and soul precisely because of the words of Jack. Guess what!! Kids grow up and they do leave. I did and so did you. It happens and I am forced to accept it. But, I will not let the years fly by and be sad that I did not do everything I could to know my children as the people they have become, right before my eyes.

We are all so busy – sports, work, friends, that we fill our days with many other things besides family. To that end, my resolution is that I will slow down, just a bit, and make it a priority to have dinner with my family a few evenings each week, be sure that I really notice as they grow, and continue to guide them as they get closer to being the people that my husband and I raised them to be.

Happy New Year to each of you! My sincere wish is that 2015 is everything you hope it will be.

Camille Schroeder
Principal, Prairie Lane Elementary



PTO President's Letter



Happy New Year Prairie Lane Families!

I hope you were able to have some quality family time over the winter break! Everyone is back to their routines and schedules and the PTO is back to planning and working to provide fun and exciting events for our school.

I wanted to give you all a couple updates:

1. Our walk-a-thon profits were used to purchase 30 new Chrome Books! They will be arriving any day!
2. Our Square 1 Art fundraiser was a great success! We earned over \$3,500 in profit! As discussed at our monthly meetings, we are splitting our profit with Mrs. Dollar to help fund the art program at Prairie Lane. We are very excited to be able to help her purchase supplies for the students at Prairie Lane! Thank you to everyone who helped by purchasing your child(ren)'s art work!

Thank you to our Room Parents and volunteers who helped make our winter parties successful and so much fun. These parties couldn't happen without your donations, time, planning and willingness to help, so thank YOU!

We have a few events coming up to add to your calendars.

We are thrilled to bring back Market Day! Our first pick up will be on Thursday, January 29th from 6:00-7:00 pm.

On Friday, January 30th we have a Spirit Day and we'll be selling *Smencils* again. So, don't forget to pack your \$1.00!

Also on January 30th is our FIRST BINGO NIGHT **starting at 5:45 pm** at Prairie Lane. This is a family night, so bring the whole family! We are hoping to have a great turn out, so please consider coming out for a couple hours to spend time with other families while playing BINGO!

Our Friendship parties are scheduled for **Friday, February 13th at 11:30**. More information will be coming from your classroom room parent so keep your eyes peeled for that information.

The New Year is time for resolutions, changes, and trying new things. So, I challenge you! Try volunteering for one of our events that you haven't helped with before or attend one (or more) of our monthly meetings or consider taking on a chair position for next year! If you have questions or I can help in anyway, please don't hesitate to ask!

Our next monthly meeting is on **Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 pm** in the Prairie Lane Library. I hope to see you there!

Happy New Year!
Jessica Winnie
PTO President

Prairie Lane PTO



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THE GYM CLOSET



ROLLER SKATING STARTS AT PRAIRIE LANE JANUARY 26!

All Physical Education classes will start a roller skating unit on January 26. It will run three weeks and permission slips will go out in the Thursday folders on January 15. Please check your folders. Volunteers will be needed for Grades K-2. Background checks must be in.

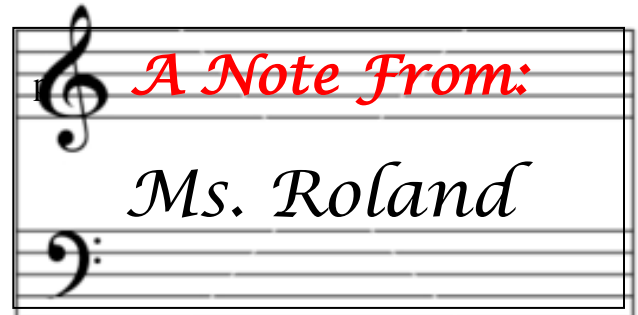
JUMP ROPE and HOOPS FOR HEART is set to kick off the week of February 23. The American Heart Association is offering even greater incentives for money raised this year. There will be more information to follow in February's Newsletter. Any Questions, please contact Ms. Tiffe at atiffe@kUSD.edu or 262-359-3649



Market Day is coming back to Prairie Lane in 2015. Our first pick up is going to be Thursday, January 29th from 6:00-7:00 pm by the front entrance. Everyone that places an order for our first pickup will receive a free photo tote bag with their order. Market Day is also offering \$5 off of a \$25 purchase if you are a first time Market Day customer. The coupon with code is attached to the Market Day flyer that came home from school this week. Orders must be placed online following the instructions on the flyer.

Prairie Lane is also starting something new for customers. We will be providing a drive thru pickup option. If you prepay for your order online at www.marketday.com, you can just pull your car up in front of the school and we

will load your order into the car for you. No need to park and get out of your car. If you have any questions about Market Day, please feel free to contact Megan Calhoun at megmirs13@hotmail.com or 815-236-4044.



Save the Dates for Spring Concerts!

February 19 -- Grades 4/5 concerts "A Walk Down Memory (Prairie) Lane"

- 4th graders perform at 6:00 pm
- 5th graders perform at 7:00 pm

March 12 -- Grades 2/3 concerts "Under the Sea"

- 2nd graders perform at 6:00 pm
- 3rd graders at 6:45 pm

April 23rd -- Gr K/1 concerts "It's a Farmer's Life"

- Kindergarten performs at 6:00 pm
- 1st graders perform at 6:45 pm

Please find out what's happening in music class by visiting my classroom webpage! <http://prairielane.kUSD.edu/classroom/s/ms-roland/>. The password is PL



From the

Library

We have begun a huge project in the library & that is labeling all the AR books with color-coded stickers. These stickers are being placed on the spines of books, along with levels, for students' ease in location. If you would like to help label, please call 359-3644 or E-mail me at ssteeves@kUSD.edu

I'm still taking donations for my Treasure Chest. To those of you who have contributed, thank you very much! All tokens are much appreciated.

'Tis the season, for colds, that is! If you would like to donate a box or 2 of Kleenex to the library, I'd greatly appreciate it. All students visit the library & I cannot keep up with all the drippy noses!

Upcoming Events!

January

- 29 – Market Day Order Pick Up – Drive thru service available for pre-paid orders!
- 30 – Spirit Day – Wear your Prairie Lane Spirit Wear! Also, Smencils for sale for \$1!
- 30 - BINGO Night! 5:45 to 8:00 PM

February

- 13 - Classroom Friendship Parties
- 19 - Grades 4/5 concerts "A Walk Down Memory (Prairie) Lane" (4th graders perform at 6:00 pm, 5th graders perform at 7:00 pm).

For those of you who didn't know, Second-Grade teacher Mrs. Lawler retired just before the Holiday break. She wanted to send along a special note to all Prairie Lane families to say goodbye.

To Prairie Lane Families:

I have been an educator for 32 years, 15 at Prairie Lane. I have taught children who were intellectually disabled, orthopedically impaired, autistic, emotionally disturbed, and those in the regular education classroom. Every single day my students brought me joy and made me laugh. And when it was difficult or challenging I had amazing colleagues who assisted me and helped me through. I have been blessed. It is difficult to say goodbye, but it is my time. I hope to cook, read, exercise, travel, enjoy my family and friends, and spoil my pets.

Prairie Lane has the best students, teachers, secretaries, parents, principal, and of course custodian! I will miss you all. It has been a privilege. Thanks for all the great moments.

Love,
Mrs. Lawler



A Note From Mrs. Lawler