

# Decker Prairie Elementary School

## Cougar Tales



### Parent Conferences



Parent conferences will be held during the month of October. The teachers are in the process of scheduling. It is important for parents to attend conferences so that the school and home and work together as a team. Please make plans to attend.

Decker Prairie  
Elementary School  
27427 Decker Prairie  
Rosehill  
Magnolia, TX 77355  
281-357-3134  
Fax 281-357-3248

October 2017 Edition

### What is Great Expectations?

Your student may have come home telling you about our Great Expectations Program. Great Expectations® (GE) is a program that provides the skills needed to create harmony and excitement within the school atmosphere, elements that are basic for inspiring students to pursue academic excellence. Educators helping students achieve excellence guide them in adhering to the following expectations:

- We will value one another as unique and special individuals.
- We will not laugh at or make fun of a person's mistakes nor use sarcasm or putdowns.
- We will use good manners, saying "please," "thank you," and "excuse me" and allow others to go first.
- We will cheer each other to success.
- We will help one another whenever possible.
- We will recognize every effort and applaud it.
- We will encourage each other to do our best.
- We will practice virtuous living, using the Life Principles.

### Dads and Donuts—Friday, October 20th



It's time for Dad and Donuts! We would like to invite all dads and their children to Decker Prairie's annual Dads and Donuts breakfast! Coffee, juice and donuts will be served in the cafeteria on Friday, October 20th. The

fun will start at 7:30 a.m. There's no better way to start your day than a morning with your kids! Hope to see you there!

### Red Ribbon Week—October 23-27 Your Future is Key, So Stay Drug Free

This year we will be observing Red Ribbon Week October 23-27. The theme will be Your Future is Key, So Stay Drug Free. More information about events planned for that week will be sent home later in the month.



Principal  
Dr. Jo Ann Colson

Assistant Principal  
Gigi Ragan

Assistant Principal  
Mary Endress

Counselor  
Jody Luedde

Librarian  
Mandy Watson

#### Inside this issue:

School Happenings	2-3
Library News	4
Calendar of Events	4

## Grade Level Happenings

### PPCD/PreK/Kindergarten

#### Pre-K Learning Focus:

ELA-We are learning letters and sounds and listening for and identifying rhyming words

Math- We are learning shapes

Science– Identifying primary colors, mixing colors and using our 5 senses

Social Studies-Noticing and identifying differences and uniqueness

Reminders: Please check your child's folder and sign it every day. Wednesday folders are due back on Thursday. We will be having parent conferences throughout the month of October to discuss your student's progress.

#### Kindergarten Learning Focus: October

ELA-letter/sounds, choosing appropriate books, writing on topic

Math- Numbers 0-10

Science– Physical Properties- Length, Mass, Size

Social Studies- Directions & Locations

#### Reminders:

Cougar folders go home on Wednesdays. Send back empty folder on Thursday.

We will be having beginning of the year conferences with all parents this month!

### 1st Grade

Parents fall conferences are coming soon. See individual teachers for dates and time.

Reading – Guided Reading Groups beginning.

Math – Addition and subtraction with story problems.

Science – Properties of Matter

Social Studies - Citizenship

### 2nd Grade

ELA—comprehension strategies, writing narratives

Math- add and subtract two digit numbers without regrouping and problem solving.

Science -physical properties of matter.

Social Studies-community.

### 3rd Grade

ELA-personal narrative plot structure, identify important events and make connections to the problem

Social Studies- communities (urban, suburban and rural), government

Math-rounding, addition and subtraction problem solving (up to 4 digits) with one or two-steps

Science-changes in the state of matter when caused by heating/cooling, forms of energy

### 4th Grade

Reading: Narrative plot structure

Writing: Creating personal narrative timelines

Math: Addition/subtraction review and multiplication

Science: Physical properties of matter

Social Studies: Regions of Texas and Native American tribes



## Specials Team

### P.E.

Athletic shoes with laces or velcro must be worn in P.E. to ensure your child's safety. Flip Flops, cleats, dress shoes, boots, sandals, and crocs will not be allowed. Girls need to wear shorts under dresses. **If proper shoes are not worn the student will sit out, an Oops Slip will be sent home, and their P.E. grade will be lowered.**

### Music

Second grade families, please save the date of...  
Thursday, November 9, 2017 @ 6:15 p.m.  
for the 2nd Grade Music Program (Veteran's Day Tribute)  
in the DPES Cafeteria  
More details soon.



### Art

I am so happy to be here at DPES, thank you for making me feel so welcome! I have been getting to know your children **this past month** and I look forward to beginning Rodeo Art in the coming weeks.

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## GT Specialist

UIL Coaching Sessions to begin the first week of October. Please use this link to find out more and to nominate your student to participate in coaching sessions. Nominations are due 9/28 or until spaces are filled.

[http://dpes.tomballisd.net/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=538589&type=u&pREC\\_ID=811444](http://dpes.tomballisd.net/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=538589&type=u&pREC_ID=811444)



*Early Release October 6th @ 12:50 p.m.*

*Staff Development/Student Holiday  
October 9th*

## Library Notes

I have really enjoyed seeing all of our students these past few weeks! We have had lots going on in the library this month including the start of reading logs, Skyping with authors, and having our first Birthday Book Club. To be notified of all that is going on, subscribe to my website at: <https://goo.gl/1DX8pg>

Look in your child's Wednesday folders this month for:

- \* Information about our "Reading is Rewarding" reading log program
- \* Signing your child up for Birthday Book Club this year

October Dates:

- \* Reading Logs go home- first week of October
- \* 3rd & 4th Skype with author Jeff Anderson to celebrate National Day of Writing- October 17th
- \* 1st & 2nd Skype with author Laura Murray to celebrate National Day of Writing- October 20th
- \* Birthday Book Club celebrating birthdays in August, September, and October- October 27th during lunch

Thank you for encouraging your child to read!

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## October Events

- October 2– Choir Practice
- October 3—Chess Club
- October 4-Ropers Practice
- October 5– Ropers Practice
- October 6-PTO Meeting/Early Release
- October 9-Staff Development/Student Holiday
- October 10-Chess Club
- October 11– Ropers Practice
- October 12-Ropers Practice
- October 13-Reporting Period Ends
- October 16-Choir Practice
- October 17-3rd & 4th Grade Skype with Jeff Anderson
- October 18-Ropers Practice
- October 19-Ropers Practice
- October 20-Dads and Donuts/1st and 2nd Grade Skype with Laura Murray/National Day of Writing
- October 23-Red Ribbon Week/Choir Practice
- October 24-Red Ribbon Week/Chess Club
- October 25-Red Ribbon Week/Ropers Practice/CIT Meeting
- October 26-Red Ribbon Week/Ropers Practice/Parent Training
- October 27-Red Ribbon Week/Birthday Book Club
- October 30-Choir Practice
- October 31-Chess Club/United Freestyle

