

SFA Newsletter

January 2012

Attendance/Absences— Texas Law (T.E.C. 25-092) and District Board Policy {(FDD/FDD) (Local)} states that students of Gregory-Portland ISD are required to attend school each day of the school year. When a student must be absent from school, the student—upon returning to school—must bring a note, signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. Parent notes are expected to be submitted upon the student's return to school. Parent notes will not be accepted beyond 5 school days after the student's return. Only nine parent excuse notes will be accepted throughout the school year.

Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences.

PTO News

- ❖ Goodie Sale— After school on Friday January 13th and 27th

- ❖ Papa John's next Slice Night will be on Thursday January 19th. Last month's winner was Mrs. Charlton's class. They will receive a pizza party from Papa John's!
- ❖ Deadline to order school yearbooks is Wednesday February 29th

Please keep in mind...

- ❖ Sticker and pencil machine available for students to buy from daily for 50¢ each
- ❖ Order a balloon bouquet to celebrate any special occasion for \$3
- ❖ School spirit shirts--\$10 & \$12

Kindergarten News—

Language Arts Units

- Winter
- Polar Bears/Penguins
- Dinosaurs
- 100th Day

Math Units of Study

- Geometric Shapes
- Greater Numbers
- Addition & Subtraction

- **Please read to your children, read with your children or you're your child read to you daily. We also ask that you continue working on the sight word list and counting to 100. Also help your child learn to tie his/her shoes. We hope you all had a restful break!**

First Grade News

Keep in mind that students will be expected to independently read instructional materials on skill sheets and tests.

Second Grade News —

- ❖ Second grade teachers will be administering the Mid-Year TPRI Test January 9th-13th. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest and eats a good breakfast.
- ❖ Please make sure to check your child's teacher website for weekly homework, news and an overview of skills being taught in the classroom
- ❖ Please practice reading your child's story that week at home to help prepare them for their Friday reading test. Their reading book comes home on Wednesday's and is to be brought back on Thursday's.

- ❖ Please make sure that your child is studying the math flashcards every night for homework. We continue to add new flashcards to the bag every few weeks.

3rd Grade News—

Third graders will be studying Measurement and Geometry this grading period. Students need to continue studying their multiplication facts daily. Parents, please remember to sign the homework agenda nightly.

4th Grade News—

SFA Science Fair is slated for **February 29th!!** All 4th grade students are required to do a project. Majority of students have chosen their topic! Students have a Science Project Journal that will be graded beginning January 18th.

- ❖ Science—Earth's Resources
- ❖ Math—Graphs & Tables
- ❖ Continue studying multiplication & division facts daily

Reading

- ❖ Practice STAAR—January 19th
- ❖ AR points are due by 3:30pm on February 16th to qualify for the AR Picnic February 17th. All students

should be reading 45 minutes EVERY night! (Including weekends)



Upcoming Events—

- ❖ **S. F. A. Elementary will be hosting its annual science fair on February 29, 2012. Students in grades K-2nd are encouraged to participate. As per district policy, all 3rd and 4th graders need to complete a project.**
- ❖ **Divisions will be—K/1st, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, & 4th Grade**
- ❖ **The top 6 winners in each division will advance to the 1st Annual G-P I.S.D. Science Fair District Meet on March 31st at the G-P High School.**
- ❖ **More detailed S.F.A. Science Fair information will be sent at a later date.**
- ❖ **Classroom Spelling Bee for grades 3 & 4—January 19th**

(previously scheduled Jan. 12th)

- ❖ **MLK Holiday—January 16th**
- ❖ **Progress Reports—January 24th**
- ❖ **End of 4th Grading Period—February 17th**
- ❖

NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE: It is the policy of the Gregory-Portland Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its programs and services.

District Title IX Coordinator: Asst Superintendent, 608 College Street, Portland, TX 78374 (361) 777-1091 District 504 Coordinator: Special Programs Director, 608 College Street, Portland, TX 78374 (361) 777-1091

Es norma de el Escolar Independiente de Gregory-Portland no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas y servicios.

attending school. A complaint against the parent may be filed in court if the student:

- Is absent from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, or
- Is absent on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period (G-P ISD Student-Parent Handbook & Code of Conduct, 2011).

❖ **Attendance/Absences**— State law requires that a student between the ages of six and 18 attend school, as well as any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended year program, or tutorial session, unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day’s learning on the previous day’s, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student’s mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences.

A court of law may also impose penalties against both the student and his or her parents if a school-aged student is deliberately not