# The Grant Dispatch

September 29, 2017

#### **Letter from the Principal**

Dear Grant Families.

Our first full month of school was a busy one and our classroom communities and routines are well established. Some classes have already ventured out on various field trips, extending their learning beyond the walls of Grant School. All students and teachers are exploring the new math curriculum, Everyday Math, together daily through lessons and activities. Thank you for being such a vital component to the success of Grant; supporting students in creating morning routines that help them get to school on time is so incredibly important. We are excited to welcome students at 8:03 to come in and have breakfast or head to their class to begin their day.

Thank you to those who came to our annual Potluck and Back to School Night. Families had the opportunity to dine together before learning about the curriculum for the year. This month also included one of our most unique events and experiences at Grant. The past two weeks, blues artist Tj Wheeler has been an artist in residence at Grant. During his time with us, all students engaged in learning about the blues music genre, were introduced to new instruments, and created music with Tj. This past Thursday was our Arts and Blues Night where many of our students performed. We also had the always-exciting silent auction and kids' raffle. Please come join us in supporting Grant Blues Corps as they perform this Saturday, September 30, at the Stephens Lake Amphitheater. The stage is <u>free of charge</u> and located north of the swimming beach at Stephens Lake Park. Allow plenty of time for parking and walking. Bring blankets to sit on.

Believe it or not, Grant School has more opportunities for families to come and be a part of the school. In October, we welcome grandparents and other important family members to school for Grandparents' Day. Please put on your calendar Grandparents' Day for October 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-3:00. All grandparents are invited to a reception in our gym at 2:00 before heading to the classrooms at 2:15. If a child does not have a grandparent available to attend, please invite other relatives or parents to come to school. During Grandparents' Day, our students converse with you and meet more members of our extended Grant family. We hope to see you there!

In addition to Grandparents' Day in October, we hold the first round of classroom parties for Halloween. We have some wonderful traditions at Grant when it comes to Halloween. One of our yearly traditions is the Halloween parade. More information will be coming as to our new route for the parade since our playground space is limited. For the parade, the entire school gathers at 2:15 on Tuesday, October 31 before heading inside for the classroom parities. All students are welcome to bring their costume in a bag to be put on before the parade. Families are welcome to attend the parade and parties. Please note the following costume restrictions:

- -no costumes may be worn to school
- -no scary or violent costumes
- -costumes much be age appropriate
- -costumes should be easy for children to put on (no make-up, etc.)

Thank you to all who donated items to our hurricane donations drive! In conjunction with many other CPS schools, donations delivered totaled 557 boxes of supplies to 13 schools in three districts. All of the Texas schools were incredibly grateful for your hard work and generosity!

Grant School strives to create a school that is welcoming, safe, and full of community. The year is off to a fantastic start and we thank you for playing such an active role in your child's school experience.

We are so happy you are a part of our Grant family.

Sincerely, Jen Wingert



#### Important Dates

**Sept. 30:** Grant Blues Corps performs at Stephens Lake Amphitheater, 12:00 p.m.

Oct. 13: Grandparents' Day, 2:00 p.m.

**Oct. 17:** Picture Retake Day, 8:30 a.m. and Early Dismissal, 12:50 p.m.

Oct. 18: PTA Meeting, media center, 5:30 p.m.

Oct. 20: Spirit Day—Favorite Sports Team

Oct. 30: No School

**Oct. 31:** Halloween Parade and classroom parties, 2:15 p.m.

## Hurricane Harvey donations from Grant families for Stewart Elementary School.



#### **Eco Award Goes to Emily Reynolds**

Each year Grant School recognizes a recipient who has supported environmental education by awarding them with the Eco Schoolhouse Horseshoe Award. The award symbolizes the over 100 year old tradition of Grant School as we look forward to the next century of learning and conservation.

This year's Eco Schoolhouse Horseshoe Award goes to Emily Reynolds. Mrs. Reynolds teaches first grade at Rock Bridge Elementary. She has spearheaded a teacher professional development program that promotes outdoor learning. Some of the topics included how to maintain an outdoor classroom in winter, summer, and during school, pollinators, and how to recruit volunteers. Mrs. Reynolds says, "In addition to helping educate teachers and others about Outdoor Classrooms and the benefits, my favorite part of the Outdoor Classroom presentation series was making connections with other teachers and community members who are 'teaching and learning' in Outdoor Classrooms and Gardens here in Columbia and elsewhere in Missouri. It was also inspiring to help these teachers and community members to make connections with one another."

Past recipients have included Smithton Middle School Eco Club, Sustain Mizzou, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Dept., the Raptor Rehabilitation Program, Betsy Blake, Amy Meier, and Dr. Candace Galen.

Congratulations Mrs. Reynolds! —Mr. Kuensting, fifth grade



Mr. Kuensting presents the Eco Schoolhouse Horseshoe Award to Mrs. Reynolds at Potluck.



A few teachers and staff pose for a group picture at Potluck.

### **Nurse News**

Hello Grant Families.

If you have signed a consent for your child to receive his or her flu shot at school, please discuss this with your child at home prior to November 7th. Receiving this news just before injection time can be upsetting for some.

Thank you so much! Jac Jorgensen, RN BSN

### **Picture Retake Day**

Picture Retake Day is October 17. All new students or absentees will be photographed on this day. If you ordered pictures on picture day and need retakes, please return your original package so the photographer can retake your student's picture. (Picture packets will come home in Friday folder next week).



#### **PTA News**

On September 20, Grant PTA held the first organized meeting of the school year. The turnout was fantastic with many new faces eager to participate in enriching their child's educational experience. Our next meeting is October 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the media center. Childcare and food are provided to children staying for the meeting.

Grant is offering a new line of spirit wear. The shirts (and baseball hat) will be available for purchase September 29-October 20, online at https://stores.inksoft.com/Grant OR via paper order form. Show your Grant spirit in a new All Stars t-shirt; order one for the grandparents too!

Speaking of grandparents, Grandparents' Day is the afternoon of October 13. To begin, there will be a program and snacks in the gym. Grandparents can then visit their grandchild's class room for additional activities.

The Box Tops for Education contest is underway. The class that collects the most Box Tops by October 20 will win a Cookies & Cider Party. The number collected per class thus far: Mr. McKee 200, Ms. Schwarting 172, Ms. Cook 90, Ms. Hartz 84, Ms. Rice 59, Mr. Steelman 57, Ms. Leake 50, Ms. Jacoby 35, Ms. Savage 9, Mr. Kuensting 7, Ms. Grove 4. Continue to save your

Box Tops and ask your neighbors, relatives & co-workers to save for you also. We raised \$766.00 last year; ten cents at a time.

Grant PTA membership forms and volunteer registration forms are available in the office. As always, don't hesitate to reach out to the PTA with any questions, suggestions or to volunteer in any way.

by email: grantallstarpta@gmail.com





#### P.E. All Stars of the Month

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Coach Wagner would like to recognize this month's Grant P.E. All-Stars:

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KD—Hayden G.

1-Keira M.

2—Emily Y.

3—Thomas T.

4— Finn K.

5—Ella B.

Congratulations to each of them on all of their hard work so far in P.E. class!

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#### Coach's Corner

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The school year is already flying by and we have been very busy in P.E. class. We just finished our softball unit with 3<sup>rd</sup>—5<sup>th</sup> grade students and have been very busy working on locomotor skills and listening/following directions with KD—2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. The next unit we will be working on is fitness testing for grades 3—5 and fitness games and activities for grades KD—2. Please help remind your child to bring or wear tennis shoes or sneakers for P.E. class.

Jogging Generals running club has been doing an awesome job running for 25-30 minutes every Monday and Wednesday morning. I have an amazing group of Grant students in Jogging Generals and have been so proud of their accomplishments in the club so far. Our last day for Jogging Generals will be Wednesday, October 25, 2017.

Thank you for all of your support!

Coach Wagner

#### **Arts & Blues Night at Grant Rocked!**



What a great time we had at the 2017 Arts & Blues Night. Tj Wheeler kicked off the show when we shared a few songs. The second graders bluesified *Poor Little Bug on the Wall* and sang it in a variety of musical styles. Third graders sang *I Like* 

Singin' and rocked out with kazoos. The Grant Blues Corps singers and musicians, like always, did not disappoint!! Though we were indoors this year due to construction, the pizza, silent auction and kids' raffles were so much fun. Grant is the greatest community!! Arts & Blues Night at Grant was a success because of the volunteers, the staff and teachers and all the many parents who pitched in 'just because.' We were "all in this together" singing our songs even though Grant and our blues week was "under construction!"

-Ms. Sisson, music specialist

#### **Grandparents' Day**

Join us for a special celebration on Friday, October 13. There will be a reception in the gym beginning at 2:00 p.m. At 2:15 p.m. you will visit your grandchild's classroom. You don't want to miss this fun occasion! Please park in the overflow library parking lot on the northwest corner of Broadway and Garth or along side streets on and around Garth. The library asks that we do not use their main parking lot.



## **Blues in the Schools Week at Grant**



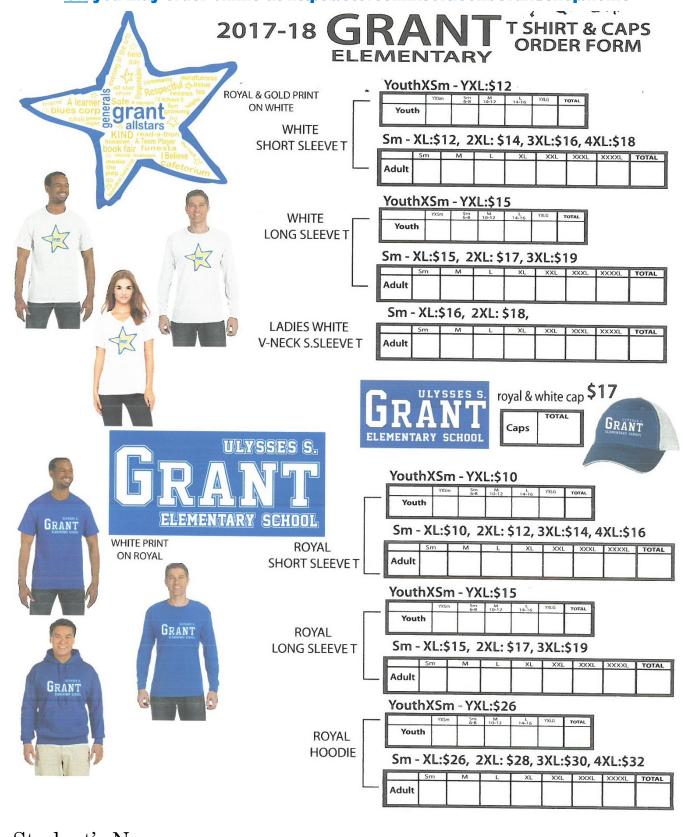




# October

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 A	3 B	4 C	5 D	6 A
7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:25 Chess Club
3:15-4:45 Choir		3:35-4:30 Book Club	1:30 Fire Prevention Assembly 3:15-4:30 Grant Mentoring 3:15-5:20 College Mentors	
9 B	10 C	11 D	12 A	13 B
7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:25 Chess Club
3:15-4:45 Choir	3:30-4:30 Math Club		3:15-4:30 Grant Mentoring 3:15-5:20 College Mentors	2:00-3:00 Grandparents'  Day  Grandparents' Day 2017
16 C	17 D	18 A	19 B	20 C
7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:25 Chess Club
3:15-4:45 Choir	8:30 Picture Retakes  Picture Retakes  12:50 Early Dismissal  EARLY  DISMISSAL	5:30-7:00 PTA Meeting, Media Center	3:15-4:30 Grant Mentoring 3:15-5:20 College Mentors	Spirit Day—Favorite Sports Team GO * TEAM 3:30-4:30 Math Club
23 D	24 A	25 B	26 C	27 D
7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:15 Jogging Generals	7:25 Language Club	7:25 Chess Club
3:15-4:45 Choir	3:30-4:30 Math Club		3:15-4:30 Grant Mentoring 3:15-5:20 College Mentors	
30	31 A	1 B	2 C	3 D
Teacher Work Day	7:25 Language Club		7:25 Language Club	7:25 Chess Club
NO SCHOOL	2:15 Halloween Parade and Classroom Parties 3:30-4:30 Math Club	3:15-4:45 Choir	3:15-4:30 Grant Mentoring 3:15-5:20 College Mentors	

Return order forms to Grant School office by October 20 (checks payable to Grant PTA)
OR you may order online at https://stores.inksoft.com/Grant/shop/home



Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name