

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

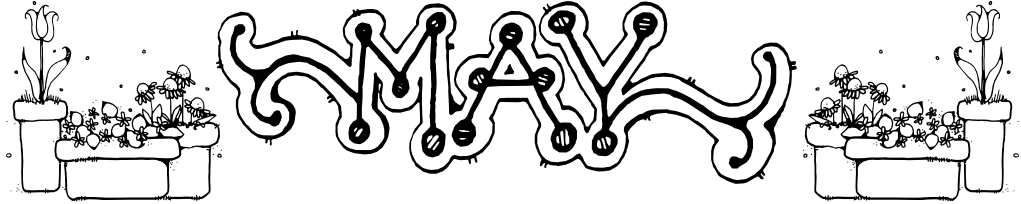


Pat Pribyl, Principal - Telephone (952) 758-1600



**New Prague
Primary School**

Web address: www.np.k12.mn.us



Upcoming Events

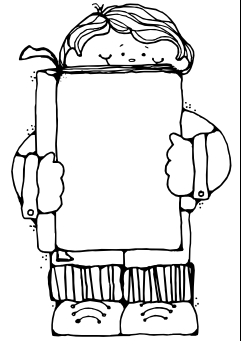
- ♥ May 4 Grandparents' Day KA, Everyday K
- ♥ 2-for-1 Book Sale
- ♥ May 5 Grandparents' Day KB, Grades 1 & 2
- ♥ 2-for-1 Book Sale
- ♥ May 9 McDonald's Night 5-7 p.m.
- ♥ May 11 Family Fun Night Picnic, 5-7 p.m.
- ♥ May 12 Teacher Workshop/Packing day
- ♥ May 19 Fun in the Sun Day
- ♥ May 24 Picnic Day for Grade K
- ♥ May 25 Picnic Day for Grade K and 1
- ♥ May 26 Picnic Day for Grade 2
- ♥ May 29 Memorial Day—No School
- ♥ May 31 Last Day of School

Notes from Mr. Pribyl

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Along with all the meetings, concerts, tests, paperwork, picnics, fieldtrips, etc., a lot of mixed emotions are being felt by students, parents, and staff. Next year will definitely be different. I will miss seeing many of you on an almost daily basis. I am looking forward to the excitement and challenge of opening our new K-5 Raven Stream Elementary School. I am also sad to be leaving what has been a wonderful experience at the K-2 primary building. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support and friendship the past four years. Have a great summer!

Summer School

Please note that there will be no summer school for students in grades K-5. Typically we offer a support program over the summer for students that need additional time and opportunity to fully develop their reading and math skills. With the upcoming opening of two new elementary buildings this fall, we are not able to offer summer programming. Be sure to look for community education classes, opportunities at the library, and at-home options to keep your children reading, thinking, and creating this summer.



Feed the Brain

Many children experience academic slippage during the summer. This can make it difficult for them to get back on track in the fall. Keep children intellectually engaged throughout the summer. Some ideas include:

- ♥ Setting aside a regular reading routine. Check out the public library's summer reading program.
- ♥ Keeping your child physically active by limiting computer, video game, and TV time. Get outdoors as a family; bike, walk, shoot hoops, play croquet or bocce ball.
- ♥ We can't neglect their writing skills. Encourage them to keep a journal of summer experiences. Writing letters to friends/relatives is also a great way to practice those skills. Who doesn't love to get "real" mail?

Most importantly - create loving memories with them. All too soon summer will be over and it will be time to head back to school!

Summer Tutoring

Does your child need a little extra practice with reading and/or math over the summer break? We have names of several high school and college students that would be willing to tutor your child this summer. Call the school office at (952) 758-1600 for more information.



Catch the Beat @ Your Library!

2006 Summer Reading Program runs June 12-August 12



- ***Preschool Summer Reading Program** - for kids who have not yet attended kindergarten. Preschoolers keep track of the number of books read, or read to them, and earn fun stickers and prizes!
- ***School-age Summer Reading Program** - for kids who have finished kindergarten through fifth grade. School-age kids keep track of 20 minute increments of reading time and earn great prizes!
- *A complete flyer of events should come home from school with your child at the end of May. You can also pick up a flyer at the public library.
- ***Teen Reading Program** - for teens who have finished 6th grade and up. Teens keep track of the number of hours they read, and earn cool stuff! Teens can also participate in "Teen Nights" throughout the summer. Join us for a movie, or game night with munchies and pop. Check at the library for teen night dates and times.

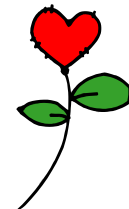
***Note:** All materials recorded for summer reading must be checked from a Scott County Library.

***Chic-Lit Book Club** for girls ages 10-15 years old! Stop by or call the library at 758-2391 for information, dates, and times.

***Ham-Lit Book Club** for guys ages 10-15 years old! Stop by or call the library at 758-2391 for information, dates, and times.

Grandpersons' Day

We wish to extend a special thank you to the grandpersons who have signed up to visit our school on Thursday, May 4, and Friday, May 5. Remember to stop by our 2-for-1 book sale. Thank you for being a part of this special event at our school.



What's happening at *your* school?



Have you had a chance to drive by the new elementary schools? It is easy to see all of the work going on at the sites to get the buildings done for fall. At this time, the **Raven Stream** elementary is getting the flooring poured and the walls and ceilings are going in. Locker colors and blinds are on the docket for selection and of course, the final ordering of the furniture. The ball fields are really looking nice. Although we have had inquiries as to having summer sports on them, it is a construction site and not available for use.

Eagle View at New Market should be completely enclosed within the next week. The windows are being installed and the number of workers has increased to maximize the nice weather. We have heard that the road is scheduled to be completed by mid August. We are still hoping that we will be able to move over the MEA break in late October. At this time, we are planning to open up as an Eagle View Community in the current Intermediate school. The leadership team is looking at developing a theme around camping for the first part of the year if we are in that building—great opportunity, but maybe not all of the conveniences of home.

Plans for **Falcon Ridge**, the current primary building, are being solidified. We are looking at the areas that will affect curriculum—computer lab, art room, etc.—to make sure that all students have access to the same opportunities. We will also be updating the areas for teacher use and replacement of items such as ceiling tile to give it a fresh look. Because of the hectic summer, we have decided that this will be a two-year plan, but watch for the changes in that building as well.

Just a reminder that the teachers will be using May 12 to pack the classrooms. We are looking for some volunteer help so if you are interested, please contact the elementary offices to sign up.

Media Center News

Library books are due on Friday May 5, 2006. Please help your child to remember to return his or her books. Thank you for your help in this matter.

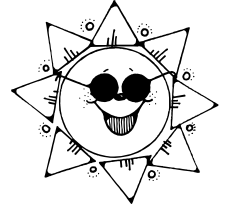
We would like to thank the following family who recently donated a book to the Celebration Book Club. The student is Keyshawn Kokhoo.

If you have any questions, please call Lisa Meyer at 952-758-1627, or send an e-mail to lmeyer@np.k12.mn.us.



Fun in the Sun Day!

Fun in the Sun Day has become an annual event organized by our physical education staff. The date has been set for the afternoon of Friday, May 19. What a fun way to end the school year for the entire primary school students and staff.



Notes from the Nurse

Hello from Health Services! Wow, where has the school year gone? From a health services standpoint, we are happy to report that we are, for the most part, finished with the cold and flu season. We usually see healthier children with the warmer weather.

This is always an exciting time of year. Children are anxious to end the school year and have a few homework free months. Health services would like to remind families of a few safety tips:



Sun protection- You should try to avoid sun exposure from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Use a lot of sunscreen with a SPF of at least 15. Apply sunscreen often when in the water.

Water safety- Never leave a child unattended in or near the water.

Hydration- Make sure that you drink plenty of water during the warm months.

Bike riding/roller blading safety- Make sure to wear helmets, knee and elbow pads.

Have fun and "think safety." Remember to always be prepared.

Our health offices are getting all the end-of-the-year reports completed and are busy preparing for next year. **A few tidbits of information to remember:**

- ♥ Any medications that you have at school for your child will need to be picked up at the health office. If you cannot pick them up, please make other arrangements with Mrs. Kazlauskas or they will be discarded.
- ♥ Remember if there are any changes in your child's health status during the summer, notify health services. If specific accommodations will be needed, please give Mrs. Malecha a call. She can work with you to develop an individualized health plan or emergency care plan for your child. If there is already a plan in place for your child, please expect a plan to be mailed to you during the summer for you to update and return. This will help ease the transition into school next fall.
- ♥ If your child will require medication to be given during the 2006-07 school year, make sure to get a signed physician's order along with the medication. We will not be able to give out medication without this order. This also includes any over-the-counter medicine.
- ♥ If you have concerns about your child entering school in the fall due to a health condition, please contact Mrs. Malecha. She can schedule a meeting with the building health assistant to talk about these concerns during the week before school.

Early Childhood Screening

Remember, it is a state law to have your child screened prior to kindergarten entrance. Call (952) 758-1674 for an appointment or more information.

Immunizations

All students who will be entering a school in Minnesota for the first time are required to be immunized against DPT, Polio, MMR, hepatitis B series and Varicella (or have a date of when they had the illness).

These requirements can be waived by a properly signed medical exemption or a notarized



conscientious exemption form filed with the school. Kindergarten students without proper immunizations records on file will not be allowed to enter school.

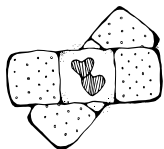
These county agencies offer immunizations for the public. Call for information.

Scott County: (952) 496-8555

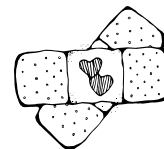
LeSueur County: (507) 357-2251 x 246

Rice County: (507) 744-5185

Thank you for all your support this school year. Have an enjoyable and safe summer!



Cheryl Malecha RN, LSN Kim Kazlauskas
Health Services Director Primary School
952-758-1413 952-758-1606



Volunteers

A very *BIG* Thank you to all of you who have volunteered this year. You have had such a tremendous impact on the educational climate of our school. You have helped with many events that raise money, educate children, or screen students for vision and hearing. You have gone on field trips, attended special events, helped in the classroom, and worked with your child at home. We really appreciate you! Research shows that when families work together with schools, children succeed; not just in school, but throughout life. Thank you for a job well done!

Camps and Clinics



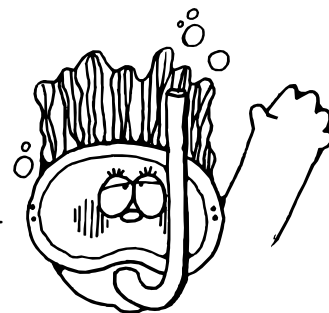
Check out the summer recreation programs in the "New Prague Summer Times" brochure that was mailed out April 10! There are a lot of classes and camps for kids in the brochure. If you didn't get a copy, or tossed yours out, you can still pick one up at the Community Education Office, the Public Library, the Chamber of Commerce, or City Hall. Or, you can see it on the Web at www.np.k12.mn.us—go to the "Community Education" page and click on the summer brochure.

For information/questions regarding offerings or any events in the "Summer Times," please call Community Education at (952) 758-1734.

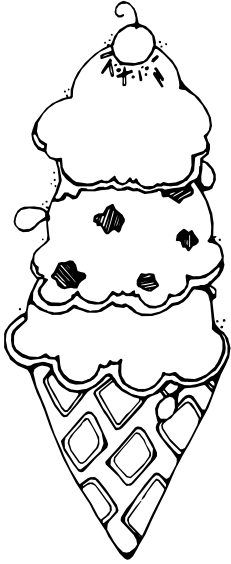
Swimming Party

Do you have kids going into grades 3-5 who want their own special time in the pool? Have them come to the Pool Party at the New Prague Community Pool. Party includes swimming, music, and all the hot dogs, pop, chips, and cookies they can eat (until we run out)! Children **entering grades 3-5** will have their party on Monday, August 21 (rain-out date: August 22), from 5:30-7:00 p.m. The cost is \$8 per child (parents free). For more information, or to register, stop by the pool after it opens on Sunday, June 4, or call Community Education at (952) 758-1734.

For those of you who have children **entering grades 6-8** in the fall, the Grades 6-8 Pool Party is Thursday, August 24 (rain-out date: August 25), from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 per child. Parents are FREE if they want to attend.



Kids' Company Summer Program



Kids' Company will be open this summer for child-care from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (weekdays only), June 5 through August 24 (closed the week of July 4). This program is for **kids currently in grades K-5**. It includes enrichment activities, art, crafts, nature studies, large and small group play, field trips (local), swimming at the pool, computers, and quiet time. Morning and afternoon snacks are provided (no lunch - kids will "bag it," but milk/juice provided). Transportation to morning swim lessons, morning ball, and in-town camps and/or classes is included if needed.

Summer Kids' Company will be located at the primary school. Full-time or part-time care is available (**no drop-ins**, though). A \$10 (non-refundable) registration fee is required, along with a \$100 activities/admissions fee to cover the costs of trips, ticket/entry fees, and transportation. It may also be used by parents to pay for fees near the end of summer. There is a \$3.60 per hour/per child fee (rounded up to the nearest hour of care). *Payment for service is due weekly (generally Friday), payable at the Kids' Company site.*

Earth Day - April 22, 2006

Students at the primary school once again showed appreciation and respect for our environment by picking up garbage in and around our school property. It is a great reminder for all of us to reduce, re-use, and recycle. Students in many of our second grade classes also decorated grocery bags with environmental messages. These were distributed at Econo Foods on Earth Day.

Carnival - Spectacular

Thank you to all families who joined us for an exciting day at the carnival last month. New games, overflowing theme baskets, classroom art items, and unique auction items made for a wonderful event enjoyed by all. The air bouncer, spider web, and pirate's chest were some of the favorite games, played by children of all ages.

A special thank you to all of the volunteers who worked hard to prepare, plan, and host this annual fundraiser for the three elementary schools. It is the many generous volunteers from our wonderful families that make this event such a success. Thank you to Joanne Erickson and Jenny Schneider for co-directing the carnival again this year - these ladies did a fantastic job! They received help from many wonderful team leaders, you all were so great!



HELP!

Friday, May 12, is a scheduled day off for students. Staff will be in the building and will be very busy packing a portion of their classrooms on that day. We could really use extra adult hands to help get us ready for the move. If you would be available a portion of the day to come in to help pack or clean, we'd greatly appreciate it. Please call Laura at (952) 758-1617 and let us know if you would be available. Thank you!

Wanted

Our occupational therapy department is in the market for gently used cd/tape players. If anyone has any that are just taking up space in your home, call (952) 758-1665. Thank-you!



Family Fun Night - Picnic!

Thursday, May 11, 5-7 p.m.

Primary school playground area
Full meal deal \$2.50 per meal,
High School Polka Band,
games, socializing, and lots of fun.
Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

Pre-registration forms have been sent out.

If you need another one,
please call Laura at (952) 758-1617.

Have a safe and wonderful summer
break with your family.

Rest, relax, refresh,
and we will look forward to
seeing most of you back next fall!

Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

May 2006

New Prague Primary School

Mr. Pat Pribyl

Book Picks

Read-aloud favorites

■ *Everything to Spend the Night from A to Z*

What would you take on a trip to Grandpa's house? *

The little girl in Ann Whitford Paul's alphabet book packs everything from an apple to a zipper. But what really important thing does she forget?



■ *From the Bellybutton of the Moon and Other Summer Poems/ Del Ombligo de la Luna y Otros Poemas de Verano*

Francisco X. Alarcón's collection of bilingual poems was inspired by his childhood visits to relatives in Mexico. Family, nature, and culture are a few of the themes in this book, which will appeal to both English- and Spanish-speaking youngsters.

■ *Stanley's Great Big Book of Everything*

Andrew Griffin's reference book is similar to the one on the *Stanley* television show. Children

can learn fun facts about their favorite animals, including polar bears, crocodiles, and kangaroos. Filled with colorful illustrations.



■ *You Are My I Love You*

Lovable teddy bear characters say goodnight in this book by Maryann Cusimano about a parent's love. "I am your open arms; you are my running leap," the mother says as she tucks her little bear into bed.



Warm up to reading

Want to motivate your child to read while school is out? Try making reading a part of summertime fun. Here's how.

Link family activities with reading. Check out a baseball book, such as Brad Herzog's *H Is for Home Run: A Baseball Alphabet*, and go to a local softball game. Or read a patriotic book before

you watch fireworks on Independence Day. Try *America the Beautiful*, an illustrated version of the song by Scholastic.

Turn playdates into book clubs. Your youngster can ask her friends to bring over a copy of the same book. They can read together (take turns reading pages, read silently, or read aloud), talk about the story, and enjoy a snack.

Use books as inspiration for projects. For example, read *Maisy Makes Lemonade* by Lucy Cousins and help your child set

up her own lemonade stand. Or play with homemade bubbles after reading *Pop! A Book About Bubbles* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

Give rewards for reading. Help your child set a reading goal for the summer. Each time she reads a book, write the title on a strip of paper. Link the strips together to make a paper chain. Challenge her to make a chain that is as long as she is tall. Then, celebrate her success with a special summer treat, such as ice cream. ♥



Reading hot spots

Warmer weather opens up a whole world of possibilities when it comes to finding a place to read. And reading—like eating—is more fun when you're outside! Here are a few ideas for summer reading spots to enjoy with your child.

In the park: Find a bench by the lake, feed the ducks, and read away.

At the pool: Stretch out on towels or chairs under an umbrella, and enjoy a story together.

After dark: Pitch a tent in the backyard or make one using a blanket or sheet. Grab a flashlight, and read bedtime stories. ♥



Boost thinking skills

Thinking and reading go hand in hand. You can boost your child's thinking smarts by asking questions about what he reads. Here are several skills with questions to build each one.

Problem solving

Good thinkers can come up with their own solutions to problems. After reading a story together, ask questions like, "What was the main character's problem in the story? Could she have solved it in a different way?"

Creativity

Creativity is an important thinking skill. Help take your youngster's imagination beyond the story he's reading. "Could this book have taken place on the moon? What would have been different?" or "What would change if the main character were a monkey instead of a hippopotamus?"



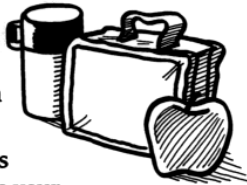
Reflection

Paying attention to your own thinking is known as reflection. Ask your child for his reaction to a story he has read. "How did you feel when you read the part where the little boy was afraid of the dark? Why do you think you felt that way?" ♥

Forget something?

Whether you want to help your child remember her lunch box in the morning or learn the alphabet, here are some tips to strengthen her memory:

- Play simple memory games. For example, say to your youngster, "I'm going on a trip, and I'm taking an apple." Your child repeats your sentence and adds another item that begins with "b" (ball). Take turns repeating and adding items in alphabetical order. The game ends when someone forgets an item or you reach the letter "z."



- Turn reminders into questions. As your youngster starts out the door, instead of saying, "You forgot your library book," ask, "What do you need to take to school?" You'll teach her to create her own mental checklist. *Tip:* Show her how to turn her mental checklist into a written list. It's great writing practice. ♥

Parent to Parent

Sand writing

My son David never showed much interest in writing until we went to the beach during our vacation. Soon, he discovered he loved to write—in the sand! We used our fingers, toes, and beach toys to write our names. Then, David asked me to help him write other words, such as "ocean," "wave," and "dolphin."

Since then, I've been looking for other ways to encourage David to write. We've written in his sandbox, with twigs in the dirt at the playground, and even on the sidewalk using a paintbrush and water. Just the other day, I found him "writing" on a picture he'd drawn. Although David has just begun learning how to spell, he had put several letters under his drawing for his name. It seems our fun in the sun is paying off! ♥



Q&A Spelling made easy

Q I'm looking for a new way to help my daughter learn her spelling words. Any suggestions?

A Make spelling a family event with a weekly word hunt. Each time your

youngster brings home more spelling words, have the whole family look over the list. Talk about what the words mean, and help your child use each one in a sentence. Then, have everybody copy down the words to make their own list.

During the week, look and listen for the spelling words. For example, your child might see a word in one of her textbooks, and you could hear one used during a meeting at work. Write down where you find each word, and share it with the rest of the family. See who can find the most words by the end of the week. ♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

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New Prague K - 2 Lunch Menu

May

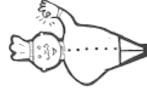
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Chicken Patty on Bun, French Fries, Pears, Watermelon, Bread & Milk	2 Italian Dunkers, Cole Slaw, Peaches, Orange, Bread & Milk	3 Double Stuff Pepperoni Pizza, Lettuce Salad, Pineapple, Apple, Bread & Milk	4 Kid's Choice Hot Dog on Bun, Baked Beans, Apple-sauce, Green Apple, Ice Cream Sandwich, Bread & Milk	5 Macaroni & Cheese w/ Diced Ham, Peas, Mixed Fruit, Orange, Bread & Milk
8 Shrimp Mates, Cheese Sticks, Glazed Carrots, Applesauce, Cantaloupe, Bread & Milk	9 Corn Dog, French Fries, Peaches, Green Apple, Bread & Milk	10 Chicken Nuggets, Corn, Peaches, Orange, Bread & Milk	11 Chicken & Gravy, Baking Powder Biscuits, Peas, Banana, Pineapple, Bread & Milk	12 No School
15 Sausage Pizza, Carrots & Celery w/Dip, Peaches, Apple, Bread & Milk	16 Baked Chicken, Corn, Applesauce, Green Apple, Bread & Milk	17 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Pineapple, Orange, Bread & Milk	18 Soft Shell Taco w/ Fixings, Apple, Mixed Fruit, Bread & Milk	19 Lunchmeat Sandwich, Glazed Carrots, Pears, Cantaloupe, Bread & Milk
22 Chicken Patty on Bun, Potato Salad, Mixed Fruit, Green Apple, Bread & Milk	23 Italian Dunkers, Mixed Veggies, Pears, Orange, Bread & Milk	24 Kid's Choice Cheese Pizza, Carrots & Celery w/ Dip, Applesauce, Apple, Shape-Up, Bread & Milk	25 Corn Dog, French Fries, Peaches, Banana, Bread & Milk	26 Hamburger on Bun, Tri-Tator, Pineapple, Watermelon, Bread & Milk
29 No School	30 Chicken Nuggets, Corn, Applesauce, Green Apple, Bread & Milk	31 Hot Dog on Bun, Tator Tots, Apple, Cookie, Bread & Milk Last Day!		

Mailing Address for lunch payments:

NPAS – Food Service
 221 12th St. NE
 New Prague, MN 56071

Food Service phone #758-1320

Lunch Prices:
 Student: \$1.75
 Staff: \$2.70
 Extra Entrée: \$0.75
 Cold Lunch Milk: \$0.30



Menu items may vary, due to availability.

Fresh Fruit, Canned Fruit and Whole Grain Bread offered daily.

2006

Memorial Day