



# Decker Prairie Elementary School

## Cougar Tales

Principal Dr. Jo Ann Colson • Assistant Principal Gigi Ragan • Counselor Jody Luedde

January 2019

### Attendance Matters

#### 10 Tips for Good Attendance

1. Get your child to school on time, every day, and make sure homework assignments are completed on time.
2. Absences due to car trouble, a late bus, and bad weather are considered unexcused and will go on your child's permanent record.
3. Extended vacations, long weekends, and frequent doctor appointments scheduled during school hours will cause your child to fall behind in class.
4. Being in school every day raises your child's chances for scoring well on important tests throughout the year.
5. Follow the proper school guidelines for reporting excused absences in a timely manner.
6. Allow your child to stay home only when he/she has a contagious illness or is too sick to be comfortable.
7. Make sure your child exercises, eats a balanced diet, and gets plenty of sleep. This will help him/her to be mentally and physically ready to learn and strengthen the immune system.
8. Read all information sent home by the school. Post important dates on a family bulletin board or on the refrigerator.
9. Give your child enough time to get ready for school in the morning. Prepare lunches, pack school bags, and lay out clothing the night before.
10. Monitor your child's attendance with Tomball ISD Grades Online.

### PTO News

Save the date! PTO is preparing for Decker Prairie's 35th birthday celebration and we need your help. [Friday April 5th](#) we will hold our annual fun run during school and then celebrate that evening at Party on the Prairie. More information on donation/volunteer opportunities and ticket sales to come!

PTO is excited to host Southwest Dairy Farmers mobile classroom January 14th. This mobile classroom experience teaches students about how milk goes from the farm to the consumer.



Follow us on Facebook at Decker Prairie Elementary PTO for the latest Decker news.

### Spelling Bee Winners

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Decker Prairie Spelling Bee.

Your hard work and courage are to be commended! Our first place winner is Blake Edling, the second place winner is Claire Murphy, and the third place winner is Jessica Corkern. Blake will represent our campus at the district Spelling Bee in February.



Congratulations to our bilingual Spelling Bee champions. Our first place winner is Fernanda Ortiz, the second place winner is Jose Barahona, and Fernando Yañez is our third place winner. Fernanda and Jose will be competing at the district Spelling Bee in February.

## Library News

### It's Reading Rewards Time!

If you would like for your child to earn a free ticket to Schlitterbahn and/or Six Flags Fiesta Texas, be sure they bring me their completed reading log by February 1st. Students can create their own reading logs by entering the following information on a piece of paper or a document and sharing it with me at [mandywatson@tomballisd.net](mailto:mandywatson@tomballisd.net):

- Date
- Title of book read
- Minutes read

To earn a free Six Flags Fiesta Texas ticket, your child must have a total of 360 minutes. For both a Schlitterbahn and Six Flags ticket, your child must have a total of 600 minutes. If you would prefer a reading log template, it can be found on my website.

### Battle of the Books Competition:

We currently have 60 3rd and 4th graders who are in our annual Battle of the Books Competition. They are working hard with their team reading a total of 30 books to answer questions to. If your child is competing, be sure and help them prepare for the competition that will be held at the beginning of February. Tips and details can be found on my website.

### DPES Library's Website:

<http://bit.ly/DPESLibrary>



### January Calendar

January 9-Welcome Back Students!/Robotics  
January 14-Dairy Farmer presentation  
January 16-Robotics  
January 18—Nine Weeks Awards/Birthday Book Club  
January 21-Staff Development/Student Holiday  
January 23-Robotics

### Nine Weeks Awards—January 18th



Families are welcome to attend as we celebrate the second nine weeks in the cafeteria. Times are listed below.

2nd Grade Awards—9:00 a.m.

3rd Grade Awards-9:50 a.m.

4th Grade Awards-2:00 p.m.

**Decker Prairie Elementary School Est. 1983**  
**Celebrate Success!**

