



# GRANADA GRIZZLY

Volume 1, Issue 6

February 2006

## Principal's Message

*Esta Herman*

We are all back in the swing of things here at Granada. Teachers and students are hard at work. This time period is critical learning time as we approach the next reporting period in March and the standardized testing in May. Our second session of after school intervention will start on February 6. You can continue to help by monitoring your child's homework, listening to them read orally every night, and in general, being involved in their education. Feel free to contact the teacher any time to monitor their progress in school. Remember, we are a team and you are a key member of that team.

The interior painting project has been completed and the school looks great. We were lucky to have a makeover of our staff lounge thanks to District 1 and our director Marla Monheim.

We are in the process of hiring a new community representative. Watch for notice of the re-opening of the Parent Center. PTA is planning a carnival in the Spring. Come and join the fun and help out. Come to the next PTA meeting.

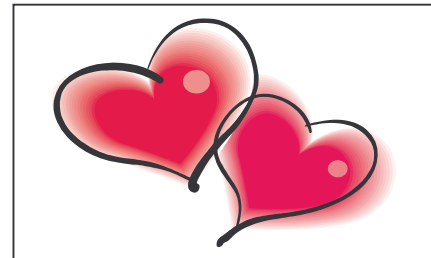
### Important Dates

Math Assessment.....	February 7-9
Low Grade Notices.....	February 17
President's Day.....	February 20
No School	
PTA Meeting @ 7:00.....	February 21
GLC Meeting @ 2:30.....	February 28
Grizzly Awards.....	February 22
Red Ribbon Week.....	February 13
Talent Show.....	March 2
Spring Break.....	April 10-14

## The building blocks of reading and writing

From several decades of research, we have learned a lot about how children learn to read and write. This research tells us that to become more skilled and confident readers over time, children need lots of opportunities to:

- build **spoken language** by talking and listening
- learn about print and books
- learn about the sounds of spoken language (this is called **phonological awareness**)
- learn about the letters of the alphabet
- be read to and read on their own
- learn and use letter-sound relationships (**phonics**) and be able to recognize words when they see them
- spell and write
- develop their ability to read quickly and naturally (this is called **fluency**)
- learn new words and build their knowledge of what words mean (this is called **vocabulary**)
- build their knowledge of the world
- build their ability to understand what they read (this is called **comprehension**)



### Open Court Reading Themes

Kindergarten: Finding Friends  
 First Grade: Things That Go  
 Second Grade: Look Again  
 Third Grade: Imagination  
 Fourth Grade: From Mystery to Medicine  
 Fifth Grade: Heritage

Help your child find books, pictures, articles, etc. to match their theme in reading. They can bring things in to share with the class and include on the Concept/Question Board.

