

## Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

MAY 15, 2014 VOLUME 7, ISSUE 32

#### THE THURSDAY NOTE:



Dear Thurgood Marshall Families:

We are so ready for this warm, delightful weather; the kids enjoy their recess even more on these sunny days! Please remember to send a water bottle to school so that your student can stay hydrated. We recommend students wear closed-toed shoes to avoid stubbed toes when running on the playground.

I wish to send out a huge thanks to all our students and families for generously contributing to Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week! Our teachers truly felt your

support, and gratitude for their hard work and dedication. We all loved the flowers, coffee deliveries, the delicious breakfast and lunch buffets, and our keepsake mugs that read, "I Put the 'Cool' in School." Thank you all so much!

I want to recognize and thank our teachers, Cindy Gano and Tara Kohls, for organizing the Move-a-thon fundraiser last week. Students ran as many laps as they could in order to collect donations for our Field Trip Scholarship Fund.

As the school year comes to a close, our PTA is saying goodbye to its outgoing board members. I wish to personally thank Sharmila Williams, Wendy Eckert, Katy Ransom and Julia Janak for their dedication, hard work, and generous support of Thurgood Marshall students, staff, and families. Our PTA is an integral part of everything we do here, and our success as a school is a direct result of their thoughtfulness, dedication and strong partnerships.

We are in the process of creating class placements for the 2014-2015 school year. In our General Education/ALO program there is one classroom per grade level; students automatically progress to the next grade's classroom. The placement process for students in our APP and PEACE Academy programs is done as carefully and thoughtfully as possible. We consider a number of factors, including birthdates, gender, ethnicity, social/emotional needs, learning styles and peer relationships. We do not tailor a class of students for one particular teacher. Split-grade classroom assignments strongly consider birthdates so that, for example, older 3rd-graders are grouped with younger 4th-graders. Please contact your child's teacher directly if they should be aware of certain factors when choosing next year's placement. We kindly request that you do not ask for a specific teacher, as we will not be able to accommodate these requests.

- Christine Helm, Interim Principal

# **Game Night Tonight!**

Please join us tonight at 6:30 pm in the gym for Game Night featuring a great selection of educational, FUN, high-quality games.



# **Crazy Hat Day!**

Wear your craziest hat to school and help celebrate Crazy Hat Day next Friday, May 23. This will be our third Spirit Day of the year.

# **Mark Your Calendar: School Picnics**

Be sure to join your grade level for end-of-the-year picnics held nightly June 9-12 on the school playground from 5:30-7 pm. A reminder with details will go home with students soon.

K/1 picnic: June 9; 2nd Grade: June 10; 3rd Grade: June 11; 4th Grade: June 12

# **Tutu's Pantry**

It's time to re-stock our pantry shelves!

The most desired **canned** items are: vegetables, fruit, soup and chili (meat and vegetarian varieties), pasta sauce, beans, and tuna. Also peanut butter (in small jars), cereal, and rice are always helpful.

### EVENT CALENDAR

#### May 15, TONIGHT!

Game Night @ 6:30 pm in the Gym

#### May 22, Thursday

Spring Instrumental Concert @ 7 pm

#### May 23, Friday

Reading Kick-off Event @ 5 pm

#### May 26, Monday

NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

#### May 29, Thursday

PTA General Meeting @ 6:30 pm w/ "Savvy Parents, Safe Kids" Workshop

#### May 31, Saturday

5th Grade Paver Installation Day

#### June 3, Tuesday

Spring Choir Concert @ 7 pm

#### June 4, Wednesday

Early Dismissal @ 1:40 pm

#### June 9-12, Monday-Thursday

Grade Level Picnics @ 5:30-7 pm

#### June 13, Friday

Field Day & BBQ

#### June 17, Tuesday

5th Grade Promotion 2-3:30 pm

#### June 19, Thursday

Last Day of School Early dismissal @ 2:40 pm

## TUTU'S PANTRY

May 19: 1st Grade Donations

May 27: 2nd Grade Donations

June 2: 3rd Grade Donations

June 9: 4th Grade Donations

June 16: 5th Grade Donations

Want more? Visit the Thurgood Marshall PTA online at www.tmlink.org for more Pup Press, a calendar of school events, and more.

## "Thank You, Volunteers!"

Thank you to everyone for helping make Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week such a huge success! Our amazing teachers and staff felt "treated" all week long thanks to the support of our community of families, students and volunteers. More than 50 families volunteered to bring food, decorate, set up, and clean up for last week's daily events. Many more of you sent students to school with flowers and special notes for teachers. We really appreciate your time and energy; we couldn't have done it without you!

## World Book, Nat'l Archives and More Online

A reminder that students have access to many excellent resources online including the World Book, Facts on File, National Archives Historical Documents, Culture grams, and more. From the district website at www.seattleschools.org click on "Students" in the top menu, then click "Support." You may browse resources by subject, or in alphabetical order. Enjoy!

Username: studentsps Password: access

#### **Volunteers Needed for the APP Advisory Committee**

Would you like to be more involved with the APP community? The APP Advisory Committee is seeking parent volunteers for the 2014-15 school year. Open positions include: Thurgood Marshall Parent Representative, At-Large Representative, and Secretary. The time commitment includes monthly meetings, usually held the first Tuesday of every month. The committee works to keep the APP community informed, facilitate discussion and address concerns, and provide recommendations to the Seattle Superintendent of Schools. For more information, or a nomination form, please contact APP AC Chair Jeanne Thompson at jeanne thompson@hotmail.com. Deadline is June 13.

# **Box Tops on May 23**



Please send in your Box Tops by May 23, so that volunteer parent Ann McCurdy can collect and mail them in. Students may bring Box Tops to the classroom or the main office. Thank you!

## **Hooray for the Move-a-thon**

The Move-a-thon was a huge success! The weather held out as the grades all walked, jogged, or ran. Classes came out to cheer on their buddy classes. It was a wonderful way not only to fundraise for future field trip scholarships, but to celebrate the community we have at Thurgood Marshall! We will announce our fundraising total in an upcoming issue of *Pup Press*. Sponsorship envelopes for the purpose of the raffle were due earlier this week, but we will accept late donations!

### **Used Coffeemaker for Nurse's Office**

We are in search of a gently used 12-cup coffeemaker for use in the Nurse's Office. Nurse Chin needs hot water for hot water bottles and to make tea for kids. If you have one to donate, please contact Nurse Chin at mchin@seattleschools.org.

## **Field Day Volunteers Needed**

We have lots of great activities planned for Field Day on June 13, including gymnastics, water balloon toss, chalk drawing, potato sack races, gaga ball, and more! With so many activities, we'll need lots of helping hands! We need volunteers for the morning session (9:15-11:30 am, Grades K-2), and the afternoon session (12:45-3:30 pm, Grades 3-5). You can sign up online to volunteer (thanks to parent volunteer/website creator, Jen Hobbs). Simply fill out the form at the bottom of the page. Please indicate your preference for morning or afternoon session, and activity station. Online at:

www.je9095.wix.com/tmfieldday2014

## **Kindness Klub Update**

I'm happy to report that more than 100 students have joined the Kindness Klub! This voluntary club is one of the many ways we help spread kindness in our school community. It's been fun to see the kids connect across grades, and across programs, bonding together to help make kindness a central part of our daily lives.

Kindness Klub is in its fourth and final week for our first group of primary students (Grades 1-3). Next Wednesday our second group of primary students will start; I'll remind teachers which students this includes. Secondary students (Grades 4-5) have two more weeks of Kindness Klub activities.

Want to explore kindness with your kids and community? Visit the Random Acts of Kindness website for inspiration at

www.randomactsofkindness.org.Ms. Kaloper, School Counselor

# Reminders

# Reading Kick-Off

The "Summer Reading Kick-Off" fiesta will be May 23, 5-7 pm at school. A light supper will be served. Please bring a dish to share. Mynique Adams, from the Douglass Truth Library, will share details about Seattle Public Library's summer reading program.

## June 13 BBQ at School

Our school BBQ will be June 13, at 11:55 am. Parents, students and staff must bring cash, exact change if possible, or a check. Students may use their school accounts. Interested volunteers should contact Kitchen Manager Angelina Rios at (206) 252-2741.

A poem by Lucy Milodragovich (Mrs. Kierstad's 5th Grade Class)

100

BULLYING

Why
Bullying
in
our society?

Is
it
really
the truth
to say
we
enjoy
insulting
those weaker?

In this
gray
dark
world,
should not
we
be looking
for the greater good?

Or continue fighting amongst us?

The root of cruelty takes form as making others

> i n

L O W

S

W E

R than us.

Is the question:

can we stop it?

OR

will we stop it?

