



Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

NOVEMBER 21, 2013

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## EVENTS CALENDAR



**Nov. 21, TONIGHT!**  
**PTA General Meeting**  
**6:30-8:00 pm in Library**

**Nov. 22, Friday**  
Visit a Barnes & Noble bookstore for "Discovery Friday" with activities and give-a-ways all day

**Nov. 23-27, Saturday-Wednesday**  
Parent-Teacher Conferences

**Nov. 25-29, Monday-Friday**  
NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

**Dec. 2-6, Monday-Friday**  
Scholastic Book Fair in Library  
(See reverse side for details)

**Dec. 5, Thursday**  
"Math and Science Mash Up" at John Muir Elementary School  
5:30-7:30 pm

**Dec. 14, Saturday**  
Pancake Breakfast  
9-11 am in Cafeteria

**Dec. 20, Friday**  
1 Hour Early Dismissal

## TUTU'S PANTRY CALENDAR

Non-perishable food donations should be placed in the large red bin inside the school entrance, or brought to any school event.

**Dec. 2**  
5th Grade Donations

**Dec. 9**  
PEACE & Kindergarten Donations

**Dec. 16**  
1st Grade Donations

### THE THURSDAY NOTE:



No doubt you have heard about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) adopted by Washington State. As a result, at Thurgood Marshall there will be an increased emphasis on what CCSS calls "practice standards" in math classes across all grade levels. This I enthusiastically applaud!

"Practice standards" are the actions and behaviors mathematicians exhibit when performing math tasks. As an educator with 30 years in the elementary/middle grades, I believe these math standards are finally addressing the need for an articulated and well-balanced math curriculum for all elementary students. Excellent math instruction is two-pronged: 1) teach familiar skills like addition, subtraction, fractions, and decimals, and 2) introduce the kind of mathematical thinking necessary for application and use of skills.

Teachers will design instruction to incorporate the following practice standards. Students will:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

I'll expand on each of these eight practice standards in upcoming editions of the *Pup Press*.

Students can get additional math practice using the DreamBox website. If you did not receive information on your student's DreamBox account, contact your classroom teacher for student username/password. iPad users may download the DreamBox app and use the school code, `znc2/thurgoodme`, to access the site.

Our school is invited to join in the "Math and Science Mashup Night" at John Muir Elementary School on Thursday, Dec. 5. See attached flyer for details. I'll be there and hope to see many of our families there as well.

I'd like to thank our generous PTA for supporting author Paul Owen Lewis' visit last week. His message was simple and direct: practice, perseverance, and resilience are what helped him become an author/illustrator. These are the same values we try to incorporate into everything we say and do here at Thurgood Marshall!

And a big thanks to the crew that pulled off the wonderful Fall Dance last Friday. If only I had the energy to hop up and down for two hours as many of our students did.

A final plea to all parents in hopes of preserving instructional time: Please make after-school arrangements *prior to the start of school*. Every time the office calls a classroom with an afternoon transportation notification, every person in that room is disrupted. Instructional time is precious. Every minute counts. Thank you!

- Principal Julie Breidenbach

### TONIGHT: Ass't. Principal & Counselor Speak at PTA Mtg.

Please join us **tonight at 6:30 pm in the Library** for the PTA General Meeting. School Counselor Meghan Kaloper and Vice Principal Christine Helm will speak about their work in our school and answer any questions.

## Parent-Teacher conferences start this weekend!

### Come Hungry to Pancake Breakfast on Dec. 14



Our school-wide Pancake Breakfast will be held 9 - 11 am on Saturday, Dec. 14, in the cafeteria. We will serve pancakes, chicken sausage, fruit, coffee, and juice. This is not a fundraising event; however there is a suggested donation of \$10 per family.

One of the best places to be at the Pancake Breakfast is in the kitchen flipping pancakes with other TM parents and guardians. If you would like to volunteer on Dec. 14, contact Audrey Querns at [aquerns@q.com](mailto:aquerns@q.com) for details.

### Yearbook Needs Pictures of Fall Dance

Did you take photos of kids dancing, laughing, crafting, doing activities or just plain having fun at the Fall Dance? Please share your photos with our Yearbook coordinator. Upload photos at: [http://dbinbox.com/Thurgood\\_Marshall\\_Yearbook](http://dbinbox.com/Thurgood_Marshall_Yearbook).

If you have questions, please email our yearbook coordinator Kathryn Saxer at [katesaxer@gmail.com](mailto:katesaxer@gmail.com). Thank you!

### Let's Help Typhoon Victims in Philippines

The Thurgood Marshall Student Council is asking for your generous donations of sample-sized soaps, shampoos, toothpaste and other hygiene products for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan. The Red Cross has requested small products that can be easily distributed and are not perishable. Please help us help our global neighbors in the Philippines. Items can be dropped off in the library. Thank you!

### Thank You for Fall Dance Success

Wow! What an amazing evening we all had dancing to the latest tunes at our Fall Dance last Friday. By all accounts, the Fall Dance was a hit with kids and adults alike.

We'd like to extend our deep appreciation and gratitude to Shyla Wilcynski, first-time Thurgood Marshall parent, for leading this annual tradition. Shyla made this Dance one of our most successful events with wonderful activities, decorations and ideas. In addition to Shyla's leadership, Julia Janak found an incredible DJ - Eric Bakke of Bust a Move DJ - who made the evening fun for all. Wendy Eckert and Casey Sommers provided support through the entire process.

It takes many helping hands to run an event like this. We'd like to thank these volunteers for their time and energy: Hadar Iron, Audrey Querns, Tania Westby, Karen Zeribi, Leigh Mercer, Jorji Knickrehm, Jennifer Heydt, Mica Dubuz, Tim Vos, Ly Shumka, Kelly Mulligan, Nicole von suhr, Martha Brockenbrough, Catherine Hynds, Lynn Warner, David Parsons, Amy Vore, Scott Engan, Michelle & Kevin Peterson, Melanie Nalbandian, Ted Rosenberg, Steve Orser, Matt Siegel, Jessica Kowal, Phil Wallace and Larry Wilcynski.

### Open House at Washington Middle School

Attention, 5th-graders! Washington Middle School will hold an Open House and several Tours for incoming 6th-graders for the 2014-2015 school year.

Open House for Incoming Students: Dec. 5, 6:30-8 pm

Tours for Incoming Students: Dec. 10, 12, 13, 8-10 am

Students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Reservations are not required.

Washington Middle School  
2101 S Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98144  
(206) 252-2600

### The Gift of Books



What's the gift that keeps on giving? Books, of course! The Book Fair is open for student shoppers Dec. 3-6, but you can start shopping online beginning Nov. 27. All proceeds benefit the libraries at our school.

To shop online visit [www.scholastic.com/bookfairs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs) and click on "Find a Fair." Enter our school zip code, 98144, and look for Thurgood Marshall Elementary.

Volunteers are needed for these shifts each day: 9-11 am, 11 am-1 pm, 12:30-2:30 pm and 2-3:30 pm.

Contact Karen Sampson Liu at [ksampsonliu@gmail.com](mailto:ksampsonliu@gmail.com) if you can help. Thank you!

### Winter Session Enrichment Classes

Enrichment catalogs for our Winter quarter will go home with students on Thursday, Dec. 12. Registration ends Jan. 10. Scholarships are available for all classes. The catalog will be posted online at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org).

If you have questions please contact Sudeshna Sen at [sudeshnanw@gmail.com](mailto:sudeshnanw@gmail.com) or Caryn Gold at [carynlgold@yahoo.com](mailto:carynlgold@yahoo.com).

### Growth Boundaries Update

As we went to press with this issue of the *Pup Press*, the School Board was set to vote on the latest proposal for the Growth Boundaries. Please visit our website at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org) to learn how the vote went and learn the impacts to Thurgood Marshall.

We will discuss this issue tonight at the PTA General Meeting at 6:30 pm in the school Library.

**Have an article for Pup Press?** Send it to Julia Janak at [juliajanak@gmail.com](mailto:juliajanak@gmail.com). If your e-mail submission is not acknowledged within 24 hours, please call or text to confirm receipt at 206-473-0980.