

# PUP PRESS



Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

JANUARY 9, 2014

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### Jan. 10, Friday

Registration closes for Winter Enrichment classes

### Jan. 15, Wednesday

2-Hour Early Dismissal

### Jan. 16, Thursday

PTA General Meeting at 6:30 pm

### Jan. 20, Monday

NO SCHOOL - MLK Day

### Jan. 31, Friday

NO SCHOOL - Day Between Semesters

### Feb. 17-21

NO SCHOOL Mid-Winter Break

## TUTU'S PANTRY CALENDAR

Non-perishable food donations can be placed in the large red bins inside school entrance. Grade levels may donate by week (see below).

Jan. 13: 3rd Grade

Jan. 21: 4th Grade

Jan. 27: 5th Grade

Feb. 3: Kindergarten/PEACE

Feb. 10: 1st Grade

Feb. 24: 2nd Grade

### THE THURSDAY NOTE:



Welcome back! I hope you had an opportunity to relax and spend quality time with family and friends. I spent four days in Spokane with my elderly mother, who celebrated her first Christmas in an adult support home rather than her own home. Interestingly, I discovered that I was the one with adjustment issues around not having Christmas "at home." My 89-year-old mother and the 500+ Thurgood Marshall students are frequent and welcome reminders that unexpected change can be good for personal health and growth.

In the next few weeks Seattle Children's Theatre will begin drama instruction in all K-5 classrooms. Time spent with the drama instructors will vary from five to 15 hours depending on the grade level. Classroom teachers will let you know the schedule. Once again I want to thank our generous PTA for supporting the arts to ensure that our students receive a well-rounded education. The cost of this program is significant and is a major portion of the PTA budget.

Has your child mentioned "Today's Number" - a daily activity in each classroom? If not, be sure to ask. Each day the teacher poses a number/integer, fraction, decimal, percent, or other mathematic expression. Students then are asked to share examples of how that value could be represented. For example, kindergarten might use "8" as "Today's Number." Students might respond with "one more than seven," "the total of 5+3," or "I start with 10 ducks and two fly away." The goal is to guide students to greater fluency and flexibility with number sense. Recently I was floored by the sophisticated responses in a 4th grade class. I was never that flexible/fluent in my number sense at that grade level. I feel fortunate to lead such a focused and committed group of educators here at Thurgood Marshall. They work as a team to ensure that all students will be successful and make appropriate gains!

Do you have an incoming kindergarten student for 2014-2015? A reminder that open enrollment is the last week of February and the first week of March. Mark your calendars so that you do not miss this opportunity.

- Principal Julie Breidenbach

**A Paperless Pup Press?!**

Yes! In January the *Pup Press* newsletter will go electronic to save money and paper. Don't miss an issue; make sure we have your current email address. Read more below.

### PTA Welcomes Mom's Choice Award® Winning Speaker

Join us at the PTA General Meeting on Jan. 16 at 6:30 pm in the Library to hear guest speaker Amy Lang present "Birds + Bees + Kids." Lang will discuss age-appropriate ways to approach this topic with kids. Lang is a three-time Mom's Choice Award® winner and has been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*. Lang speaks, teaches and writes in the Seattle area and around the country.

"Amy Lang is a parent's best friend-with-benefits when it comes to talking to kids about sex!" - Dan Savage



### Saving \$: A Paperless Newsletter

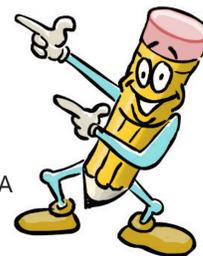
Later this month we will begin emailing a paperless version of our school newsletter. Yes, the *Pup Press* will be delivered straight to your inbox! Going paperless will save our school hundreds of dollars every year, not to mention staff and volunteer time. Make sure the front office has your current email address so you don't miss an issue. Paper copies will continue to be sent home with all students in our General Education Program.

**Want more?** Visit the Thurgood Marshall PTA online at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org) for more Pup Press, a full calendar of school events, and more.

## Tomorrow is Deadline for Enrichment Classes

This Friday, Jan. 10 is the last day to register for Winter Enrichment activities. Drop off your registration form and check at the Main Office. Classes offered include: Spanish, Japanese, Karate, Jewelry, iPad LEGO, Sewing, Chess Club and more!

You can download the Enrichment Catalog, including registration form online at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org) under "PTA Forms" on the right-hand side. If you have questions please email Sudeshna Sen at [sudeshnanw@gmail.com](mailto:sudeshnanw@gmail.com) or Caryn Gold at [carynlgold@yahoo.com](mailto:carynlgold@yahoo.com).



## What's Online? Student Artwork, Event Photos, Calendar, and more...

Remember to visit our PTA website at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org). We just added photos of student art from the recent Art Walk! Our online calendar includes all early dismissals, no-school days, and school events like PTA meetings and community-building events such as Bingo Night in April. Learn more about volunteering and other great ways you can support Thurgood Marshall Elementary. If you cannot attend PTA meetings but want to know what happens, we also post the minutes from every meeting on the website. You will also find useful school links, issues of every *Pup Press*, and much more.

[www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org)

## UPDATE: Annual Giving Fund



**Total Raised to date:** \$100,565

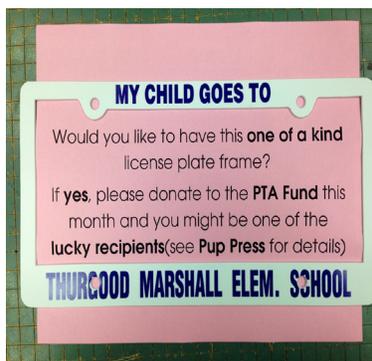
*A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated in December! We raised over \$35,000 for the Annual Giving Fund, bringing our total to \$100,565.*

In January, each family who makes a donation to the Annual Giving Fund will receive a Thurgood Marshall license plate frame, while supplies last (see image below). Every donation helps, no matter the size!

This year, the PTA's goal is to have 60% of Thurgood Marshall families donate to the Annual Giving Fund. Currently, 37% of families have made a gift. If you haven't donated yet, this month is your chance!

There are several ways to donate:

- Mail a check (made out to Thurgood Marshall PTA) to TM Annual Giving Fund, P.O. Box 22305, Seattle, WA 98122
- Send a donation in an envelope to school with your child
- Donate online at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org)



## Attention: Conflict Mediators and Recess Mentors

Thank you for all your hard work out on the playground. Hopefully the new lunch box bin in the lunchroom is helping you keep track of your lunch boxes. (Great suggestion, team!)

This Friday after the all-school assembly we will announce the new schedule for conflict mediator and recess mentor duties. We tried our best to match your requests for job changes. Some of you will have new partners and new duties; these will begin Monday, Jan. 13. Thanks and keep up the good work!

- Ms. Kaloper, School Counselor

## 5% of Purchases Goes to Our School

Do you ever grocery shop at PCC Natural Markets? We still have PCC giftcards available for purchase. 5%



of all purchases made with the card comes back to the Thurgood Marshall PTA. Cost is \$10 per card. Cards can be re-loaded (for a minimum of \$50) and used indefinitely. To purchase, send a \$10 check to school, made out to the "Thurgood Marshall PTA" with a note designating the money for a PCC card. The card will be sent to the address on the check. Please contact Casey Sommers at [caseypilar@gmail.com](mailto:caseypilar@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Thank you for supporting Thurgood Marshall students, staff and programs!

Welcome Back to School and Happy New Year!



**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.