

PUP PRESS



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MARCH 27, 2014

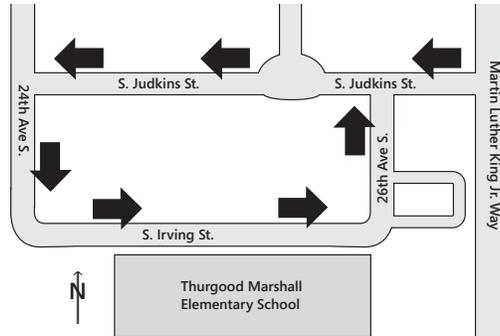
VOLUME 7, ISSUE 26

THE THURSDAY NOTE:

Dear Families

Thanks to everyone who read my column of two weeks ago. We are paving the way for safer and faster morning drop-offs! We have *just one more request*: let's create a one-way loop of traffic near our school.

- Drivers turning onto Judkins from Martin Luther King Way: please go west all the way to 24th, then south on 24th, east on Irving and into the parking lot. This loop may take more time than a turn onto 26th, but we need to reserve that street for strictly northbound cars and buses in the morning.
- If you enter Judkins from 23rd Avenue, please join the loop by making the first right onto 24th.



In the parking lot, please enter in a single row for student safety. By driving into the lot in two rows a child's life can be endangered as they pass in front of a row of offloading cars.

Pull forward as far as you can, even to the cutout, to let your children out. If they are ready to go with their backpacks and a loving goodbye, we'll help off-load them, and you can be on your way through the lot and out to the street.

Never unload in the street or in the entrance to the parking lot, even if the line is backed up, for obvious safety reasons. And if you plan to come into the school, please park on the "exit" side of our lot.

Please take a minute to review the map, and remember the speed limit in the lot is 5 mph.

—Birgit McShane, Interim Assistant Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS



March 27, TONIGHT!

PTA General Meeting @ 6:30 pm in Library with Dr. Stephan Blanford

April 4, Friday

Bingo Night @ 5:30 pm in Cafeteria

A LOOK AHEAD

April 14-18, Monday-Friday

NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

April 27, Sunday

Mariners Game @ 1:10 pm

May 5-9, Monday-Friday

Teacher Appreciation Week

OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS

Friday All-School Assembly

Assemblies begin at 9:35 am in the cafeteria. Families welcome.

March 28: Taproot Theater presents "Wild Wes" about bullying prevention and friendship making

April 7: World premiere of Aaron Grad's musical fable, "The Lost Voice"

May 9: Acid Reign, a 5th Grade heavy metal band performs

Parents: After School Help Needed

We are looking for parent volunteers to coordinate students as they move to their after-school enrichment classes. If you can help on any afternoon from 3:40-3:50 pm, please email either Sudeshna at sudeshnanw@gmail.com, or Caryn at carynlgold@yahoo.com. Thank you!



Prizes Needed for BINGO

Because so many prizes will be given out on BINGO Night, we still need families to donate "gently used" games, books, and toys to be used as prizes. Please drop off your donation in Ms. Gano's classroom, across the hall from the main office.

BINGO Night is Friday, April 4 at 5:30 pm. Recent student artwork will be on display in our hallway Art Walk. Pizza will be served courtesy of the PTA. Bring the whole family!

PTA Meeting Tonight!

Come hear our newly elected District 5 Seattle School Board Director, Dr. Stephan Blanford, speak tonight at the PTA Meeting at 6:30 pm.

If you have a question for Dr. Blanford but are unable to attend tonight's meeting, you may email your question to us at pta@tmlink.org.

Free childcare will be provided at the YMCA next door from 6:15-8:15 pm.

Staffing Announcement for Next Year

Cindy Gano and Althea Chow have decided to join the Fairmount Park staff next year. We will miss them very much and wish them continued success at their new school. Please join me in thanking them for their excellent service to Thurgood Marshall Elementary.

- Christine Helm, Interim Principal

More PTA Volunteer Opportunities for 2014-2015

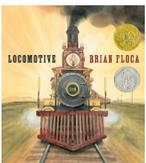
Would you like to have an active role in raising funds for staffing, arts programs, and teacher grants at Thurgood Marshall? The PTA Nominating Committee is looking for two volunteers to share the Annual Giving Fund Chair position on the PTA Board next year. The Co-Chairs will set yearly goals for fundraising and participation rates with the help of the entire PTA Board; other responsibilities will be divided as outlined below. For more information contact Casey Sommers at caseypilar@gmail.com.

Annual Giving Fund Co-Chair, Accounting: A job you can do from home! Responsibilities include: receive, record and send donations to PTA Treasurer; write thank you's and tax receipt letters; manage company matching fund donations. Hours: 2-5 hrs/week

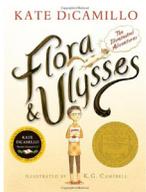
Annual Giving Fund Co-Chair, Promotions: A great position for someone with creative marketing and writing skills. Responsibilities include: create and manage bulletin board display in foyer to communicate progress; manage outreach to families through letters, mailings, flyers, *Pup Press*, promotions, etc. Hours: 2-5 hrs/week

Other Volunteer Positions: There are many other ways to be involved in the PTA next year. Some of our Volunteer positions are: Pancake Breakfast Chair, Art Walk Chair, T-Shirt Sales Coordinator, Reflections Art Contest Chair and much, much more! If you would like to learn more about these opportunities, please contact Wendy Eckert at wseckert@yahoo.com.

Two Award Winning Books That Kids Love



Thanks to the support of our PTA we are able to purchase award-winning books for our library. This week I was happy to receive the Caldecott Award winning book, *Locomotive*, by Brian Floca. This is a beautifully illustrated and intelligent story of a family heading West in the summer of 1869. As it says on the flyleaf, "Come hear the hiss of the steam, feel the heat of the engine, and watch the landscape race by!"



We also received the Newbery Award winner, *Flora & Ulysses*, by Kate DiCamillo (author of *Because of Winn-Dixie* and *The Tale of Despereaux*, among others). I have not read it yet, but several young readers told me that it is GREAT! It is the story of a squirrel named Ulysses who gets sucked up by a vacuum and emerges with super powers. I can't wait to read it!

- Merilee Hudson, Librarian

Friday: Bullying Prevention Assembly

Tomorrow's assembly will include a performance of "Wild Wes" by the Taproot Theatre Company. This hour-long play teaches kids how to recognize and deal with bullying behavior, as well as how to stand up for others. Taproot incorporates the same Steps to Respect bullying prevention curriculum used in all classrooms at Thurgood Marshall Elementary.

Make Teacher Appreciation Week Special

Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 5-9. If you're interested in volunteering to make this week extra special for teachers and staff, please contact Jenny Ott at Hott@seanet.com or Amy Vore at avore98@yahoo.com. Stay tuned for details!

Yearbook Orders Due Next Week

The order deadline for yearbooks is next Tuesday, April 1. You may send a completed form to school, or order online at www.yuenluistudio.com, click on "Online Viewing" and search for Thurgood Marshall Elementary School. Yearbooks will be delivered the last week of school. If you have questions, please contact Kathryn Saxer at katesaxer@gmail.com.

Discussion Group for Parents of Gifted Kids

Parents and caregivers are invited to an eight-week discussion group to better understand how to meet the needs of your gifted child. Led by licensed mental health professionals (and parents of gifted children), Anne van Roden and Gloria Standford. Cost is \$225 per household. The group meets in the Thurgood Marshall library from 6:30-8 pm every Monday, April 21 - June 16 (excluding Memorial Day). Register online at SeattleRelationshipTherapy.com

If you are interested, please sign up ASAP or the session may be cancelled due to low enrollment.

Thank You from the PTA

The PTA Nominating Committee is pleased to announce we have a terrific roster of parents from across all grade levels and programs slated to become PTA Board members next year. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered! (See remaining positions, at left.)

We will vote on the nominees two months from now at the PTA General Meeting on May 29. Everyone welcome.

Have an article for Pup Press? Send it to Julia Janak at 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.