

# PUP PRESS



Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

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## THE THURSDAY NOTE:



Dear Families:

I'm happy to report that we have just completed the budget process for the 2014-2015 school year and we will maintain all the current programs and staffing we enjoy this year! Our top priority was to continue the excellent staff and programs you see below:

- Full time Art, Physical Education, and Music instruction
- Instrumental Music instruction
- Full time Librarian (funded by PTA)
- Full time Nurse
- Counselor (funded by PTA)
- Full-time English Language Learner (ELL) teacher, and a full-time ELL Instructional Assistant
- Reading Intervention teacher
- Open Library hours over the summer
- Summer School Program for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students
- Reading and Math intervention computer programs
- The same number of homeroom classrooms, both General Education and APP
- Peace Academy staffing remains the same
- Our Office will continue with a Principal, Assistant Principal, and two Secretaries

We are very grateful for the support of our PTA and your generous contributions. We asked the PTA to help fund our Librarian and Counselor positions and this was discussed and approved at the PTA General Meeting last week.

Open House will be on Wednesday, May 7, at 6:30 pm. All homerooms will begin classroom celebrations promptly at 6:30 pm, followed by open classroom visitations at 6:50 pm. This is your only opportunity to visit next year's classrooms. We keep the evening simple, without food or beverages, so the focus is on classroom learning.

5th Grade families thinking about 6th grade math placement at Washington Middle School: Please attend a Question and Answer Discussion about 6th grade math placement on Wednesday, April 9, at 6 pm in the Thurgood Marshall Library. We will have a panel of 5th grade teachers, administration, and a PTA representative there to answer questions and discuss options for this important transition to middle school.

- Christine Helm, Interim Principal

## Spanish and Drama Classes Need Students!

Two of our before-school classes need more students to survive: Spanish class on Mondays needs two more students; and Drama class on Wednesdays needs just one more student. Questions? Please contact Sudeshna Sen at [sudeshnanw@gmail.com](mailto:sudeshnanw@gmail.com) or Caryn Gold at [carynlgold@yahoo.com](mailto:carynlgold@yahoo.com) for more information.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April 4, Friday

Bingo Night @ 5:30 pm in Cafeteria

### April 7 - 11, Monday-Friday

Book Exchange in library

### April 14-18, Monday-Friday

NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

## A LOOK AHEAD

### April 27, Sunday

Mariners Game @ 1:10 pm

### May 5-9, Monday-Friday

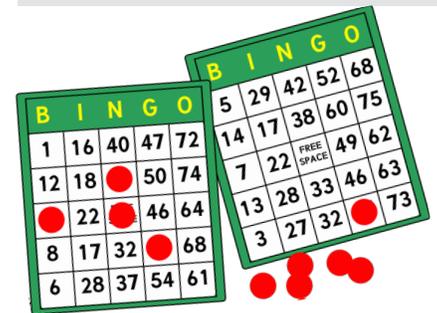
Teacher Appreciation Week

### May 7, Wednesday

Thurgood Marshall Open House for current families @ 6:30-8 pm

### May 15, Thursday

Games Night @ 6:30 pm



## BINGO Night & Art Walk

Join us tomorrow evening at 5:30 pm for our fun and family-friendly BINGO Night. Principal Helm, Ms. VonBeck, Mr. Paul, Ms. MacDonald, and Ms. Miller will help call out the numbers and mingle with families. Prizes will be awarded! Pizza will be served! Visit the Art Walk featuring recent student artwork on display in the main hallway. See you there!

**Friday, April 4 at 5:30 pm in cafeteria**

## Exciting Spring Events at TM!

We have a busy Spring full of exciting events at Thurgood Marshall! Read below for more details. We are amazed with the volunteer/parent support we've received over the last couple of months to help bring these events to our community.

We are equally excited about the volunteers joining the PTA Board, and assuming other PTA duties, next school year. There are many new faces and incredible enthusiasm in everyone. Stay tuned when we announce the nominees after Spring Break.

**April:** Tomorrow is our Annual Bingo Night & Art Walk at 5:30 pm in the cafeteria. On April 27 join the school for a Mariners game at Safeco Field.

**May:** We are especially proud to treat our teachers to some surprises during Teacher Appreciation Week from May 5-9. Then on May 15 we'll host "Games Night," an evening of fun, educational game-playing and old-fashioned family togetherness. On May 29 we host our last PTA General Meeting and welcome guest speaker, Kim Estes, of Savvy Parents Safe Kids.

**June:** Grade Level Picnics abound on the Thurgood Marshall playground. Join your grade level peers for a "bring your own picnic." Catch up with grown-ups and watch the kids play outside.

We thank the entire school community for helping to build a stronger school for all of our students, staff and families. If you have any suggestions, please email us at [pta@tmlink.org](mailto:pta@tmlink.org). Thank you!

- Sharmila Williams and Tasha Irvine, PTA Co-Presidents

## 'Games Night' on May 15

Join us at school to play a selection of fun, educational and easy to learn games from Blue Highway Games on Thursday, May 15 at 6:30 pm. This event is FREE. Games will be available for purchase and 20% of the proceeds goes back to our school. See the kinds of games that will be available at [www.bluehighwaygames.com](http://www.bluehighwaygames.com).

## Mariners Game Day Tickets

Join us for the Mariners vs. Rangers game on April 27 at 1:10 pm at Safeco Field. Discount tickets are offered for the students, families, faculty and staff at Thurgood Marshall. View seats are \$11 each. If you would like to sit with another family please place one order for the entire group.

Deadline to order is April 14. Order forms went home with students earlier this week, and can be found online at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org) under "PTA Forms" on the right. Make checks payable to Thurgood Marshall PTA.

## Welcome Our Substitute Art Teacher

As many of you know I will be starting my maternity leave after Spring Break, so I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome my substitute, Mrs. Caroline Clark! She is thrilled to be teaching art to the entire school, and getting to know everyone at Thurgood Marshall for the remainder of the school year! You can help her feel welcome by asking, "What are you currently reading?". - Mrs. Martin, Art Teacher

## Kindness Klub is In Bloom

The Kindness Klub is a lunch group run by our school counselor, Ms. Kaloper, to help students learn the importance of kindness. "Our mission is to spread kindness and compassion throughout our school," says Ms. Kaloper. Students in Grades 1-5 may apply. Kindness Klub will meet once a week during lunch and lunch recess starting the week of April 21. In order to join, students must fill out an application and agree to complete the (fun!) assignments. Once all applications are in, students will be notified when/where their group will meet..

Application deadline is tomorrow, April 4. I look forward to seeing you there! - Ms. Kaloper, School Counselor

## Needed: 'Budget Planning Committee' Volunteers

The PTA is looking for one to two parent volunteers to serve on the Budget Planning Committee to help determine how the PTA will spend funds in the 2014/15 school year. Volunteers must attend one or two meetings in person. If interested please email PTA Treasurer Brindy Bundesmann at [brindylee@comcast.net](mailto:brindylee@comcast.net).

We welcome collaboration from parents and teachers. If you have ideas about how PTA funds are spent, please email us at [pta@tmlink.org](mailto:pta@tmlink.org). The 2014/15 budget will be voted on at the May 29 General PTA Meeting.

## Book Exchange Next Week

Next week, April 7-11, we will have a Book Exchange in the library. Children can bring in their old books and trade them in for books that are new to them. Time to stock up on books to read during Spring Break!

## Fun Facts Quiz

1. In which South Korean city did Mr. Paul teach English?  
a. Seoul      b. Busan      c. Gwangju
2. What did Ms. Kierstead do before she was a teacher?  
a. Ballerina      b. Opera singer      c. Race car driver
3. Where did Ms. Swarts teach English for two years?  
a. Thailand      b. Kenya      c. Pakistan
4. Drew Barnett, our playground assistant, went to Washington Middle School. Can you guess which teacher taught his 6th-grade math class?

Answers: 1.c. Gwangju 2. a. Ballerina with the Pacific Northwest Ballet , 3. b. Kenya 4. Ms. MacDonald

**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.