

PUP PRESS

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Principal
Katie May

Talking to Children about Hate Speech

Last week many of you came to the school library to write letters supporting a Muslim parent who was the target of hate speech in our parking lot. This week, I presented her with the letters and we talked about how she was doing. She mentioned that she has experienced similar hatred elsewhere, but was especially shaken by the incident at our school, which she considers an extension of her home. She was touched and comforted by the outpouring of

support from our community.

In our current political climate, you may have talked to your children about hateful speech targeted against particular groups. Children may be aware of these types of comments from news media coverage, overheard adult conversations, or other children. When your child asks about hate speech, what can you do?

- **Be proactive – talk to your child about your values and beliefs about how all people should be treated.** You don't need to wait until an incident occurs. Model your behavior so the child can see how you interact in a respectful way with all kinds of people.
- **As with any difficult topic, keep in mind what your child is ready for.** You might determine this by asking questions. If your student sees a news report about a group promoting hate, ask what he or she thinks about this and why. Give a context for the situation, if it seems appropriate. Answer your child's questions in the simplest terms your child is ready for. For example: "These people are protesting because they want to live in a country with only white people, but we don't believe in that." You can always add more information in small bits as your child asks questions.
- **Teach your child to be an Upstander.** We talk about this at school, as well. Upstanders support others who are treated unkindly. This can happen in many ways. You could suggest telling someone who bullies to stop, or getting adult help or inviting the target of a bully to come play with you instead. While students may vary in their comfort in confronting a bully, it is important to teach your child never to support bullying by laughing about it, which only encourages the bully.
- **Remind your child that bad things do happen in the world sometimes, but what we see on the news is only a tiny part of what happens.** Most people are kind and want to help others. While we had one person make a hateful comment at our school, we had 60 people write letters to support the woman this happened to.
- **Some children are ready to get involved in confronting bias.** Ideas include writing a letter to a local politician to express beliefs, joining a peaceful march or supporting a local organization that helps newly immigrated families.

If you'd like to learn more, see "Teaching Tolerance" resources at www.tolerance.org.

Your holiday shopping can mean dollars for TM

Amazon & others will support us! Simple for you to do – see tmlink.org.



EVENT CALENDAR

TOMORROW, Fri., Nov. 17: Assembly, 9 a.m. Kindergarten performs **Thanksgiving song**; PTA Reflections Arts Contest winners are introduced. All parents welcome!



TOMORROW, Fri. Nov. 17: Washington Middle School Tour, 8:30-10 a.m. Meet in lunchroom. 2101 S. Jackson St. No RSVP. For all WMS tour/info session dates, see <http://bit.ly/WMStours17-18>.

Sat., Mon., Tues., Nov. 18, 20, 21: Parent-Teacher Conferences. *Check with your student's teacher **immediately** if you have not reserved a time slot.*

Nov. 20-24: No school for students (Conferences & Thanksgiving Break).

Nov. 27-Dec. 1: Book Fair. Students can shop during their library period; parents before/after school. Benefits TM Library! See Page 2.

Fri., Dec. 1: Winter Family Snow Ball, 6:30-8 p.m., DJ'd dancing, games, potluck, more! Volunteers needed: <https://tinyurl.com/2017TMSnowBall>

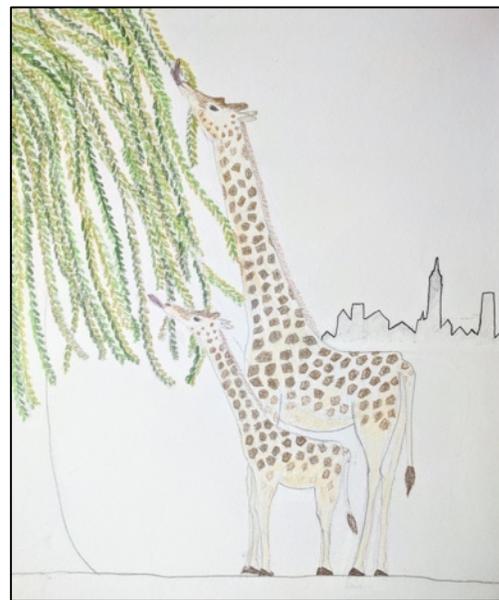
→ Online calendar at [www.tmlink.org!](http://www.tmlink.org)

TUTU'S PANTRY

Bring non-perishable items in cans and boxes.

Nov. 27-Dec. 1: Grade 4 asked to donate!

→ Thanks to all 'Meal-in-a-Bag' donors for making the holiday brighter for other TM families.



Detail from "Harmony," by Gayatri Armes (Gr. 4)

12 Win in PTA Arts Contest

Four judges have selected 12 out of the 48 entries in this year's TM round of the National PTA's Reflections Arts Contest. The pieces will advance to the citywide level of the competition.

→ List of winners and details, Page 2.

Book Fair Opens Wed. Online; at TM Nov. 27-Dec.1

TM's in-school Book Fair begins on Nov. 27, but don't wait! Shop an expanded selection online starting Wednesday (Nov. 22). Visit <http://bit.ly/TMBookFair17>.

You'll be able to create wish lists and send eCards to invite friends and family to shop. Every purchase benefits our school. All online orders ship FREE to the school after

the online Fair has ends on Dec. 5.

At TM, students may bring cash or pre-signed check made out to **Thurgood Marshall PTA**, and shop during their classroom's scheduled library times, lunch and afternoon recess.

The Fair still needs volunteers! Sign up for shifts at <http://bit.ly/TMvolunteers>.



Counselor's Corner
Meghan Kaloper

Bullpup Dads, Tell Us about the Experience

Have you been a Bullpup Dad?

If so, we want to hear from you! How was your experience? What could we change to make your day more streamlined and meaningful? Please take a moment to fill out our survey: www.bit.ly/Dadsurvey. We want to make sure we are doing our best to match the needs of our students, teachers and volunteers so everyone benefits.

Thank you to everyone who is signing up! During this and last week we have had seven volunteer dads. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/TMvolunteers>. Learn more about Bullpup Dads at www.tmlink.org.

Bullpup Briefs

Wed. Enrichment Volunteer Sought for Winter Quarter

The PTA Enrichment Program is seeking a Wednesday afternoon volunteer for Winter quarter to help ensure students find their classes and other tasks. Contact Eldon at enrichment@tmlink.org.

Please Check Lost & Found

The racks can't hold all the unclaimed coats and what-not. Please check when you are at school for your parent-teacher conference. The racks are normally in the hallway south of the gym, but some or all items may be placed in the front hallway during conferences.

Family Directory Out Today

The PTA Family Directory was distributed to classrooms today (Thursday). Look for it in backpacks!

WMS Tour Tomorrow

The first Washington Middle School tour of 2017-18 is 8:30-10 a.m. tomorrow (Friday), no RSVP needed. See <http://washingtonms.seattleschools.org>.

Reflections Winners

TM winners of the PTA Reflections Contest (theme: "Within Reach") will be displayed at the Seattle Center Armory 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Dec. 1-Jan. 7, seeking to advance to the statewide level. More photos at tmlink.org. The winners:



"Tree to the Sky" by Lucia Fontana (Grade 1).

Visual Arts Primary

- Lucia Fontana "Tree to the Sky" (Gr. 1)
- Tejal Armes "Love Birds" (Gr. K)
- Evie Hobbs "Transformation" (Gr. 2)

Visual Arts Intermediate

- Lourdes Fomenko "Clean Water for People" (Gr. 3)
- Anya Redman "Juneau" (Gr. 5)
- Gayatri Armes "Harmony" (Gr. 4)
- Amelia Hart "Helping Hands" (Gr. 4)

Dance Choreography

- Angela Chen "Young and Beautiful" (Gr. 4)

Film Production

- Lena Walton "Beyond" (Gr. 5)

Literature

- Angelina Smith "When I Grow Up" (Gr. 4)

Photography

- Vinayak Venugopal "The Happy Encounter!!" (Gr. 3)

Visual Arts Special Artist

- Menelik Victor Asrade "Technologies Within Reach" (Gr. Pre-K)



Detail from "Love Birds," by Tejal Armes (Grade K).

Highly Capable Services Advisory Group Raises HS Concerns

The Highly Capable Services Advisory Committee is strongly encouraging interested parents and others to participate in the current debate about changes to high school attendance areas and HCC "pathways." The Committee and other have raised concerns that a proposal to initiate HCC groupings at multiple high schools may result in some locations lacking a large enough HCC enrollment to justify a full variety of advanced courses. At present Garfield High is the default pathway school for all HCC students.

The committee's new letter on the topic is posted at a blog, which also has information on how to comment. See <http://discussapp.blogspot.com>. District info: <http://bit.ly/SPS-HCCandHS>.

Soon Arriving in Your Mailbox: TM Annual Giving Fund Letter

This year, the PTA must raise some \$170,000 to fund the vital staff and programs not covered by the school District. This fundraising effort provides half of the salary of our full-time Librarian (Ms. Hudson), the full salary of our Counselor (Ms. Kaloper), and underwrites theater arts and many other activities that directly benefit our students.

We know, as the holidays approach, appeals from nonprofits are multiplying in your postal and e-mail in-box. We hope you'll give special attention to ours. Thank you.

Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Have an article for Pup Press? Send it to Cliff Meyer at pup-press@tmlink.org. If your submission is not acknowledged within 24 hours, please call or text 206-366-5413