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Principal
Katie May

'Wish Tree' & Celebrations of Reading

Tomorrow, March 2nd, is Read Across America Day, helping us celebrate the joy and excitement that reading can bring as it opens up new worlds for our children to explore through books. The day also honors the birthday of Dr. Suess, the children's author (born Theodor Suess Geisel) who wrote classics such as "The Cat in the Hat." Many Thurgood Marshall classrooms will have a **reading celebration** tomorrow, and it is also a school-wide Pajama Day.

Look for information from your child's teacher — many have announced a time when family members can drop by and read with students.

This year, our teachers are sharing the book "Wishtree" with their classes as part of Read Across America Day. "Wishtree," by Newbery Award-winning author Katherine Applegate, is told from the perspective of a tree watching over a neighborhood. When a Muslim family moves into the house near the tree, they are not welcomed by some people in the neighborhood, and a boy carves "LEAVE" into the tree. The author handles this issue with sensitivity to young readers, and the neighborhood finds a way to create a welcoming environment for the new family.



Wish Trees are found in many cultures around the world, and we would like to create one at Thurgood Marshall. At our Community Night (6-8 p.m., March 29), we will have a station where everyone can write wishes for our school community on fabric that will be tied to a tree in front of our school. We will

need MANY scraps for our whole community to participate, and I hope you will bring donations of fabric or ribbon to our office! Any remnant will do!

Thank you to Sarah King Besse, mom of 2nd-grader Indigo, for suggesting and organizing the creation of our own Wish Tree at Thurgood Marshall!

If you are new to our school: Community Night has become an important tradition. This event is a time to celebrate the rich diversity of our community, share a potluck item meaningful in a cultural or other way to your family, and visit classrooms (current and also a grade above so you can gain a sense of what next year will look like).

March (Book) Madness in Library

Students looking for a different way to find and read new books can participate in an online "March Book Madness" tournament. Mrs. Hudson will be introducing this enrichment reading activity during library periods.

Not to be taken too seriously, March Book Madness has a tournament-style bracket of match-ups of books. Students vote online to choose the winner of each match-up, and eventually one book prevails. (The games will be decided by a simple vote on a Google Form that doesn't collect any personal data.). TM students participated last year, and found it a fun way to think about books.

Learn more at <http://bit.ly/MarchBookMadness>, and when your student is ready to vote, select the "MG Novel Bracket" on that website.



EVENT CALENDAR

TONIGHT, March 1: "Angst" movie & discussion, 6-8:30 p.m., Washington Middle School. Free. Come at 6 to buy pizza, snacks; movie at 6:30. Learn about anxiety in children, and what to do. Sponsored by TM & WMS PTAs. **See Page 2.**

TOMORROW, March 2: Read Across America Day. Details in column at left and from your child's teacher.

TOMORROW, March 2: Assembly features theater performances by Ms. Garzon and Ms. Kierstead's classes, 9 a.m. Culmination of their Seattle Children's Theater residencies. *Parents invited!*

TOMORROW, March 2: Parents' Night Out. Offered by YMCA. **See Page 2.**

Fri., March 9: Spring Enrichment Registration Starts, 7 a.m. at www.tmlink.org/enrichment. Catalog online March 7 & also sent home. Deadline: March 18.

Tues., March 13: "Angst" movie & discussion (for parents), 6:30-8:30 p.m., Meany Middle School, 301 22nd Ave. E. **Free.** Snacks for sale. **See Page 2.**

Wed., March 14: Math Night, 6:30-8 p.m., Cafeteria. Estimation stations, games, books on math, and PIE (pizza and sweet). **Free.** More details to come!

→ **Online calendar at** www.tmlink.org!

TUTU'S PANTRY

Bring non-perishable items in cans and boxes. Especially needed: canned fruit and vegetables; peanut butter and jelly; and pasta sauce
March 5-8: Grade 3 asked to donate!

Sign in When Visiting; Resources Helping Kids Remain Safe

Our children hear far too often about violence happening in schools. If you are concerned about your child showing signs of stress for this or other reasons, Principal May asks that you be in touch with School Counselor Meghan Kaloper, at mrkaloper@seattleschools.org or 206-252-2800.

And, you can help keep our campus safe by entering only through the main front entrance during school hours, and by signing in at the school office each time you visit, no matter how briefly you plan to stay. If you see a person or situation on campus that appears unsafe, please report this to the office immediately.

Some brief resources you may find helpful:

- Guide to helping students cope with tragedy: <http://bit.ly/CopewithTragedy>.
- How to talk to and protect kids from sexual abuse: <http://bit.ly/YMCAabuseinfo>.

'Angst': 5th-Grader Talks of Anxiety in Documentary

"Angst," the hour-long documentary being shown tonight (Thursday) and on March 13, features the story of a Detroit 5th-grader who had secretly dealt with anxiety since 1st grade. It's never too early to be aware of how this condition can affect kids.

Join parents from Thurgood Marshall and other area schools to see the film, discuss it, and gain tools for detecting and dealing with anxiety. The screenings are aimed at adults, but are appropriate for Grade 5+.

Showings are FREE, thanks to PTA sponsorship!

More about the movie at www.angstmovie.com.

TONIGHT, March 1, Washington Middle School: Doors to open at 6 p.m.; pizza, snacks, drinks for sale. Movie at 6:30; moderated discussion, 7:30. RSVP at www.wmsptsa.com. Note that while WMS is at 2101 S. Jackson St., parking is available behind the school, off S. Weller Street.

March 13, Meany Middle School: Movie at 6:30; moderated discussion, 7:30. 301 21st Ave. E., near Miller Community Center.

Read Equity Action Teams' Highlights

The Equity Action Teams had a productive Winter Meeting on Feb. 8. Minutes are at <http://tmlink.org/info/equity-in-education-initiative/>, where you can also read more about the race-and-equity work happening at Thurgood Marshall this school year, as well as other Equity Action Team updates.

Mark your calendars: next meetings will be 6-8 p.m. on Thursdays, April 19 and May 31. Have questions or want to get involved? Contact caseysommers@gmail.com.

Take Survey for Reading Group on Race

The Facilitating Conversations About Race equity team is hoping to start a reading/discussion group for parents. Last year the team put on an Undoing Racism & Teaching Equity to Our Children workshop for the Thurgood Marshall community and people requested that we continue the conversation. Please offer your input to help us start a reading/discussion group: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RX96MQK>

Consider Stepping into Spot on '18-19 PTA Board

Learn about great opportunities to make a difference at our school through taking on a 2018-19 PTA role, including:

- Co-President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Enrichment Co-Chair
- Events Co-Chair
- Outreach Co-Chair
- Communications Chair
- Volunteer Co-Chair
- Fundraising Co-Chair
- Equity/Legislative Liaison

Contact PTA Nominating Committee members: Tasha Irvine (tashasirvine@gmail.com) or Casey Sommers (caseypilar@gmail.com). No obligation! They'll happily answer questions.



Bullpup Briefs

Y Offers Parents' Night Out Tomorrow (Fri.)

The YMCA care program at TM is offering Parents' Nights Out in March and registration for the 2018-19 school.

Parents' Night Out includes movie and snacks for the kids! Proceeds go to the West Seattle & Fautleroy YMCA Annual Fund Drive. All are welcome. The nights are Fridays, **March 2** and **March 30**, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Cafeteria. \$30 for the first child, \$20 for each additional (4-12 years old only). Cash or check please, no credit cards. **Reserve for Nights Out by contacting** Cody Papka, cpapka@seattleyymca.org or 206-718-5705. **Register for 2018-19** at 206-900-7209 or westseattlechildcare@seattleyymca.org

Photos of New Students, Class Retakes Mon.

Yuen Lui Studios will be retaking class pictures on Monday, March 5 for the following homerooms:

Humphreys, Haile/Tu (Room 108), Carney, Garzon, Jensen, Duart, Sorenson, Zetterberg and Gese

The photographer will also take school pictures for students who enrolled at Thurgood Marshall since Nov. 7. Please have your child dress accordingly!

Math Festival for Grade 4 & up on March 10

The Julia Robinson Festival inspires students to explore the richness and beauty of mathematics through activities that encourage collaborative, creative problem-solving. The 7th annual edition will be 12:30-4 p.m., March 10, at UW. Students in 4th grade and above can enjoy several dozen tables of math problems and activities led by math-loving volunteers, who are from disciplines such as mathematics, teaching, engineering and computer programming. Registration (\$10-15 fee) required. See <https://mathforlove.com/julia-robinson-festival/>.

Pie & Pi at TM's Math Night on March 14

On Wednesday, March 14 (3.14), treat yourself to free (pizza and sweet) pie and math games for the whole family. We'll have estimation stations, games, books on math ... and it will be fun even if you are not a lover of numbers! Join us at TM at 6:30 p.m. (tentative). Details to come in the next week.

More than 50 Attend 'Black Panther' Showing

The Black Family Advocacy Support Group thanks the more than 50 TM community members who on Saturday attended "Black Panther" in Columbia City. We're sorry that some people who hadn't RSVP'd were not able to fit into the theater.

Yes, Your Phone Takes Great Photos of TM Life

So, send photos of classroom action, field trips, whatever to Yearbook Editor Jen Hobbs at jen@jenfu.org.

Registration Open for Spring Classes at UW Center

The UW Robinson Center for Young Scholars has opened registration for its Saturday Program's spring quarter. The 1-hour courses include Philosophy of Fairytales, Myths, and Legends; Weird Numbers; Puzzle Me This; and Immunology! Tuition waivers are available for families who qualify for free/reduced lunch. See <https://robinsoncenter.uw.edu>.

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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