

# PUP PRESS

Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

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Principal  
Katie May

## PlayWorks comes to Thurgood Marshall

Last week, an organization called PlayWorks was at our school from Tue. through Fri. The PlayWorks values are respect, inclusion, healthy play and healthy community and they achieve this through helping schools think about the playground in the same ways you would think about a classroom.

On Tue., our PlayWorks Coach, Jackie, observed our recesses and rated us in a number of areas so we could think about ways to improve. We scored the highest in having an appropriate number of adults on the playground for the number of students playing, but

lowest in the actual physical space to be supervised.

Coach Jackie noted that our playground is so large that even with sufficient staffing, it is difficult for staff to see students or students to hear staff, which contributes to an unsafe playground environment. For this reason, you may hear from your child that we created a playground boundary from the blacktop track to the back fence that we are asking students not to go beyond. With a playground as large as ours, there is still more than enough room for students to play.

Also, on Tue., Coach Jackie began training our Junior Coaches, 4<sup>th</sup>- and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students who learned new games to teach students on the playground. These students were chosen as Junior Coaches on the basis of their leadership qualities. We were limited in the number of coaches we could have trained, but once the program is running smoothly, we will likely be adding more. A number of students have already asked about how they can join the Junior Coach team!

On Wed., Coach Jackie and our Playground Supervisor, Jia-Jia Zhu, began training individual classes in Recess 101. This consisted of learning some basic playground games, understanding how and why the playground is broken into particular zones for each kind of play, and learning some opening and closing chants which we use to open and close recess. Because not every class could be trained last week, Jia-Jia will continue to offer this training to the rest of our classes this week. *continued on Page 2*



### Order TM Spiritwear gear now!

Order your Thurgood Marshall T-shirt or sweatshirt now! Order form attached to this week's PupPress.

We're taking orders through Fri., Oct. 19. [Order online!](#)



## EVENT CALENDAR

**TOMORROW: Fri. Oct. 12, NO SCHOOL,** teacher/staff in-service

**Mon, Oct. 15, CLASS PICTURES,** PEACE Academy, K-1

**Tue., Oct. 16, CLASS PICTURES,** Grades 2-5

**Tue., Oct. 16, PTA meeting in TM Library,** first of the year (see info below)

**Fri, Oct. 19,** deadline for ordering TM Spiritwear!

**Thu., Oct. 25, 8:40-9:30 a.m., Coffee with Principal May,** discussion topic and details forthcoming

Full year of events online calendar at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org)!

Got news? Contact Pup Press Editor, Tracy Bonaccorso ([tracybonaccorso31@gmail.com](mailto:tracybonaccorso31@gmail.com)) or text 206.240.6318

## TUTU'S PANTRY



**Tutu's Pantry** serves 20-30 TM families weekly with a free weekend supply of food. **If your family would like to benefit,** please fill out the form (sent home in the PTA Packet and also available at

[www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org)). **Tutu's Pantry depends on donations of non-perishable items.** Donation bins are in the front hall.

## ⌘ Health Screening Event – Nov. 5-6

**DATE CORRECTION FROM LAST WEEK's Pup Press: Volunteers needed Mon./Tue. Nov. 5-6**

to assist the school nurse with vision and hearing screening in the TM Library. It's a great way to the kids of our community! Full day commitments preferred, but morning or afternoon shifts also welcome. Sign up at

<https://tinyurl.com/tmhealthday>

## All welcome at first PTA meeting of year, Tue., Oct. 16

Our first PTA meeting of year is next Tue., Oct. 16, 6-8 p.m. in the TM Library.

Principal Katie May and school counselor Melissa Matsui will discuss the theme: **"Social-Emotional Support for Your Child at Thurgood Marshall."**

The evening kicks off at 6 p.m. with a parent social (light snacks provided), meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

**Free childcare** for children ages 5-12 (with pizza and movie) available through the YMCA during the meeting with an advance reservation – contact Cody at [cpapka@seattleYMCA.org](mailto:cpapka@seattleYMCA.org).

**Hope to see you there!**

### **Katie May column – continued from Page 1**

Also, on Wed., our entire staff participated in a PlayWorks training to better understand how play can be used as a tool to help facilitate learning in the classroom, too. Teachers learned new attention getting chants, new games, and strategies for breaking students into groups. This was a lot of fun – turns out play is really good for adults, as well!

You will see our recess undergoing a transition in the coming weeks as we begin to add in the PlayWorks strategies we have learned. You may hear your child talking about new Playground Expectations “Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Responsible.” Ask your child to teach you a new game they have learned through PlayWorks – “Scramble” is one that has been popular with many. We expect that we will see a gain in learning time as less class time is used to solve playground issues. Play on!

Katie

### **Enter PTA arts contest – “Heroes around Me”**

**Oct. 26 deadline for entering the Thurgood Marshall round of this year’s national PTA “Reflections” arts contest.**

Students may enter original work in any of six categories: visual art (2D or 3D), photography, literature, music composition, film/video production and dance choreography! An optional “special artist” category is available to students who qualify under ADA regulations. TM’s entries are placed in age divisions: Grades Pre-K-2 or Grades 3-5. Entries should reflect the 2018-19 theme, “**Heroes Around Me.**” For more info: <http://scptsa.org/reflectionsinfo/>.

### **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!**

#### **⌘ Wed. Afternoon Enrichment assistant**

Help make sure kids are in the right places, and other duties for approximately 1.5 hours (but can be much less) every Wednesday. Even if you can’t help for the full term, we need help tomorrow! FREE enrollment for your child in a class if you commit for a full season. Contact [enrichment@tmlink.org](mailto:enrichment@tmlink.org).

### **Come join Seattle JazzED!**

**Seattle JazzED** is a non-profit music education organization in the Central District/Madison Valley dedicated to creating awesome opportunities for kids. Over 900 students from 100+ schools come through their doors annually. You **pay-what-you-can** for any Seattle JazzED program, with free instrument loan assistance. Here are two opportunities:

#### **JAZZED PREP ENSEMBLES FOR BEGINNERS: Learn how to play an instrument this year.**

**No experience required, beginners welcome.** Learn from top educators, including choir director, Seattle gospel legend Cora Jackson and Percussion Director, Tony Sodano from the Seattle Seahawks Blue Thunder Drumline. Choose from trumpet, trombone, piano and vocals, or drums. Students will be reading music and playing songs within weeks. Performances throughout the year. Tuition is pay-what-you-can. **Enter code WAIVER at registration to participate for FREE.** Grades 4-8, can register and get more information at <https://www.seattlejazzed.org/jazzprep/> or call 206.324.JAZZ (5299).

#### **JAZZED ENSEMBLES PLACEMENT: For students with one or more years on an instrument**

Play and perform under legendary local educators like Clarence Acox, Wayne Horvitz, Darin Faul and others. Although most ensembles are **traditional jazz big bands, string instruments** students can also sign up. Ensembles rehearse weekly, Jan. through May 2019, with multiple performances. Pay-what you can means every family pays at the level that works for them. **Grades 5-12, with one year of instrumental experience** can register for Ensembles Placement (Nov. 17 or 18) and get more information at <https://www.seattlejazzed.org/ensembles/> or call 206.324.JAZZ (5299).



### **Bullpup Briefs**

#### **Sign up for the PTA e-list!**

The Thurgood Marshall PTA sends our e-list subscribers occasional messages with news and event info throughout the year! We promise not to clog your inbox. <http://tmlink.org/2018/06/07/sign-up-for-pta-e-list/>.

#### **⌘ = Volunteer/ PTA opportunities!**

#### **⌘ PTA Events Coordinator Co-Chair**

Meet and get to know the TM community by teaming up with our experienced events coordinator. Support Event Leads by relaying their needs to the PTA Board and showing them where supplies are.

Contact [volunteering@tmlink.org](mailto:volunteering@tmlink.org). 1-2 hours per event

#### **⌘ PTA Communications Chair**

Oversee our team of communications volunteers and act as the liaison between the team and the Board. The Communications Team comprises the Pup Press Editor, Bulletin Board Manager, Calendar Manager, Webmaster, Graphic Designer, and Class Connectors Coordinator. In addition to leading the team, the Communications Chair will manage the all-school email distribution list and consult on outreach for various teams such as Enrichment and Events. This is a Board position with meetings every other month. Contact [volunteering@tmlink.org](mailto:volunteering@tmlink.org).

#### **⌘ Class Connectors**

We still need Class Connectors for Ms. Anderson, and Ms. Howard-Powell! If you'd enjoy supporting your child's teacher, contact Andrea Fontana at [awongfontana@gmail.com](mailto:awongfontana@gmail.com) or 206.498.0666.

#### **⌘ Thu. Pup Press Distribution assistant**

Copy and distribute the newsletter on Thu. mornings. Contact [volunteering@tmlink.org](mailto:volunteering@tmlink.org) if you can help one hour every other Thu.

#### **⌘ Gardening Enrichment assistant**

Our gardening enrichment instructor, Ms. Nicole, needs a regular assistant on Weds. afterschool until 3:25 p.m., to help wrangle kids in the TM garden. No experience needed! Just pass the volunteer background check and be ready to get a little grubby.

**Your child will get free tuition to join the class.** In return, and it will allow us to pull a couple more kids from the waitlist.

Email [volunteering@tmlink.org](mailto:volunteering@tmlink.org).

**Volunteer at TM! We need you!**



COME TO THIS YEAR'S FIRST  
PTA MEETING!

**Tuesday, October 16**  
**6 – 8 p.m.**  
**in the Library**

*Includes an appetizer social from 6 - 6:30  
feel free to bring a snack to share!*

***Feature topic:***

# **Social-emotional supports for your child at Thurgood Marshall**

**with Principal Katie May  
& School Counselor Melissa Matsui**

**All are welcome to this event! (No requirement to be a PTA member.)**

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**FREE Childcare** with PIZZA and MOVIE for children ages 5-12 whose parents are  
at the meeting.

You MUST reserve your child's place in advance – contact Cody at [cpapka@seattleYMCA.org](mailto:cpapka@seattleYMCA.org)