



THE THURSDAY NOTE:



Did you know most students lose one or more months of academic gain over summer vacation? While I value summer as a time for relaxation and rejuvenation, I feel a bit anxious imagining our students losing the precious ground they gained over the school year. So, what can we do?

READING: Children should be reading 30 minutes a day throughout the year, and especially during the summer when they typically have more free time. Most libraries have wonderful reading lists posted on their websites.

For students who need a little encouragement, the summer reading program at Barnes and Noble bookstores offers one free book to a child who reads eight books on their own. The Seattle Public Library offers a free book of your child's choice after ten books. A reluctant reader may be enticed to read a book that has been released in movie format; once they read the book, they get to see the movie (think "Beezus and Ramona" by Beverly Cleary). You might also want to check out:

- *Book Crush*, by Nancy Pearl, is full of wonderful book suggestions for children and teens organized by interesting categories, such as "Dewey Love Non-fiction? Dewey Ever!"
- The Guys Read website is dedicated to helping boys love books at www.guysread.com
- The American Library Association has reading lists to suit just about anyone! Online at www.ala.org, under Professional Tools, click on "Recommended Reading Factsheets."

MATH: Help your child build fluency with math facts so they are better prepared for next year's challenging math problems. Find ways to incorporate a few minutes of math every day over the summer. Depending on your child's age, have them figure out the change for something they wish to buy, practice their fractions by doubling or halving a recipe, or play a board game that uses math. A quick Google search will turn up many websites with free math games that children love. Free math lessons for every level from beginner through college can be found at the Khan Academy online at www.khanacademy.org.

WRITING: Sometimes all it takes is the promise of a little extra adult attention to get our younger students creating/writing stories. Others are motivated if we provide supplies like fancy paper and pens, or let them use our computer. Ask an older relative to become an email "pen pal" with your tween (and remind your tween that Grandma may not understand common texting abbreviations!). Or tape a note to your child's bedroom door, and encourage them to write back to you. Also find ways your student can practice their writing in "real world" ways, for example, try dictating a grocery list to your child.

In addition to the Three R's, remember that children learn a lot by simply playing and exploring the world around them. Never underestimate what a child can learn as they dig in the dirt, study bugs in the backyard, or help in the garden! A little unscheduled time allows a child to reflect on all they are learning at day camp or on more structured outings.

I wish you all a wonderful summer - I'm already excited to see you back at school this fall!

- Katie May, Incoming Principal

Tomorrow: Coffee Chat with New Principal

Friday, June 6, 9:10-10 am. Please stop by the library after drop-off tomorrow morning and get to know our Incoming Principal Katie May. Coffee provided by the PTA.



EVENT CALENDAR

June 5, Today

Volunteer Appreciation @ 3:40 pm on the playground

June 6, Friday

Coffee Chat with New Principal @ 9:10 am in the Library

June 9-13, Monday-Friday

Penny & Coin Drive

GRADE LEVEL PICNICS

5:30-7 pm on the playground

June 9, Monday

Kindergarten/1st Grade

June 10, Tuesday

2nd Grade

June 11, Wednesday

3rd Grade

June 12, Thursday

4th Grade

June 13, Friday

Field Day & BBQ

Craft Fair in Library

June 17, Tuesday

5th Grade Promotion 2-3:30 pm

June 19, Thursday

Last Day of School! Early dismissal @ 2:40 pm

TUTU'S PANTRY

June 9: 4th Grade Donations

June 16: 5th Grade Donations

Picnics Next Week

Celebrate the end of the school year at the Grade Level Picnics (see calendar above). Bring your own picnic dinner and blanket to the Thurgood Marshall playground. The YMCA will let us use their bathroom facilities since the school building will be closed. All picnics are 5:30-7 pm. Picnics will be cancelled in the event of rain.

Tomorrow: Deadline for PTA Survey



Tomorrow is the deadline to give your feedback to the PTA via their online survey. Your feedback will help the PTA improve programs for the 2014-2015 school year.

Online at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/TMPTA2014

Sunflowers Will "Bloom" All Year Round

Have you seen the beautiful sunflower mosaic recently installed on our school grounds? If you enter near the flagpole, as students do in the morning, you will step over a multitude of individual sunflowers drawn by our 5th graders. Step back a bit and you will see they all form part of an even larger sunflower! This art installation was our 5th graders gift to the school.

A huge Thank You goes to 3rd-grade dad, Ben Kim, for coming up with the paver design and for making it a reality! This wouldn't have been possible without the help of substitute art teacher Mrs. Clark who came up with the idea that students create their individual sunflowers. Thank you also to the many volunteers - parents and kids alike - who helped install the pavers and made that muddy corner of the school yard "bloom."

Last but not least, thanks to all of our talented 5th graders for their beautiful artwork! You have forever brightened up our school.

- Daphne Dejanikus, 5th-Grade Legacy Project Chair



\$\$ For BBQ on June 13

If possible, please put \$5 on your child's school account prior to the BBQ on June 13. If accounts are already loaded it will help the day go more smoothly for everyone! You may pay by cash or check, made out to CNS, and drop it off in the school kitchen or the main office. Thank you!

Bell Times Remain Same Next Year

The bell times at Thurgood Marshall will be the same for the 2014-2015 school year. School start time will be 9:30 am and end time will be 3:40 pm.

Student Council Fundraising

The Thurgood Marshall Student Council is planning two events to help raise money for cancer research:

The Craft Fair: Students will make and sell items in the library on June 13. Each class will be invited to "buy" items with their class at a time that will not interfere with Field Day.

The Penny and Coin Drive: Students may vote for their favorite comic book character by dropping coins into a bucket the week of June 9. The character that receives the most coins will be the winner.

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.

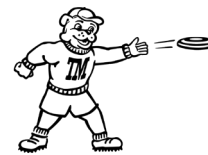
Haven't Donated? It's Not Too Late!

If you've been meaning to donate to the Thurgood Marshall Annual Giving Fund, it's not too late! Thank you to all of the Thurgood Marshall families and friends whose donations helped us surpass our Annual Giving Fund goal of \$130,000. Already more than 50% of Thurgood Marshall families have made donations at every level of giving. We are so grateful for your generosity and enthusiasm!

Gifts received before June 30 will help us reach our participation goal of 60% of families. If we receive donations from 45 new families - just two families per classroom - we'll meet our participation goal! Donations of any amount are welcome.

To donate, please click on the Donate Now button online at www.tmlink.org. Or send a check into school with your child, or via mail to: TM Annual Giving Fund P.O. Box 22305 Seattle, WA 98122. All donations help support school programs like our full-time librarian and school counselor, enrichment classes and community events.

Thank you for coming together to support our students, teachers and staff at Thurgood Marshall!



From Our Librarian

All library books are due by June 13. Students in grades K-4 may check out a book during the last week of school. Lost books should be replaced with a similar book. Replacement books do not need to be new, just usable. We do not accept money for lost books.

Read Big with Young Readers Choice and Sasquatch: Pick up a summer reading list from the school library and read five to ten books, depending on your level, to become eligible to vote in the Reader's Choice contest. Then join us in October for a special reading party. Open to students grades 2-5.

Note: The Thurgood Marshall Library will be open this summer on Tuesdays from 3-7 pm.

Calling All 5th Grade Families!

The 5th grade Promotion Ceremony is almost here. Join us Tuesday, June 17 from 2-3:30 pm in the Cafeteria to celebrate your 5th grader! We recommend arriving at least 30 minutes early to allow time for parking and finding a seat in the Cafeteria.