

PUP PRESS



Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

DECEMBER 12, 2013

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 14

EVENTS CALENDAR

Dec. 12, TONIGHT

Choir Concert in Cafeteria at 7 pm



Dec. 14, Saturday

Pancake Breakfast from 9-11 am in Cafeteria



Dec. 20, Friday

1-Hour Early Dismissal

Dec. 23 - Jan. 5

NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

Jan. 6, 2014, Monday

Back to school!

Jan. 16, 2014, Thursday

PTA General Meeting with Guest Speaker Amy Lang presenting "Birds + Bees + Kids." Join us for an interesting evening! Lang will address parental concerns around the "birds and the bees" and present age-appropriate ways to discuss this topic with kids.

TUTU'S PANTRY CALENDAR

Non-perishable food donations should be placed in the large red bin inside the school entrance, or brought to any school event.

Dec. 16

1st-Grade Donations

Jan. 6

2nd-Grade Donations

Jan. 13

3rd-Grade Donations

THE THURSDAY NOTE:



I had a very pleasant surprise on Monday when Ms. Kohls came to the office holding a \$5,000 check made out to Tutu's Pantry. Sally and Tom Peyree made the donation on behalf of a loved one who passed away. Such generosity is a reminder to me that we have so much good in the world to celebrate!!

Progress reports (report cards) go home with students on Friday. Please sign in the appropriate spot on the outside of the manila envelope and have your child return the empty envelope to school.

Don't forget about the Pancake Breakfast this Saturday!! This is a great opportunity to catch up with families that you haven't seen lately as well as marvel at the glorious student artwork that will be displayed. And there will be heat so please don't let the thought of a cold building keep you away.

- Julie Breidenbach, Principal

TONIGHT! Choir Concert

The Winter Choir Concert is tonight Dec. 12, at 7 pm. The Cantate and Prep Choirs will perform for friends and family, in the Cafeteria.

Earn School \$ on Amazon.com

This holiday season you can earn money for our school at no cost to yourself by using our Amazon.com link at www.tmlink.org.

Pancake Breakfast & Art Walk for Families and Staff



Join us this weekend on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 9-11 am in the Cafeteria. We'll be serving pancakes (regular and gluten-free), juice, coffee, chicken sausage, and fruit. Come see your child's artwork as part of our first annual school-wide Art Walk.



Thank you to the following businesses who made donations: Krusteaz Pancakes, Odwalla, 23rd & Jackson Starbucks, MLK Way Starbucks, Grocery Outlet, Costco, Trader Joe's, Leschi Market.

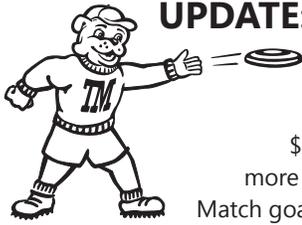
Enrichment Catalogs Now Available

The Winter Quarter Enrichment catalogs go home with students today, Dec. 12. Registration for Winter Quarter ends on Jan. 10. Classes will begin on Jan. 27. If you have any questions, email Sudeshna Sen sudeshnanw@gmail.com or Caryn Gold carynlgold@yahoo.com.

Red Cross Drive Ends Dec. 19

We now have three heaping boxes filled with shampoos, soaps, toothpaste, toothbrushes and other personal hygiene items. The Thurgood Marshall Student Council is collecting these items in response to Typhoon Haiyan and will take the donations to the Red Cross the week before break. There is still time to contribute. We will collect donations through Dec. 19. Drop-off boxes are in the Library.

Want more? Visit the Thurgood Marshall PTA online at www.tmlink.org for more Pup Press, a full calendar of school events, and more.



UPDATE: Annual Giving Fund

Total Raised to date: \$60,160

This month the PTA has raised \$4,430, but we must raise over \$5,000 more to reach the \$10,000 Winter Challenge Match goal. Please donate today!

Our Music Program and the PTA

We hope to see many of you tonight at 7 pm for the Winter Choir Concert. As you know, we are very fortunate to have a music program at Thurgood Marshall, and teachers as dynamic as Mr. Pendergrass and Mr. Yarr. A portion of Mr. Pendergrass's salary is paid for by the Thurgood Marshall PTA allowing him to be full-time and teach both general music for all students, and instrumental music to 4th- and 5th-graders. The PTA also supports the music program with additional supplies to maintain instruments.

Here Mr. Pendergrass answers some questions for the *Pup Press*:

Q. What special things do you do in the vocal and instrumental music programs to help foster an understanding and love of music?

A. From day one in my classroom, I strive to create an environment where students can risk big, feel rewarded, and act responsibly. I believe this creates a framework for students to strive for excellence and honestly evaluate their progress as musicians. This is mainly done by creating a safe environment in the music room with some simple rules: 1) Play or sing with courage; 2) Play or sing with understanding; 3) Be patient with others and yourself and 4) Know you can ask for help at anytime.

Q. What do you like the most about TM students?

A. I am always impressed to see students go from shy, uncoordinated singers/instrumentalists at the beginning of the year to confident, thoughtful and expressive musicians come concert time. The transformation is nothing short of amazing, and I have the privilege of starting these kids on a musical journey that will truly last a lifetime.

We need your support to help continue this amazing music program. Please donate to the Thurgood Marshall PTA Annual Giving Fund. We hope to raise \$10,000 by Dec. 31; if we do, our school will receive \$10,000 in matching funds from a group of generous TM families. Send in your purple donation cards today, or donate online at www.tmlink.org.

Thank you and see you tonight at the Winter Choir concert!

Book Exchange Next Week Dec. 16-20

The weeks of Winter Break are a great time to read! Making sure that kids have enough material to read during that time is the goal of next week's Library time. Children are invited to bring books they no longer read and exchange them for new books. Because children bring books they have outgrown, we often get too many picture books; please limit yourself to only two or three picture books for the Book Exchange.

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.

Permission for Our Yearbook

If you declined to release your child's information on the Family Educational Rights and Permission Act form at the beginning of the school year, we'll need your permission to include your child's name and photo(s) in the Yearbook. Consent forms went home this week for students without permission to be included. **Note:** This consent form applies only to the Yearbook; photos of your child will not be shared/used for any other purpose. Please return the bright yellow form by Dec. 20 to ensure your child is included in the Yearbook.

Thanks for uploading your wonderful photos of the Fall Dance! Upload your photographs from the Pancake Breakfast and the Choir Concerts to Kathryn Crawford Saxer at http://dbinbox.com/Thurgood_Marshall_Yearbook.

Thanks for the Great Book Fair

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped with Book Fair this year; as a result, the library earned \$400 in books, and \$1,584.56 in cash to purchase books and materials.

More significantly, parents at Thurgood Marshall and the Japanese Presbyterian Church donated money for books for our students who might not be able to purchase a book for themselves. As a result, 82 students were able to choose a free book from the Book Fair!

Every day of Book Fair, five or six volunteers helped students count money, make "wise" purchases and kept the book fair running smoothly. A special thanks to Barbara Staley and Karen Sampson Liu who organized the volunteers and kept track of the finances. And a huge thank you to everyone who gave either time or money, and to our neighbor, the Japanese Presbyterian Church.

Please Note: The online Book Fair will close earlier than previously advertised. We were notified that books ordered after Dec. 11 will not be delivered until after Jan. 14, 2014. Because of this late date we are cutting off the orders earlier. Sorry for any inconvenience. Contact Librarian Merilee Hudson at mhudson@seattleschools.org or 206-365-7882 with any questions or concerns.

New Year, New Groups!

With 2014 around the corner, I am beginning to plan new counseling groups for the winter. Based on the specific needs that are reported to me, I will create groups to allow for as many children as possible to participate. Please get in touch with me if you feel your child is struggling or could use some extra support with the following:

Friendship/social skills, anger management, divorce support, families living with illness, grief and loss

You can email me at mrharris@seattleschools.org or call (206) 252-2808.

- Meghan Kaloper, School Counselor