LEARNING THROUGH RECESS PLAY

This year, many parents around our district have been concerned that students get an appropriate amount of time for lunch and recess. I agree that students need time to have break times throughout their day to decompress. When I take a class myself, I am aware that only so much information can be absorbed before I need to get up and walk around to ready myself for the next segment of learning.

In the past couple of months, we started to notice students having difficulty with disputes during soccer. Our recess supervisors addressed these concerns with students, teachers problem-solved with students during class meetings, and students brainstormed solutions. As a result, our 3rd-graders worked with administration to create teams that felt fair and balanced. Students decided that it is better to have a mix of students from different classes on a team than to pit one class against another. Kids suggested that we should have some referees to help keep things fair and so we trained 5th-grade referees to help. Adults meeting to discuss the situation came up with some procedures to help things run more smoothly. Is recess soccer perfect? No – but it is definitely improving. In a meeting with 3rd-graders this week, students could clearly articulate what had gotten better and what could still use some tweaking. They were thoughtful and articulate and sensitive to each other’s feelings. How easier life might have been if we just banned soccer from recess; lots of time would have been saved. But what would have been lost? A valuable learning opportunity for students.

Global Reading Challenge On Monday

Seven teams of Thurgood Marshall 4th- and 5th-graders will meet to compete against each other in the Global Reading Challenge on Mon., Feb. 9, at 1 pm in the TM Library. Families are welcome to attend!

Sponsored by the Seattle Public Library (SPL), the Global Reading Challenge encourages students to read. Team members take on the challenge of reading 10 books selected by SPL and then competing in a “knowledge bowl” competition. Students work in teams of seven. Each team includes both 4th- and 5th-graders and must have both girls and boys, as well as students from both the general and HCC programs. The winning team will go on to compete at the finals on Thursday March 5 at 10:30 am at the Central Library.

Find out more about Global Reading Challenge on the SPL webpage: www.spl.org/audiences/children/global-reading-challenge

EVENT CALENDAR

Thurs., Feb. 5
Adv. Band/Orch/Choir Concert
7 pm at Washington Middle School

Fri., Feb. 6
Thurgood Marshall Day!
Special Assembly, 9:35-10:25 am in Cafeteria

Mon., Feb. 16 & Tues., Feb. 17
No School (Mid-Winter Break)

Mon., Feb. 23
Evening Tour for Prospective Families
(see www.tmlink.org for schedule)

TUTU’S PANTRY

Feb. 9: 1st-Grade Donations
Feb. 16: 2nd-Grade Donations
Feb. 23: 3rd-Grade Donations

Questions? Contact Kim Enochs at kimenochs@comcast.net or Maggie Trapp at maggiestrapp@yahoo.com

Reminder: TM Day Tomorrow

Fri., Feb. 6 is Thurgood Marshall Day. At school, we honor Justice Thurgood Marshall with a special assembly 9:35-10:25 am in the Cafeteria — families encouraged to attend! An afternoon community celebration will take place at the Northwest African American Museum (www.naamnw.org) from 4-5:45 pm, featuring a choir concert, performances by other TM students, and a discussion to help guide creation of an upcoming youth-created art installation to honor Thurgood Marshall.

Enrichment Pick-Up Reminder

If your child goes to after-school Enrichment classes, please remember to pick up your child on time. If you are running late, email Sudeshna at sudeshnanw@gmail.com. For room numbers see the Enrichment schedule: www.bit.ly/TmEnrichPage.
Send in Family Heritage Photos for TM’s Multicultural Celebration Feb. 13

Our annual multicultural celebration and potluck is coming right up and to make it more special: we’d love to feature family photos that show your unique family heritage. If you have photos to share, please send the photos with your child to school, attention Ms. Swarts or Ms. Egelhoff—we will make copies and send them back to you safely.

When and Where? Fri., Feb. 13, 5:30-7:30 pm, TM Cafeteria

We need help putting on this fun all-school event! To help with the planning, please visit our volunteer page: www.bit.ly/TMmulticulturalVols

Questions? Contact Ms. Swarts at aswarts@seattleschools.org or Ms. Egelhoff at aegelhoff@seattleschools.org

Ultimate Coed Frisbee Starts This Month

Join the Thurgood Marshall Coed Ultimate Frisbee team! Ultimate is one of the fastest growing sports in the United States and is played in more than 42 countries around the world. It’s a non-contact team sport that emphasizes spirit and sportsmanship. Seattle has a very large community of Ultimate players, with leagues for all ages, from elementary/middle/high school/college players as well as professional adults teams.

Thurgood Marshall has had an Ultimate team since 2012 and will have at least two teams this year. The citywide league is for 3rd-, 4th-, and 5th-graders and kids play against other local schools. Practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45 to 5 pm and games are on Saturdays.

Sign-up forms are being distributed to students today and signups are due next week; see the sign-up form for additional details. Want to know more about how the game is played? See www.tmlink.org/2015/02/04/ultimate-coed-frisbee-starts-this-month/

Thank You From Ms. Kaloper

In honor of National School Counseling Week, I want to give a big THANK YOU to everyone in the Thurgood Marshall school community for supporting my role as our School Counselor.

I would not have the privilege to be in this position without the generosity of our parent network and the continuous encouragement of our team of educators.

I look forward to continuing to serve and guide our young students as they navigate the social, emotional, and academic ups and downs. Thanks and Happy National School Counseling Week!

Girls on the Run – Coming This Spring!

What is it? An after-school program that uses the power of running to give girls the tools to celebrate their bodies, honor their voices, recognize their gifts and activate their power! Learn more at www.girlsrun.org/registration/

Girls on the Run is open to 3rd-, 4th-, and 5th-grade girls of ALL fitness and ability levels.

Dates: March 2-May 18, Mondays and Wednesdays 3:45-5:15 pm.

Cost: Fees based on sliding scale – see registration form for details.

To get a registration form, or learn more, contact Brindy Bundesmann at brindylee@comcast.net or 206-604-0756.

Volunteer Opps For This Week

- Ms. Patu can use help sorting office paperwork. Stop by the office if you can help.
- Yearbook volunteers can contact Kathryn Saxer: katesaxer@gmail.com

Questions? Contact Jen Ellis at jenniferellis.206@gmail.com or (206) 276-4982.

Tutu’s Pantry Supporter Profile: Franz Bakery

This week, Franz Bakery “Bread Run” volunteers tell us about what they do for Tutu’s Pantry, the PTA’s food-assistance program for TM families.

“The Bread Run,” by Zora Sowinska (4th Grade, P1/ Ms. MacDonald) and her mom, Suzanne Sowinska

Every Friday morning, before school, my mom wakes me up early, and says “Hey! It’s Bread Run day!” The Bread Run is the way that my Mom and I do volunteer work for Thurgood Marshall. My Mom works on the East Side and it’s hard for her to volunteer during school hours, so instead, we go early so she can make it to work on time. What is the “Bread Run,” you ask? It’s when we pick up 25 loaves of bread from Franz Bakery outlet store on Jackson and deliver it to Tutu’s Pantry. This is the second year we have been doing this volunteer job.

Here’s what I like about my volunteer job: When we go to Franz’s, Kathy (who works there) is always super friendly. She tells us what bread is available for that day. The bakery smells really good, even if you are standing outside! By the way, they have great discounts there and they sell a lot more than bread. You can get fresh milk, soups, cookies, chips, snacks, and even Cheez-Its! It’s hard to carry 25 loaves of bread but we figured out that two of those big blue IKEA bags work perfectly!

Next we drive to Thurgood Marshall (and I always annoy the heck out of my Mom by asking her to play 92.5 on the way). We carefully lift the bags out of the car and take them to Tutu’s Pantry. My Mom waits while I get the key from the front office, and then we load the bread onto the shelves in the pantry. Our part of the job is then finished, but right after us a new set of volunteers takes over. Their job is to load the bread and other food items into the backpacks that kids take home over the weekend.

Fighting hunger is an important issue both in our world, but also right here in our school. That is why we like doing the Bread Run every week.

Thank you, Franz Bakery, and thank you to Zora and Suzanne! Tutu’s Pantry could not do what it does without the amazing support from our community donors.

Have an article for Pup Press? Send it to Dana Armstrong at pup-press@mail.com. If your submission is not acknowledged within 24 hours, please call or text 206-419-5523.
JOIN US

Celebration of Justice Thurgood Marshall

plus a Community Forum for a new Youth Art Project on MLK Jr. Way

4-5:45pm • Friday, Feb. 6, 2015
Kids’ performances & activities w/light snacks, 4-5pm • Community Forum, 5-5:45pm

Northwest African American Museum
Legacy Room, 2300 S. Massachusetts St., Seattle, WA 98144 • www.naamnw.org

What is this youth art project?
While our area’s public elementary school has been named for Thurgood Marshall since 1996, members of the community felt we could do more to honor his legacy. With the help of Coyote Central’s Hit the Streets youth arts program, a Dept. of Neighborhoods grant and your ideas, 24 neighborhood youth will work with professional artists this summer to create an art installation on MLK Jr. Way.

Why Thurgood Marshall?
As a lawyer, Thurgood Marshall successfully fought school segregation in the 1954 Supreme Court case Brown v. Board of Education, a major turning point for the civil rights movement. In 1967 he became the first African-American appointed to the Supreme Court, working to uphold the constitutional rights of all people for 24 years. He died in 1993.

Celebrate and share your ideas about Thurgood Marshall’s legacy.

Are you a public artist interested in leading youth in this project? A Call for Artists will be posted at www.coyotecentral.org on Feb. 1, 2015. Other questions? Email us at FHSMLK@gmail.com.

This project is being coordinated by Friends of Hit the Streets on MLK, and is funded in part by a Small and Simple Project Grant from the City of Seattle Neighborhood Matching Fund.
You are invited to
Thurgood Marshall Elementary School’s
Multicultural Celebration and Potluck

Friday, Feb. 13, 2015
5:30-7:30 pm • Cafeteria
With guest performances and multicultural crafts
Please bring and share a food item
that is culturally significant to your family!

Come Enjoy

eat / food