

# PUP PRESS



Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

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Principal  
Katie May

## Notes For a Successful Start

I would like to welcome you and your child back to school for the 2015-16 school year at Thurgood Marshall. I'm excited to be entering my second year as TM's principal, my fifth year as a principal and my 21st in education! It was wonderful to see so many of you at our annual Ice Cream Social last Tuesday. After a quiet summer of planning, it is fun to see the school come alive with the energy that children bring.

First Day Packets: Thank you PTA Volunteers for helping to prepare the first-day paperwork, which went home today. Please make sure to return your child's lunch form immediately to avoid an interruption in lunch service. It is extremely helpful to us if you can return the rest of the forms to the school office by **Monday, Sept. 21**.

Administration: Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie is our new Assistant Principal. I have enjoyed working closely and planning with her this summer, and she is already making herself invaluable. This is how we have divided our responsibilities: Sabrina will be supervising grades 2, 4 and 5. I will be in charge of kindergarten and grades 1 and 3. We will each be handling discipline, questions, IEP Meetings, etc. for our respective grades. If you have a question about something happening in a classroom, please be sure to see your child's teacher first. Your child's teacher wants to support your child and work with you to create a wonderful school experience for your child. If you still have questions after you talk to your child's teacher, please be in touch with Sabrina or me.

New Staff: Please join me in welcoming the following new staff to our school:

Kindergarten: Mrs. Mona Tu and Ms. Nicki Kent

2nd grade HCC (with Ms. Huss): Mrs. Toni Willis

Resource Room Teacher: Ms. Jennifer Ward

Instructional Assistants: Aidan McIlhenney (Resource), Caritha Blair (room 106) and Vivian Clark (room 107)

Literacy Tutors: Deron Bryant, Katie Egolf, Noelle Mathias and Beth Watson

Occupational Therapist: Kate Holford

Principal Intern: Laurie Kazanjian will be with us for the year as she learns the skills of a school principal. Laurie has been a teacher and has coached teachers in the district for a number of years. We are lucky to have her with us this year.

We are still in the process of hiring for one last position – a 3rd and 4th grade class-size reduction position. We are grateful to Carole Curtis for beginning the year as our guest teacher. Mrs. Curtis is very familiar with the Thurgood Marshall Community!

Best wishes for a great start!

Katie



Sabrina  
Kovacs-Storlie

## EVENT CALENDAR

**Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1:40 p.m.**  
Two-hour early dismissal

**Friday, Sept. 25, 8:15 a.m.**  
Coffee and tour for new families

## Grade Level Potlucks

Please bring a dish to share based on your child's last name. The PTA will provide water, plates and cutlery.

A-M Main Dish

N-R Side or Salad

S-Z Dessert

5:30-7 p.m. in cafeteria

**Monday, Sept. 21 – Grade 3**

**Thursday, Sept. 24 – Grade 2**

**Monday, Sept. 28 – Grades K & 1**

**Tuesday, Sept. 29 – Grade 5**

**Wednesday, Sept. 30 – Grade 4**

If you are interested in helping set up or clean up, contact Brenda Fackler, Events Chair, at [belskifackler@gmail.com](mailto:belskifackler@gmail.com)

## Coffee with Principal May

**Thursday, Oct. 1, 9:15-10 a.m.**

The principal answers your questions and talks about a book, "Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People."

See updates and subscribe to the event calendar at [TMLink.org](http://TMLink.org)

## School Contacts and Reminders

Start Time: The first bell rings at 9:25 and school starts at 9:30.

End Time: School ends at 3:40.

School phone number: 206-252-2800

For school information, visit:

<http://marshalles.seattleschools.org> or the PTA website at:

<http://tmlink.org/>.

Stay in the loop on social media: Like Thurgood Marshall Elementary on Facebook and join the Thurgood Marshall Parents Group on Facebook.

This newsletter normally goes home weekly on Thursdays, and is also sent via e-mail.

For PTA information, visit [tmlink.org](http://tmlink.org) or e-mail [pta@tmlink.org](mailto:pta@tmlink.org)

## Enrichment Registration Deadline Extended

Catalogs for a variety of before-and after-school enrichment programs sponsored by the PTA will go home today in the PTA Welcome Packet.

Registration forms for the Fall Session are due **Friday, Sept. 25**, and classes begin the week of Oct. 5. Some classes fill up early. For prompt registration, students can place their form and payment directly in the registration box on the front counter of the Thurgood Marshall front office. Questions? Please contact Enrichment Coordinator Percy Allen at [percyaallen2@gmail.com](mailto:percyaallen2@gmail.com)

## Gardening Added to Lineup

Want to learn about nature while having fun in the garden? Join the Thurgood Marshall After-School Enrichment Garden Club! Engage all your senses while we learn and practice important garden activities. We will dig in the dirt, grow and taste edible plants, sing songs, hunt for helpful garden creatures, and make art as we learn about ecological connections and build cooperation skills.

Class will be held in the TM Learning Garden (when it is rainy, we will meet inside). Gloves and tools will be provided. Just bring a coat and permission to get a little dirty.

Instructors: Nicole Olszewski from Seattle Tilth has 9 years of experience teaching children in the garden and teaches a garden class regularly at the Thurgood Marshall YMCA. Nicole will work side-by-side with a Seattle Tilth children's educator.

Wednesdays, 3:50 to 4:50 pm. (10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 11/4 and 11/18. No class on 10/28 (early dismissal day) and 11/11 (no school - Veterans Day).

Cost - \$40.

Sign up using the regular Enrichment Program form, by the strike-adjusted later deadline of Friday, Sept. 25.

Limited to 12 kids in grades K-5

Contact Nicole at 206-947-6562 or [23nicoleo@gmail.com](mailto:23nicoleo@gmail.com).

## Karate Class Begins 9/28, Requires Online Signup

Note the following changes to the catalog's info about Karate: The start has been delayed to 9/28; registration for students is required by 9/25 at the vendor's website:

<http://www.feministkarateunion.org/PreRegistrationElements.htm>.

Also, that website will provide additional required forms.

Payment must be brought to first class. (See catalog for details; contact instructor Joanne Factor at [jifactor@FeministKarateUnion.org](mailto:jifactor@FeministKarateUnion.org) or 206-920-8882.)

## VOLUNTEER NEEDS: PIANO ACCOMPANIST, HEALTH SCREENING HELPERS

Music teacher Kelsey French needs a piano accompanist Tuesdays, 8:10-9:10 a.m. for 1st - 3rd grade choir and Thursdays, 8:10-9:10 a.m. for 4th,5th grade choir. Contact Kelsey French: [KLFrench@seattleschools.org](mailto:KLFrench@seattleschools.org)

Nurse Molly Chin needs two all-day volunteers Oct. 7 and 8 to help with vision and hearing screenings.

To sign up or check out other volunteer opportunities, please visit the [tmlink.org](http://tmlink.org) volunteering page at <http://tmlink.org/info/volunteering/>



## Keep kids safe during drop-off, pick-up

Traffic flow at the beginning and end of the school day will take a little longer as we all adjust to the drop-off and pick-up routine.

Please take a deep breath and listen to the instructions from our staff posted at the front of the school. It is easiest and safest for our children if we all treat South Irving Street as one way, moving from west to east.

If you are dropping your child off in the morning, it is important that you either park and walk your child to the playground (which is open beginning at 9:10), or drop them in the designated zone in front of the YMCA building. Please pull up as far as you can in the drop-off zone so the cars behind you can also pull in off the street.

If you are walking, please use the crosswalks marked for this purpose. We want your child to arrive safely at our school!

## New Parent Coffee and Tour

All new families are welcome to join us in the cafeteria from 8:15-9:15 Friday, Sept. 25 for coffee.

The event will include an introduction from Principal May and an "insider tour" to learn the ins and outs of Thurgood Marshall. You'll visit different parts of the school such as the workroom, office, and lunchroom and have time to ask questions.

This is a different tour from the one you might have taken as a prospective parent. Please join us!