Social Studies update

We often hear parents ask about what students are working on in Social Studies classes. To that end, we are trying to get more regular updates out to you. Here’s what’s happening at each level right now:

1st grade: We recently returned to our “Problems in the Park” unit in our Social Studies groups. When we left off before the snow and mid-winter break, we had collected ideas about what kind of space we might need for a park and imagined what might already be in a suitable vacant lot. Since then we have created a paper mural (or 3D) version of this lot complete with some, or all, of the following: a junk car, an old ladder, old garbage cans, a creek, and small pond, a tent, a dirt path, some grass, some trees, a squirrel, a cat and some bordering trees, houses, and roads. Like they did in our unit on the Maasai, the kids have dressed and equipped paper figures, this time as park planners/workers rather than photographers. Our next task is to figure out what in the vacant lot stays, what needs to go, and what needs to be added to turn it into a park.

2nd grade: The 2nd grade Social Studies classes are learning about community this year. We are continuing with the “Main Street” goods and services unit. Through role play, students will experience the importance of working together to form a healthy and functioning community. Since mid-winter break, the students have resumed constructing their community map and will begin to complete job applications for the jobs in the community. All 2nd grade classes will visit the Pike Place Market community on a special-behind-the-scenes field trip. We were visited by Scott Davies, the education outreach program manager from Pike Place Market to learn the history of the Market and prepare for our field trip. Students will connect their learning and understanding of how communities function to the real world in this immersive and engaging experience.

3rd grade: The 3rd grade classes are just starting our final unit on the Northwest Coast Native Americans. This is a Storypath unit in which students learn about the people of the Northwest Coast through story. We first start with dis-

Your PTA funds Taproot Theater Performances focusing on social emotional development

Your PTA pays for us to have Taproot Theater perform at an assembly every year. Taproot Theater has educational goals that align with what we are teaching students through our Second Step Social Emotional Curriculum. The goals for the “Super School” performance that our students saw this fall included recognizing, refusing, and reporting bullying; empathizing with others; and managing emotions. Of course, receiving this content through a highly engaging performance sticks with some students in a way that a classroom lesson does not.

“This fall when Taproot Theater performed, I looked over at a group of our highly distractible kindergartners and saw complete focus and attention as our youngest learners watched the performance. Having the opportunity to learn in this way would not be possible without the generous support of your PTA,” says Katie May.

Please consider donating this month to support our fundraising efforts. Check your mail for a green card mailed home last week.

Event Calendar

Thu., Apr. 4, 6-7:30 p.m., Community Night (formerly Multicultural Night), TM Cafeteria, volunteers needed for clean up, see page 2.

April 8-12, Spring Break, No School

More calendar dates online: http://tmlink.org/newsandevents/calendar/cat_ids~17/ Got news? Contact the Editor, Tracy Bonaccorso: tracybonaccorso31@gmail.com.

Tutu’s Pantry

Tutu’s Pantry serves 20-30 TM families weekly with a supply of free weekend food. If your family would like to benefit, please fill out the form available in the office or www.tmlink.org and return to your child’s teacher or the office. Donation bins are in the front hall. More info: http://tmlink.org/info/tutus-pantry-food-bank/.

Bullpup Briefs

2018-19 Family Directory

The 2018-19 Family Directory was emailed to families earlier this week. Sorry for the delay. In our attempt to include more students, we utilized the SPS Public Records Request to obtain directory information.

Working with the District had benefits and drawbacks, one drawback being the District only provided one point of contact. On the plus side, almost all students are listed! Next year we plan to get complete contact information from the District and have it to you in earlier in printed form.

Paper copies will also be available in the front office next week.

Thanks for your patience. This was a learning process for our team and should be much smoother in the future.

That being said, if you’re Excel and Word savvy and have a few hours in early November to help with next year’s directory, please reach out to our wonderful volunteer coordinator, Chantel, at volunteering@tmlink.org.

Note: Correction to 2018-19 Family Directory: Equity Action Leadership Team members were incorrectly listed on page 3 of the directory. Current leadership members are Andrea Fontana, Venessa Goldberg, Angie Jenkins, Casey Sommers, Zakiya Tyson, and Katie May.
Katie May continued from page 1.

Katie is discussing and creating the setting as our backdrop. Next, students will be learning about and creating miniature versions of longhouses and Northwest-style art. They will learn about the experiences of the people through scenarios and decision-making that we work through as a class. From this, students begin to develop an understanding of the culture and people of the Northwest as well as their encounters with traders and settlers.

**4th grade:** Students in 4th grade Social Studies have been learning about explorers and fur traders. Students are discovering how early exploration, encounter and trade helped shape our history from the first explorer who came to the Northwest in 1542 to the Lewis and Clark Expedition from 1804-1806. These studies include the contributions made by Sacagawea as a guide and interpreter for Lewis and Clark. Next, students will be taking a hands-on approach while learning about The Oregon Trail. Students will create murals representing the different land features along the trail, form families and become a character within the family. Characters will confront problems typical of those faced by the people of that time and place.

**5th grade:** Energy is high in the 5th grade classrooms as students have been engaged in a simulation where they have been experiencing and learning about the lives of the Jamestown colonists and the Powhatan people who had thriving communities established around waterways in the Chesapeake Bay region. They have just begun to learn about the intersection of these two people groups and the ensuing clash and ultimate decimation of one group by another.

Katie

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**TM 4-6 Grade Chess Team wins second at Evergreen Knightmares’ Gauntlet!**

A small but mighty showing of Thurgood Marshall students won second place at the Knightmares’ Gauntlet Tournament on Saturday, March 23.

We’ve had a great year of chess at TM and look forward to more hard work next year. If you have a chess player, please consider signing them up for our 5th grade tournament. If you’re interested in the 6th grade tournament, we’ll discuss that later in the year.

**Elliot Kasha**, a TM alum and current 6th grade student at Washington Middle School, won 4 of 5 games, placing 6th place overall in the 4th-6th grade section. **Walter Barr**, 5th grader, won 3.5 games, placing 10th place overall. **Reece Cole** placed in 5th grade with 3 points, and **Oliver Tam**, 4th grader, won two games. Each team member contributed crucial wins to win second place against teams with many more competitors. **Frederick Barr**, 3rd grader, who was the only TM student in the 1st through 3rd section, won 3 of 5 games.

**Interested?**

Email Katherine Barr at katherine.barr@gmail.com if you have any questions about the chess team this year – or next – at TM!

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**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**NEEDED FOR THU., APR. 4, COMMUNITY NIGHT:** Sign up to volunteer as little as 30 minutes to clean up afterward, go to http://tmlink.org/info/volunteering/ for more information and to sign up.

**MIX IT UP!** We are ready to Mix-it-Up again and need a volunteer(s) to help coordinate our next lunch. 1-2 lead volunteer(s) needed to coordinate a date with Ms. May and Ms. Matsui and coordinate communication about the event/potential activities to teachers, students and parents. Resources for activities and communication are available. Anticipated time commitment 1-2 hours, can be done outside of school hours. If interested or have questions, contact volunteering@tmlink.org.

**IT’S BINGO NIGHT!** Apr. 26, 6:30-8 p.m. We need volunteers for this super popular event to help cover a greeting table, food stations, the popcorn machine, and of course, setting up and breaking everything down. http://tinyurl.com/tmbingo19

**ATTN. 4TH GRADE PARENTS! JOIN THE 5TH GRADE PROMOTION COMMITTEE!** 5th Grade Promotion is Tue., Jun. 12, 5:30-7:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet other 4th grade parents, get to know the 5th grade teaching team and do something wonderful for the class leaving Thurgood Marshall. **We need volunteers:** to work with 5th grade teachers on the planning team, set up the sound system; decorate; take photos; procure treats and drinks; help print and distribute certificates and programs; serve as event hosts. If you would like to help out in any way, large or small, please email volunteering@tmlink.org.

**MORE POSITION POSTINGS FOR 2019/20 ARE COMING SOON!** Stay tuned in future issues of Pup Press and the TM Parent Facebook Group for more job descriptions!

**All volunteer opportunities:** http://tmlink.org/info/volunteering/

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**BULLPUP BRIEFS**

**UPCOMING WORKSHOP:** THRU SOUND DISCIPLINE

Teaching Parenting the Positive Discipline Way, Seattle – Jul. 8, 9 and 10
Mon. evening class, Jul. 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Tue. workshop, Jul. 9, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wed. workshop, Jul 10, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Get location, more information and register here. Registration deadline: July 1.
Community Night
Join the Thurgood Marshall community for a wonderful night of sharing, art and growing together!

6-6:45pm: Visit your students' classrooms

6:30-7:15pm: Community Potluck! Bring food that is special to your family. Enjoy delicious food and good conversation!

To celebrate and strengthen our community, our school is reading the book “Ishi: Simple Advice from a Solid Friend” by Akiko Yabuki. This book is about an optimistic little rock who reminds readers to choose and share happiness! The book features a simple rock character with valuable lessons in compassion for the self and for others. This beautiful book guided our work and theme for this year’s Community Night!!

April 4th
6pm-7:30pm
Dear Thurgood Marshall Family,

Meet Will.

Will is a third grader in Ms. Jensen’s class who likes science experiments, swimming and especially reading. If left to his own devices, Calvin and Hobbes would be the only books Will would choose. But, our full-time librarian, Mr. Zetterberg, has introduced Will to new books and genres he would have never uncovered.

The PTA funds Mr. Zetterberg’s salary so your students have a full-time librarian.

Mr Zetterberg also hosts Makerspace four days a week during recess. “Mr. Zetterberg sets up stuff we can use to be creative if we don’t feel like going to recess,” says Will. He provides a variety of engineering materials from cardboard and paper to LEGO’s and Snap Circuits. Students work collaboratively to make whatever their imaginations come up with. “Sometimes I introduce a challenge for students, like building bridges across tables or adding motors to their creations. It’s been a lot of fun,” says Mr. Zetterberg.

And, if leading the library and Makerspace isn’t enough, Mr. Zetterberg finishes his Thursdays by hosting the Board Games Enrichment Club. Along with funding Mr. Zetterberg’s salary, your PTA donation also supports:

- Social-emotional growth and development from Ms. Melissa Matsui. Funded 100%
- Dedicated recess aide and classroom tutors
- Special performances at school assemblies
- Grants for classroom supplies and libraries, curricular needs and school-wide projects

We are just about half-way to our $160,000 annual goal. Due to budget cuts, the PTA will need to spend $350 per student next school year to fulfill our school needs. With your donation, we can ensure PTA-funded programs continue to support your students and teachers.

There are many easy ways to support Thurgood Marshall.

- Complete the enclosed green card and return to your child's teacher or drop in the mail
- Give by credit card at http://www.tmlink.org (note 2.2% processing fee)
- Check your employer for employee matching programs making your gift go farther
- NEW – we are now able to accept gifts of stock! Contact giving@tmlink.org for details
- Call your legislator and ask them to fund education so we don’t have to: 1-800-562-6000

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact us at giving@tmlink.org or 206-250-5574.

Jennifer Lan and Stacey Kryman
Thurgood Marshall, PTA Fundraising Co-Chairs