

# Thorndyke Happenings

Volume 2, Issue 5

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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Greetings Thorndyke Families and Community!

Welcome back to school after what was hopefully an exciting and memorable winter break! It's 2018 and we hope you're as excited about the new year as we are. Do you have any goals you're hoping to accomplish this year? We encourage you to take some time this month and have conversations with your children about goal setting. If you've established personal goals, share those with your children. Let them know why you've set the goals you've set, why they're important, and what you need to accomplish them. Your children are often asked to set goals at school. The goals they set will become even more relevant and meaningful if they can see how goal setting is something you do as well.

As we have shared previously, we are committed to improving attendance, behavior, and course performance at Thorndyke. We are currently trending to improve our average daily attendance rate (ADA) from 94% last year to over 96%. This is great news, and we thank you for making sure your children attend school consistently. Be sure you're only keeping your children home from school if they are seriously ill. Also, consider scheduling doctor and dentist appointments over breaks or before/after school. We're targeting a 97% ADA this year, so let's keep up the great work. Regarding behavior at Thorndyke, we are seeing some areas of improvement. For example, the number of referrals for defiance, disrespect, and disruptive conduct have decreased this year. However, we have seen an increase in referrals for physical contact - mainly pushing and shoving. Please encourage your children to remember the Thunderbird Three - Be Safe, Responsible, and Respectful. We solve problems without getting physical. Throughout January all students will take the second session of the i-Ready Reading/Writing and Math Assessments. The results from this district assessment will provide us with data to make informed decisions about learning and teaching at Thorndyke. Meanwhile, be sure to ask your child when he/she will take the assessments, and afterwards, be sure to ask how it went. We look forward to sharing school-wide course performance results with you at the beginning of February.

We wish you all the best in 2018! As we consistently write, please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions, critiques, or compliments! Have a great month.

Sincerely,

Aaron Draganov  
Principal

Javier Roman  
Assistant Principal

## NEWS FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We are entering into a new year and our fifth month of school and it is very exciting! In PE, your child/children have been learning many different and fun ways to keep their bodies active and healthy. One way to keep your bodies healthy is to be active for 60 minutes every day; this is something that you all can do at home too during the weekends. In order to be safe while being active, make sure that your child is wearing appropriate shoes for any physical activity; this includes wearing appropriate shoes to school for days that they have PE. With the colder and wetter weather upon us, we have been noticing many students wearing boots that have a heel; this can cause students to slip or trip while being physically active. For their safety, please make sure that they are coming to school with a sneaker style shoe on days that they have PE; any shoe that is fully enclosed with a flat bottom, no boots or sandals. Our number one priority at Thorndyke is to keep all students safe and happy. Thank you for helping your child stay active and safe!

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following “Students of the Month” for the virtue of **DILIGENCE**: Mya Hernandez, Keer Keer, Rayan Abdulgani, Micah Tapic, Aaron Ortiz Vargas, Jabril Ahmed, Kaitlyn Tran, Yeimi (Gaby) Angulo-Higuera, Lisandro Ruiz Gonzalez, Camila Silva-Hernandez, Damelah Bryant, Channisha Ken, Elijah Valentine, Daniel Farias, Celeste Sanchez Gill, Jonathan Guzman Reyna, Huyen Lam, Arianna Teferi, Abdiwahid Ahmed, Victoria Veth, Brian Malachi, Samantha Rodriguez, Stephanie Arce Acosta, Yamilet Corro Rivera, Ranjita Biswa, Eimy Angulo Higuera, Jaksen Carder.

## BEAT THE BELL

“Beat the Bell” is our incentive program designed to encourage students to be on time to school. Those students who are on time to school could have their class recognized at our monthly assembly. Our **school begins at 9:00 a.m.** each morning. **BE ON TIME** and your class could potentially be recognized for this honor. Congratulations to **Ms. Rich’s 2nd grade** class and **Ms. McClelland’s 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class** for earning the honor of “Beating the Bell” for the month of December.

## IMPORTANT: PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF

This is a reminder that when you bring students to school in the morning or come to pick them up in the afternoon, ***THERE IS NO PARKING IN THE DROP-OFF LOOP!*** We have a number of parents who leave their cars in the loop, and this causes frustration for others, and also creates a safety issue with cars needing to back-up and squeeze around parked cars. ***DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR UN-ATTENDED!***



## THORNDYKE PTA

Please join us Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 for our PTA Meeting.

### FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

A way you can support the PTA while shopping from the comfort of your own home. We have an account with **Amazon Smile** and we get 0.5% of all money spent.

Below you will find the link to support the PTA. You will need to click this link or sign into Amazon Smile every time you make a purchase. You can still use your account that you have set up with them.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-3194527>

If you haven't joined the PTA yet, please be sure to send in your \$10 to join. For more information contact [ThorndykePTA@gmail.com](mailto:ThorndykePTA@gmail.com).



### Did You Know.....

- ❖ Students should arrive at school **no earlier than 8:30 a.m.** and depart **no later than 3:30 p.m.** unless they are enrolled in a before/after school activity.
- ❖ You can call in an absence for your student @ 206-901-7603 at **any** time, 24 hours a day. Please include the name of your student, the reason for the absence and a phone number where you may be reached if there is a question.
- ❖ For the safety of our students and staff, please enter our school only by the main entry door. Visitors **MUST** sign in/out and wear a visitor pass.
- ❖ You can check your student's meal account balance by calling 206-901-8068. Keeping your child's account current is very much appreciated.
- ❖ If you wish to volunteer, either at school or on field trips, you **MUST** complete a volunteer application.
- ❖ You can find out about school activities online at [www.tukwila.wednet.edu](http://www.tukwila.wednet.edu)
- ❖ Our lost and found is located at the rear of the main lobby. Please check for lost items as this collection piles up quickly.
- ❖ Our school collects Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup labels. They can be deposited in the marked container in the office.

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

Jan 2 - Return from Break, School begins at 8:55

Jan 10 – Early Release at 12:45 p.m.

Jan 15 – **NO SCHOOL** – Dr. Martin Luther King’s Jr. Birthday Observed

Jan 18 – PTA Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

Jan 22 – Living Voices Live Play

Jan 26 – Student of the Month Assembly, 9:10 a.m.

Feb 2 - **NO SCHOOL** – Teacher Workshop Day

Feb 8 - Class Picture Day

## THORNDYKE IS A TITLE 1 SCHOOL

Thorndyke Elementary School receives federal money to fund a School-wide Title 1 program. Title 1 programs are intended to help ensure that all children have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and assessments. The program focuses on promoting reform in high-poverty schools (those with 40% or more students from low-income families) and ensures student access to scientifically-based instructional strategies and challenging academic content. Thorndyke uses most of Title 1 funds to pay for important staff members, including highly qualified Instructional Assistants and our Literacy and Math Coaches. Funds are also reserved for professional development for teachers that is designed to raise the achievement of low-achieving students by improving instruction throughout the entire school. If you have any questions about our Title 1 programs, please feel free to speak with Mr. Draganov @ 206-901-7605.

The Tukwila School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, color, national origin, or disability. This holds true for all district students, employees, and district employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district’s title IX/RCW 28A.640 officer and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator located at 4640 S 144<sup>th</sup> Street, WA 98168: T.C. Wallace, Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer (206.901.8005) and Gayle Wilson, Section 504/ADA Coordinator (206.901.8035)

**Thorndyke Elementary is a Schoolwide Title I School**

