

Thorndyke Happenings

Volume 2, Issue 7

March 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings Thorndyke Families and Community!

We hope you are as excited for spring as we are! With the season brings many fun and engaging events for Thorndyke students, staff, and families. To start the month of March, we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday at school by conducting a classroom door decorating contest. Students and teachers will construct a door design and enter a friendly school-wide competition. Please stop in and see all the creativity in action. Mark your calendars for parent/teacher conferences on Wednesday, March 14th. Teachers will invite parents to conferences based on need. However, if you do not receive an invite and would like to meet, please connect with your child's teacher and set up a conference. Here are a few high yield questions you can ask at the conference:

- Tell me about my child's strengths at school.
- What are two things my child can do to improve in the following areas: math, reading, writing, science, etc?
- Tell me how my child is doing socially. How does he/she interact with peers and adults at school?
- What are three things I can do at home to support the work you're doing with my child at school?

If you have not joined our school PTA, please do so! Our next family engagement event will be held on Friday, March 16th from 5 to 7:30 at Thorndyke. PTA will show a movie in the music room, sell concessions in the cafeteria, host games in the cafeteria, and offer open court basketball in the gym.

As we shared in the past, at Thorndyke we are working hard to improve in the ABC's (attendance, behavior, and course performance). With the flu bug impacting attendance, we did not see the results we would like to have seen. However, we did notice that more and more parents are being mindful of making dentist and doctor appointments before/after school and over breaks. Additionally, remember that students are tardy starting at 9am sharp. Please make sure they arrive at school between 8:30 and 8:50, unless they arrive at 8am for Lexia and ST Math Lab. Regarding behavior, we are still working with students to reduce our highest behavior problem -- physical contact. Help by having conversations with your children about keeping hands and feet to self. If they do have a problem with another student, instruct them to report it to an adult. Let's work together to keep Thorndyke a safe place to learn for everyone. Though we saw student growth across all grade levels on our last i-Ready district assessment, we have a lot of work to do to get all students to proficiency. Help at home by making sure your children read for at least 20 minutes each evening. Take trips to the library and find new and exciting books to read. Improve math skills by practicing math facts with flashcards. We want students in the primary grades to add and subtract basic facts automatically; and we want students in the intermediate grades to multiply and divide basic facts in their head.

We view ourselves as partners in your children's education. If there is ever anything we need to know or do to improve learning or the school environment, please connect with us. As always, we welcome your questions, critique, or compliments -- have a wonderful March!

Aaron Draganov
Principal

Javier Roman
Assistant Principal

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following “Students of the Month” for the virtue of **SELF DISCIPLINE**: Talia Stroming, Abdullah Almasalmah, Tinsaeh Araya, Naimo Ahmed, Kasen Lee, December Moo, Bruno Tamayo, Nedia Ryder, Prashana Bista, Giann Rabena, Camila Silva Hernandez, Elishah Jones, Leyna Nguyen, Saniya Sayaseng, Celeste Sanchez Gil, Monroe Lei, Jayce Vann Maglaya, R’Meeko Toms, Xayat Cabdisalan, Khadejah Safi, Ilhan Ibrahim, Daevier Hickerson, Yeroosatti Baissa, Sheikhnur Osman, Hayley Commodore, Khadiga Osman, Elijah Valentine.

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 **Mrs. Johnson’s 2nd grade** class and **Mrs. McClelland’s 3rd grade** class for earning the honor of “Beating the Bell” for the month of February.

READ ACROSS AMERICA

Read Across America Day is an annual reading motivation and awareness program where thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers celebrate reading on Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2nd. Thorndyke will be participating with a book themed classroom door decorating contest and a Stop, Drop, and Read moment along with reading activities in library and classrooms.



ALL SCHOOL PLAY

The Advanced Theatre students at Foster High School are presenting a children’s play, “Where the Sidewalk Ends” to the three elementary schools in Tukwila. The **entire Thorndyke students and staff** will be bussed to Foster on Tuesday, March 27th at 12:45 to 2:30 p.m. If you prefer not to allow your child to attend this activity, a note is required, signed by a parent/guardian

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, March 15th at 4:30** for our PTA Meeting.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

On Friday **March 16th**, the PTA will be hosting Family Fun Night. There will be food, games and a movie. The gym will be open for your students to play basketball. Hope to see you there!

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.

YEARBOOK

Don't miss out!! Yearbooks are a great way to remember your classmates and keep traditions alive at Thorndyke. Order your 2017-18 Yearbook today. Order forms are available in the office. Please return your order form to the main office with \$20 cash or check made payable to THORNDYKE PTA. Please order your yearbook by April 27th.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY.

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.

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
- ❖ 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

Mar 6 – Girls on the Run Begins

Mar 8 – Camp Parent Meeting at Showalter, 6:00 p.m..

Mar 9 – Kindergarten Field Trip to Seattle Aquarium

Mar 14 – **EARLY RELEASE @ 12:45 p.m.**

Mar 14 – Kindergarten Registration, 2-7 p.m. @ Showalter Middle School

Mar 15 – PTA Meeting, 4:30 p.m..

Mar 16 – PTA Family Fun Night, 5-7:30 p.m.

Mar 27 – N.O.I.S.E. Assembly, 9:15 a.m.

Mar 27 – All School attends play at Foster High School, 1:00 p.m.

Mar 30 – Student of the Month Assembly, 9:10 a.m. – BEACH DAY

Mar 30 – 2nd Trimester Ends

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 144th Street, WA 98168: T.C. Wallace, Title IX/RCW28A.640 Officer (206.901.8005) and, Section 504/ADA Coordinator (206.901.8035) **Thorndyke Elementary is a Schoolwide Title I School**

