

# THE HERON HERALD



A Publication of Thurston Elementary School PTO

April 24, 2009

## **Important Dates**

### **Sat., Apr. 25**

Oak Tree Planting with the  
TNCC – 9:00am- Noon

### **Tues., Apr. 28**

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Performance 6:30pm  
in the MPR

### **Thurs., Apr. 30**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Performance 6:30pm  
in the MPR

### **Tues., May 5**

Parent Teacher Organization  
Meeting 7:00-8:00pm  
childcare available

### **Sat., May 9**

Thurston Rain Garden Project  
9:00am-?

### **Fri., May 22**

Field Day

## **Newsletter Staff**

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## **Principal's Corner**

Dear Thurston Families,

It seems like the time just disappears. Can you believe that there are only seven (7) weeks of school left in this school year? We have lots to complete by then!

Teachers will be focused on the completion of the grade level curriculum and preparing students for the upcoming year; I will be pressed to complete the remaining 3 fire drills and 2 crisis drills; the PTO will be completing their final fundraisers and year end programs; and the students will just want to play in the *warm spring sunshine!*

A special thank you to parents for completing and returning the student placement forms in a timely manner. Student/Teacher assignments will be given in late August.

2009-2010 School Year Staff Changes – Barb Kilbourn, teacher for the Kindergarten/EDO, has announced her retirement. During the 8 years I have been at Thurston, Barb has taught 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 1<sup>st</sup> grade and the K/EDO. She has served on many committees and has been a substitute lead teacher in my absence. Her presence here will be missed. Following are teacher placements for the 2009-10 school year:

Kindergarten – Julia Kerwin & Heather Moon

Kindergarten/EDO – Jessica Anderson

1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Allie Dey, Christine Combi and Margaret Goodly

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – David Borgsdorf, Rebecca Lussier & Elnora Sipp

3<sup>rd</sup> – Peter Krebsbach, Sylvia Muglia & Julie Vanderhoff

4<sup>th</sup> – Deb Hetrick, John Leidy & Sherry Murphy

5<sup>th</sup> – Michael Johnson & Sherrie Pokela

ESL – Julie Lutz

Art – Amanda Wyse

Media/World Language – Terry Madden

Vocal Music – Yael Rothfeld

Physical Education – Paul Test

Instrumental Music – Bart Dunning and Carol Ober

Sincerely,

*Patricia A. Manley*

Principal

### **Music Notes**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade performance was cancelled due to the snow day and has been rescheduled to Tuesday, April 28 at 6:30pm in the MPR.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade performance will take place April 30 at 6:30pm in the MPR.

### **Art to Remember is Here!**

By Caroline Engelbert

If you ordered from Art to Remember, I'll be outside the office at the round table on Monday, April 27 from 3:30 til 4:15. If you can't make it Monday afternoon, and your order is NOT fragile, email me at engelbert1996@sbcglobal.net and I can send it home in your child's backpack. Other pickup times will be arranged if needed.

Thank you.

### **MR. TEST IS HAVING A FIELD DAY! (Not figuratively but literally)**

We want our children to learn about COOPERATION and TEAMWORK while having FUN, too. So-o-o, on Friday, May 22, from 12:30 PM to the end of the school day, Mr. Test is organizing a Field Day for kindergarten through fifth grade. Field Day will have 15 OUTDOOR games that will encourage kids to work with each other. And GUESS WHAT? We need parents. Lots of parents. FORTY to be exact!

We need station managers (parents who will direct each class for one of the games). We need parents who will help fill 450 water balloons WITHOUT destroying them in the process. If you can't be there, we could also use 8 buckets, 10 five-gallon drink jugs, and 4 wagons. (Can we borrow these items from you?) If time is really tight, we could even use a few dollar donations (to get stuff we need).

Please contact Sandy Daida – 761-8941 or e-mail sandy.daida@sbcglobal.net – and let her know how you can serve our kids. And as always, thank you Thurston parents for your support.

## **Join the Thurston Nature Center Committee (TNCC) for Tree Planting Saturday, April 25**

Please help us celebrate both Earth Day (April 22) and Arbor Day (April 24) by planting a tree! On Saturday, April 25, you can help neighborhood folks, Thurston School parents and other volunteers to plant 20 oak trees. These will be the beginnings of an oak savanna, a new feature of the Thurston Nature Center in northeast Ann Arbor. This ambitious project is partially supported by Grant CFG 09-43 from the Urban & Community Forestry Program, Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

We will start at 9:00 am and hope to finish by 12:00 noon. The weather forecast is sunny with a possible high of 79°. The one-acre site is in the northeastern most corner of the Thurston School playground, just south of where Yorktown dead-ends and southwest of the Orchard Hills Athletic Club.

The holes will all be pre-dug by AAPS grounds crew – so that makes the work easier for us! We'd also appreciate it if some photographers will record this glad occasion with good (reasonably high resolution) photographs.

Dress in clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Since the site has been very wet lately, boots or other waterproof footwear is strongly recommended. Bring work gloves or gardening gloves if you have them. Here is a list of tools that we will need for the day. For some items, just one will be fine, but it will be helpful, for example, if nearly everyone has a shovel. Be sure to either mark or label your tools or watch out for look-alikes!

### **What to bring:**

Boots (the site has been very wet lately)  
Scoop Shovel for mulch  
Wire cutters shouldn't be needed  
Work or Garden Gloves  
Hat and Sunscreen

Round point shovels  
Metal Rake  
Scissors or pocketknife for cutting twine  
Wheel Barrow  
Buckets for water

TNCC will provide approximately one bottle of water per adult volunteer. Any other refreshment donations would be welcome! Questions or concerns: Neal Foster at 663-0756 or Mike Conboy at 665-4027.