

THE HERON HERALD



A PUBLICATION OF THURSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

JANUARY 16, 2009

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon., Jan. 19

No School – MLK Day
Observed

Thurs., Jan. 22

SIT Meeting 4:00pm

Sat., Jan. 24

Thurston Chess Tournament
www.thurstonchess.com

Thurs., Jan. 29

Talent Show

Tues., Feb. 3

PTO Meeting 7:00pm

Fri., Feb. 6

Used Book Sale & Pizza Sale

Thurs., Feb. 12

Science Fair

Thurs., Mar. 5

Kindergarten Round-Up
6:30pm

President

Anne Darnell, 913-0657
annedarnell@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor

Nikki Bonevich, 327-9790
nikki@bonevich.com

Website Content Editor

Anne Karabakal, 669-2084
annekarabakal@comcast.net

Principal's Corner

The Thurston Talent Show, "A Galaxy of Stars" will be held on the evening of January 29 for parents and will be performed for the student body on Friday morning, January 30. I still need parents to help Mrs. Wyse with stage decorations and to assist me the evening of the show. Please call the office if you are available.

Rehearsal Dates/Times: Thursday, January 22, 4-6 pm MPR
Friday, January 23, 4-5 pm MPR
Tuesday, January 27, Dress Rehearsal 4-6 pm MPR

Parking Lot Traffic – We are once again experiencing parents leaving their cars or sitting and blocking traffic. Buses are often late and need to get in to drop off students. Cars should be continuously moving.

January 20 Presidential Inauguration - Teachers are planning a variety of activities throughout the day. If you have questions about their plan, please contact them.

Have you checked the lost and found lately? If your child's closet seems empty, you may find the missing items here at Thurston.

Patricia A. Manley

**SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, JANUARY 19 IN OBSERVANCE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

MLK Children & Youth Program

January 19, 2009 - 8:30am 3:00pm



A day filled with creativity, dialogue, & entertainment for students in grades K-12

Detailed information and Online Pre-Registration at:
www.umich.edu/~tauep/MLKDay.html
U of M Campus Modern Languages
Building (MLB), 812 E. Washington

Please Recycle

WANTED: Thurston chess players!

By Nejat Karabakal

There is still space for the upcoming Thurston Chess Tournament on Saturday, January 24th. We are having a shortage of Thurston chess players this year. If you are a chess player, casual or serious, come and join your friends for a day of chess playing and fun. We have a section for you no matter what chess skills you have.



If you have a scheduling conflict and you know you will miss a round or two, remember that you can ask for a half-point bye for each round. Just let us know in advance. A half-point bye awards a player the same score as would a draw.

For more information and the registration form, as well as the Thurston Chess t-shirt order form, please visit www.ThurstonChess.com. Thurston office also has copies of the registration form.

Thanks and we hope to see you at the tournament!

Keep Gathering Those Books

By Yvonne Stevens

Please keep collecting your gently used books for all ages, audio books, puzzles, software and movies. Yes, we are interested in children's, families' as well as "grown-up" movies. The sale is only three weeks away.



A volunteer sign-up form went home in your child's backpack last week. Please take a moment, let us know when you would be able to donate your time and return the form to the office by Friday, January 23. If you would prefer an evening book sorting shift, please e-mail, call me or indicate it on your sign-up sheet and we will set one up. A Book Sale shift sign-up sheet is also posted in the hallway near the office for your convenience. During the book sale you will also be able to buy your child's Science Fair poster board.

Fundraising Updates

By Caroline Engelbert

Campbell's Labels for Education

We are signing up to participate in the Campbell's Labels for Education program to earn educational equipment for our school. Our starter kit won't be here for about a month, but please start saving your labels from items like Campbell's soup, Swanson broth, Pepperidge Farm and V8. There will be a collection box in the office in a few weeks.



Thurston Hoodies

The LAST shipment of Thurston hoodies is here! There are only a few in the following sizes: light blue youth medium, large and XL, light gray youth medium, large and XL, and dark heather adult large and XL. Youth hoodies are \$15, adult are \$18. If you wish to purchase one, please contact Caroline Engelbert at engelbert1996@sbcglobal.net, or 996-9183.

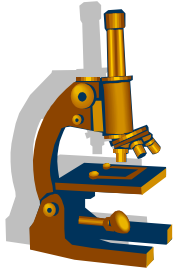
Healthy Snacking

Looking for new healthy snack ideas? Visits the following link from the Thurston PTO Website: <http://thurstonpto.awardspace.com/files/Healthy%20snacks.pdf>



Calling All Thurston Science Herons

By Su Pandian



The exciting 2009 Science Olympiad is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th and will be at Skyline High school. Thurston parents, if you or your child(ren) is interested in joining a team, please fill out the registration form and return it to the office by Friday, January 23. Team selections will be decided on a first come, first serve basis and there is absolutely no extension on the deadline. Please contact Su Pandian (supandian@gmail.com) or Michael Johnson (johnsomi@aaps.k12.mi.us) if you have any questions. We look forward to learning a great deal, having lots of fun and making Thurston proud!

Important Parking Lot Reminder!

By Julie Helmreich

When driving out of the Thurston parking lot, you must turn LEFT onto Prairie St., especially during the hours of 8:30 - 9:00 am and 3:30 - 4:00 pm. It is illegal to go straight onto Aurora St. or right onto Prairie St. This law is intended to minimize traffic in those crosswalks by the parking lot exit. The Ann Arbor police department has been ticketing those turning right or going straight when leaving the lot.



The wording of the sign may be confusing. We checked with the Ann Arbor Police command office, and they said that the sign should be interpreted as all traffic must turn left all the time; buses are excepted from the rule from 8:30 - 9:00 am and 3:30 - 4:00 pm.

Mark your calendars!

By Marcy Hires

International Diversity Night is Thursday, April 23

Do you have a song, dance or demonstration from your country of origin that you would like to perform for the Thurston community? If so, contact Marcy Hires at hiresfamily@sbcglobal.net or 994-0942. Performances will take place on 4/23 from 6:00-6:30. They should involve Thurston students and be no longer than 5 minutes. Space is limited, so please contact Marcy ASAP. Thank you!

Winter Workshops through Ann Arbor Rec & Ed

For parents of preschool-early elementary:

Two workshops this season consistently bring rave reviews from parents. Friday mornings.

January 30: Creating a Culture of Accountability

February 4: Pitiful vs. Powerful Praise

For parents of pre-teens through early teens:

Looking for something specifically geared toward those pre-teen and adolescent challenges? These brand new programs might fit the bill. Wednesday evenings.

February 4: Dealing with Adolescent Angst

February 11: Achieving with the Attraction Principle

Register online with Ann Arbor Rec & Ed at <http://activenet6.active.com/aareced/?redir=1>

Visit the Thurston PTO Website at: www.thurstonpto.awardspace.com