

THE HERON HERALD



A PUBLICATION OF THURSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

NOVEMBER 21, 2008

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri., Nov. 21

Movie Night in the MPR

Mon., Nov. 24

Thanksgiving Performance 1:45 & 2:30

Tues., Nov. 25

Report letters go home

Wed., Nov. 26 - Fri., Nov. 28

No School – Thanksgiving Break

Fri., Dec. 19

Winter Vacation begins at 3:42pm

Mon., Jan. 5

School Resumes

Sat., Jan. 24

Thurston Chess Tournament

Quote of the Day

“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.”

Cicero(106 BC - 43 BC), 'Pro Plancio,' 54 B.C.

Roman author, orator, & politician

www.quotationspage.com

Thurston Thanksgiving Performance

By Yael Rothfeld

This year's performance will take place next week Monday, November 24. At 1:45pm come see our students from the CI, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade Rooms. Then, at 2:30pm, there will be performances by the 3rd, 4th and 5th Graders. Meet us in the Multipurpose Room (MPR) for this special treat!



The PTO Gift Card Fundraiser Is Here!

By Sondra Bobroff

This is a great fundraiser because **it doesn't cost you anything!** A percentage of money is donated to the Thurston PTO when you purchase gift cards that you then use for groceries, clothing, toys, gifts, gas, hotel rooms, etc. The list of retailers is endless.



Get started now. Look for the flyer in your child's backpack, or contact Sondra Bobroff at 734-761-9124 or s_bobroff@hotmail.com. Sondra is happy to get you started on the phone or in person, any time.

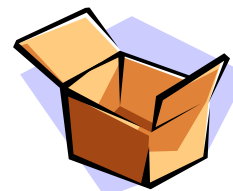
Your friends and family can also place orders using the simple online ordering system and Thurston PTO will get credit.

Other schools using this fundraiser with excellent success are Eberwhite and Ann Arbor Open. First orders due on Friday Dec. 5 for pickup on Dec. 12. However, Sondra **will order sooner, on a weekly basis**, if she gets a large enough quantity. Delivery will be 5 business days after the order is placed.

Sally Foster Information

By Caroline Engelbert

If anything was incorrect in your Sally Foster order, please contact Caroline Engelbert at 996-9183 or engelbert1996@sbcglobal.net right away. Also, if your child participated in the Sally Foster fundraiser, he/she was supposed to receive some prizes based on the number of items sold. There has been some confusion with the prizes and only about half of them have come in, so as soon as I receive all of them, they will be sent home with your child.



Please Recycle



From the Library Media Center

By Terence Madden

The Fall is a busy time in the Thurston library media center with two special events, "Books Get My Vote" and the "Teachers Reading Exchange."

"Books Get My Vote" - Every two years to be in sync with their parents' voting for major political offices during the Election season, Mr. Madden focuses on one author and reads aloud to the students multiple titles during library time. Either on Election Day or soon after, the Thurston students vote, not for Governor or President, but for their favorite from the designated author's titles. In past years, Patricia Polacco's Thank You, Mr. Falker, William Steig. Shrek, and Robert San Souci's Brave Margaret have bested the field of candidates.

This year the K-2 students read a different selection of Eve Bunting books from the 3 - 5 grades. Here are this year's results by grade:

Books Get My Vote Results November, 2008 Featured Author: Eve Bunting

Kindergarten Grade Totals	Can You Do This, Old Badger?	(21)
1st Grade Totals	Trouble on the T- Ball Team	(21)
2nd Grade Totals	Fly Away Home	(22)
3rd Grade Totals	Train To Somewhere	(28)
4th Grade Totals	Train To Somewhere	(31)
5th Grade Totals	Train To Somewhere	(44)

Ask you child who he/she voted for and why.

"Teacher Reading Exchange" - For the 7th year in a row, the Thurston teachers has volunteered to participated in a "Teacher Reading Exchange in which for twenty minutes a different teacher from Thurston comes into the classroom to read to the class. Mr. Madden selects the books, which this round featured an Eve Bunting book. Friday, November 14 was the first Teacher Reading Exchange of the 2008 - 09 school year. The next two are on Fridays, January 16 and March 6.

This was the first time Jan Stewart, preschool teacher, participated. She read to Michael Johnson's 5th graders and enjoyed the "big" kids. Jan said she enjoyed having an adult conversation from the 5th grade feedback to her questions about the Eve Bunting story,

A Day's Work.

In addition, Michael Johnson, 5th grade teacher read to the Preschool class and Julie Vanderhoff, 5th Grade teacher read to her son's 2nd grade class. Both teacher's faces beamed after this reading opportunity for them to shine in front of their children and their children's classmates.

I invite everyone to shine by reading aloud a favorite book to their child.

Thurston Chess Tournament

By Nejat Karabakal



All chess players at Thurston Elementary and their siblings in middle schools are invited to play in the annual Thurston Chess Tournament on Saturday, January 24. This is a great warm-up for the upcoming state tournament season, but is fun for more casual players as well. There will be four sections to accommodate different skill levels. Chess supplies (and food and drinks) will be available for purchase at the tournament. There is an early registration discount for signups returned to the school's office by December 19, or mailed by December 31.



Tournament is open to all Ann Arbor elementary students and we have space for a total of 120 players, so register now! For more information and the registration form, please visit www.ThurstonChess.com.



Happy Thanksgiving

School is Closed

Wed., Nov. 26-Fri., Nov 28

THURSTON PTO
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www.thurstonpto.awardspace.com

A Little Thanksgiving History

“Though many competing claims exist, the most familiar story of the first Thanksgiving took place in Plymouth Colony, in present-day Massachusetts, in 1621. More than 200 years later, President Abraham Lincoln declared the final Thursday in November as a national day of thanksgiving. Congress finally made Thanksgiving Day an official national holiday in 1941.”

Sarah Josepha Hale, the enormously influential magazine editor and author who waged a tireless campaign to make Thanksgiving a national holiday in the mid-19th century, was also the author of the classic nursery rhyme ‘Mary Had a Little Lamb.’”

www.historychannel.com