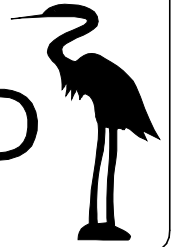


THE HERON HERALD



A PUBLICATION OF THURSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

OCT. 24, 2008

Important Dates:

Fri., Oct. 24

Fall Social and New Book Sale
6:00-8:00pm

Tues., Oct 28

Thurston Play Auditions 7:15-
9:30pm

Wed., Oct 29

Thurston Play Auditions 6:15-
9:00pm

Fri., Oct. 31

Halloween Costume Parade
2:30pm

Mon., Nov. 3

Picture Day Retakes

Tues., Nov. 4

No School for Students
Election Day
Election Day Bake Sale

Wed., Nov. 5

Pick up Sally Foster in Activity
Rm.

Fri., Nov. 21

Turkey Trot

Quote of the Day

"None but a coward dares to boast
that he has never known fear."
Ferdinand Foch (1851 - 1929),
French general
www.quotationspage.com

Today in History in 1901

"On this day in 1901, a 63-year-
old schoolteacher named Annie
Edson Taylor becomes the first
person to take the plunge over
Niagara Falls in a barrel."
www.historychannel.com

Principal's Corner

It has been a while since my last "Corner". I am delighted to say that the days and weeks have moved by quickly with little, if any major concerns.

Teacher Conferences – By now all parents should have signed up for and have or will be attending their child's teacher conference. If you miss your appointment, please contact the teacher immediately to set up another one.

Thurston Lunch Program – Our lunch coordinator is Stacy Smith. If you have any questions about the menus or outstanding balances, contact her at: 997-1932. Our noon hour coordinator is Kareem Baskin. Kareem is in charge of the lunch supervisors who supervise the students during their lunch and lunch recess. He can be reached at: 994-1706.

Bullying Behaviors – The staff and I are continuing our efforts to catch and correct any bullying behaviors we see or hear about. Teachers continue to address it in their classroom discussions. The following website was shared by Mrs. Hetrick and may be of interest to you as well: <http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org>

Halloween Parade – This year, the parade will be held on Friday, October 31 at 2:30 pm. We are changing the parade route and I have attached it with this newsletter. Instead of meeting in the MPR, we are asking that (if it is a nice day) all parents meet in the back of the school on the blacktop area. This will allow you to see all of the classes as they pass by and be able to take better pictures. If your child is not participating in this activity, please inform their teacher. Students not participating will have an activity in the library during the parade. Classroom teachers decide what they will do after the parade and it could include parties or other activities.

Guidelines for Halloween Costumes in School:

- Costumes may not be worn to school - Please send them to school in a bag
- Face makeup, hair spray, etc. must be applied at home
- No fake weapons of any kind are allowed at school
- No fake blood, no scary costumes. If it might scare a kindergartner, don't wear it (I am also attaching some Safe Halloween tips for trick-or-treaters)

SIT (School Improvement Team) – We still would like one or two more parent representatives to join the team. Parents currently on the team are: Martha Farmer, Jubei Hughes and Carrie Magee. Our next meeting is on Thursday, November 20 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Library. That will be the last opportunity to add new members.

Election Day/No School for Students – Staff will be here in the morning for Professional Development, and will attempt to park in the first row. The afternoon is for report writing which may be done at school or elsewhere.

Patricia A. Manley, Principal

Let's talk turkey - Turkey Trot that is!

by Sandy Daida

Safety and encouragement – that's what we need for this year's Annual Turkey Trot, which will be held on the afternoon of Friday, November 21. In the name of fun, safety, and exercise, our 1st through 5th graders will run, jog, walk, or skip a one-mile course through our neighborhood. Our biggest need is 30 parents (Cheerleaders, yeah!) to line and secure the route. We need 6 parents (Tortoises, ha!) to walk with the kids to keep them safe. Finally, we need 4 parents (Stuffers, yum!) to serve refreshments. So lend a hand! Without you, there's no way to keep the event safe for our kids. Without enough volunteers, we'll have to cancel. (Which won't happen, right?) Sign up to be a parent volunteer! Please contact Sandy Daida 761-8941 or e-mail sandy.daida@sbcglobal.net. This event is not safe for younger siblings or pets.

Coupled with Turkey Trot, our Student Council will once again be working with the Food Gatherers. The biggest need this year is for box potatoes and stuffing, canned fruit, gravy, and soup, as well as pasta. Donations can be placed in the barrels located throughout the building beginning Monday, November 3. Monetary donations toward turkeys can be made out to "Food Gatherers." For every \$13.44, we will hang a turkey cutout in the gym. Let's see if we can top our 2004 record of 84 turkeys!

Music Notes



Dear Thurston families,

It's been a great start of the school year, and we've hit the ground running. If you happen to ask your children what they are doing in the music room, you will get a varied answer depending on the day, the class, and the grade. We have been spending our time singing, dancing, chanting, improvising, composing, learning music history, playing instruments, and much more!

I wanted to let you know of an event next month for you to place on your calendars. On Monday, November 24, we will be putting on our annual Thanksgiving program. This year we will be splitting it into two groups-PreK-2nd grade, and 3rd-5th grade. The times are still TBD, but they will both take place in the afternoon. If you are able to join us, we'd love to have you!

Sincerely,
Yael Rothfeld

Healthy Halloween Treats!

by Sondra Bobroff

Here are some fun ideas of what to give trick or treaters. If you do decide to give candy, give each child one small piece rather than a handful.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Coins | Packets of cocoa |
| Mini cereal boxes | Cereal bars |
| Erasers | Juice boxes |
| Toothbrushes | Mini jars of playdoh |
| Temporary Tattoos | Stickers |
| Cool pencils | Sticky note pads |



Be traditional with apples, oranges or popcorn balls. Just be sure to put your name and address on these.

Heron in the Spotlight



The PTO and Thurston Administrative Staff would like to give a big **Thank You to Susan Yang**. Susan has been making copies of our PTO newsletter, as well as many other flyers that come home in our children's backpacks, since Fall 2007. This is a big job and we cannot thank Susan enough for all her hard work all year long.

Just think, every time you get a pink newsletter Susan made 417 copies (or more) so everyone could get the news!



Halloween Parade Friday, October 31 at 2:30pm



Next week is the Halloween Parade of goblins, ghouls and the occasional princess. Join us on the basketball court blacktop (by the Gym) to catch a glimpse of your kid(s) in all their gory glory. The Halloween Parade will begin at 2:30. If the weather is bad, parents should gather in the middle of either the gym or the MPR.

New Trees for Thurston

by Katie Richter

The Thurston Community owes a big thank you to Margaret Weiss for taking the initiative and the time to apply for a grant for trees for our school. Global Releaf awarded Thurston matching funds up to \$1,000 for 10 new trees! As part of the grant Thurston will need to supply 20 adult volunteers (that is 2 volunteers per tree) to help out on planting day as well as some volunteers to coordinate or provide refreshments. Supervised children are welcome to attend, but they don't count towards our volunteer total. Planting day is set for Saturday, November 1 from 10:00am -2:00pm. Please let us know if you can help out for the whole event or even just a partial 2 hour shift within that time. We need to have a count of our volunteers prior to planting. The holes for the trees will be dug prior to planting day – we hope that AAPS grounds will take care of this for us and that will make the workload for us volunteers so much easier! Contact Katie Richter by phone 332-0520 or e-mail katierichter@sbcglobal.net to let us know you will be there to help out!



PLAY WITH THE KIDS AT RECESS by Sondra Bobroff, PTO Wellness Committee Chair

Make recess more fun by giving kids more options. Come join the kids at lunch recess. Play organized games with the kids. We will teach you the games and provide all equipment. Volunteer on a regular basis, or come when you can. Contact Sondra Bobroff at 734-761-9124 or s_bobroff@hotmail.com subject: Thurston Recess.

New Book Fair

by Katie Richter

Presented by Nicola's Books will be held Friday, October 24 (Tonight) from 3:30–5pm and 6–8:00pm in the Media Center. Don't forget to check our teachers' Wish Lists. And remember: 15% of all New Book Fair sales, including gift certificates and special orders, are donated back to Thurston.



Missing

One razor scooter with red handles. This scooter has been lovingly used and was last seen parked by the dirt pile while we were exploring around Thurston Pond. Please contact Max or Nikki Bonevich at 327-9790. Thank you!

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