



The Heron Herald

A Publication of Thurston Elementary School PTO

June 14, 2007

Important Dates

Fri., June 15

School dismissed at 11:51am

Fri., Aug. 17

Office opens

Tues., Sept. 4

First Day of School

Tues., Sept 11

Curriculum Night

Congratulations, Fifth Grade Graduates and Parents!

Best Wishes at your new school—

whether it's down the street or across the country!

(We'd love to see you back next year at the Fall Social, the Play or the Ice Cream Social.)

Antique Book Expert Needed

Is there someone among our Thurston community with expertise in old books? Two bags of very old books were donated during the Used Book Sale. One parent was kind enough to do some preliminary research on the value of these books, which yielded contradictory results. We did not offer them for sale at the Used Book Sale because we were unsure how to price them. If they are worth something, it would be nice to have that money for the PTO. If you know something about old books and would be willing to take this on as a summer project, please contact Ellen Sabor at 662-2567 or sabor777@comcast.net.

Lost & Found

The huge heap of items threatens to block the way to the lobby bathrooms! Please stop by and look for the things you didn't even know you'd lost!

Principal's Corner

Dear Thurston Families,

This has been an exciting year for me. The building went through major construction, which brought lots of headaches, challenges and long days; we opened a Preschool classroom, which was a huge learning curve for the staff and me; and we finally got our Multipurpose Room. Now as we come to the close of the year, I am most excited about the completion of my Thurston first class. I have had the pleasure of being the Principal for 6 years to those current 5th graders who have been here since Kindergarten. This is a wonderful sense of accomplishment for me, and it has been my joy to have them here.

2007-08 Student Placement – The student assignments will be mailed out in mid- to late-August. I need to say again that students are assigned to a particular class for a variety of reasons and it may not result in the granting of a specific request. I hope that you will trust that we have made the best decision based on what we know about your child.

Construction Update – Staff members and I have met with our district site administrators and given them our list of “must do’s” over the summer. We have been assured that all construction-related items would get first priority. The issue of grass may be delayed because the best time to hydro-seed has passed. If needed, they will hydro-seed again in the fall. The good news is we will not have major construction this summer. We thought we would never recover from last summer. Thank you for your patience throughout this ordeal. It has been frustrating for all of us. My goal is to get everything that was promised.

Opening of School – The office will open on August 17. School begins for students on September 4. The opening day program will be mailed in August along with your child's teacher placement.

Fall Curriculum Night – **Mark your Calendar** - We will hold our Curriculum Night on Tuesday, September 11. Details will be sent with the August mailing.

Success – I consider this a very successful year. We had increased MEAP scores; our students won in both the Chess and Science Olympiad tournaments; we have had successful partnerships with other schools and programs; and, we have had strong support from all of you.

Thank You – to all parents and staff for making Thurston a special place.

Have a wonderful summer!
Patricia A. Manley, Principal.

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NEXT NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:
Tues., Sept. 4th

Teacher's Lounge Getting a Lift

At last week's meeting, the PTO Board voted unanimously to approve funding for renovations to the teacher's lounge. As you may know, our teachers are now using the room that formerly served as our cafeteria. There's more space, but the staff works on kid-sized furniture and there is no separation between work and lunch break areas.

Quality Office Furniture (a local company with Thurston ties) has been selected to refinish storage cabinets, build new work stations, install a dividing wall and restore the smaller lunch tables by raising their height and increasing the tabletop diameter. New chairs will be purchased. When the work is completed, it will be possible to hold staff meetings and meals with everyone seated at once! Quality Office Furniture is making a generous donation toward this work and we are very grateful for their help. Work has already started and will hopefully be completed before school opens in the fall.

Special thanks are due to the Thurston Players, who have donated \$3,000 specifically toward this \$7,000 project. That donation is in addition to the ongoing support our PTO receives from the Players. We love the shows and we love those checks!

Sincere thanks to all Thurston parents who show so much appreciation to our dedicated faculty. We think they will really enjoy a revamped work space, thanks to your support of the PTO.

5th Grade Memory Book & Fun Night Thanks

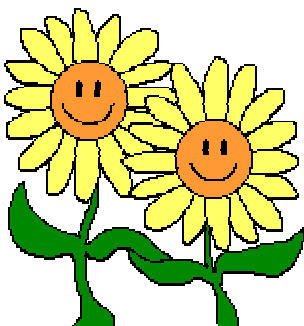
Huge "Thank You!" to Amy Bunker, who designed and put together the wonderful 5th grade memory book with assistance from Sharon Mudd, Katherine Ganzel, Karen Lang and Kami Meader. Thank you to the following 5th Grade Parents for being parent supervisors during the Thurston Fun Night at Clague Middle School: Kami Meader, Kate McGonagle, Jeehan Osman, Patty Valdivieso, Claudia Springgay, Sharon Mudd, Deb Wood, Katherine Ganzel, Karen Lang, Lisl Weiss, Teresa Mourad, Elizabeth Bergin, Shonagh Chimbira, Amy Bunker, Mary Collins, Bonnie Demetral, Lisa Kempf, Deborah Kanter, Cathy Vaughan, Monica Hanna, Dolcy Garfield, Linda Lake, Frank Pierson, Paul Bernard, Clark McCall. A special thanks to Chris Barry, Karen Lang, Leah Trulik, Leslie Petty, Deborah Kanter, Linda Lake, Amy Homan, Bonnie Demetral, Lee Young, Wendy Fry, Cathy Vaughan, Sharon Mudd and Kami Meader for the extra snacks. We love our 5th graders and wish them a happy farewell.

Used Book Sale Thanks

The 2007 Used Book Sale Committee (Ellen Sabor, Yvonne Stevens, Margaret Baker and Marcy Hires) wholeheartedly thanks the volunteers who made the sale possible:

Dawn Barron, Chris Barry, Cathy Behrendt, Sondra Bobroff, Nikki Bonevich, Julie Brabbs, Christine Brenner, Amy Bunker, Janet Chen, Juliet Chen, Gina Cheung, Charles Daniels, Anne Darnell, Pascale Denys, Linda Du, Judy Dyer, Caroline Engelbert, Cindy Evoy, Yasuyo Furukawa, Katherine Ganzel, Susan Guralnick, Lisa Haddrill, Monica Hanna, Doug Helmreich, Julie Helmreich, Molly Hester, Mikyoung Jang, Deborah Kanter, Anne Karabakal, Yi Keep, Sue Keller, Katrina Kelly, Aimee Lahann, Sue Lepidi, Andrea Lindstrom, Susan Montgomery, Robin Moran, Bruce Morey, Karen Morey, Teresa Mourad, Patty Ojeda, Carol Poling, Katie Richter, Vicky Rubin, Richard Rupp, Mark Sabor, Claire Schulte, Aleksandra Sikora, Liz Sirman, Karitha Somesundaram, Dianne Spillane, Troy Stevens, Tawna Tolbert, Christina Vallem, Cathy Vaughan, Rui Wang, Margaret Weiss, Georgia White-Epperson, Chunhong Yan, Yun Yang and Ryszard Zielke.

Special thanks go to Renae Borowski and Fred Anderson, Debbie Riley and Laura Hannaford, and all of you in the Thurston community who donated books (12,000+ this year! Wow!) and shopped the sale.



See You Next Year!!