

Thorndyke Happenings

Volume 2, Issue 8

April 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings Thorndyke Families and Community!

We hope you had a wonderful spring break! Welcome back for the remainder of this school year. Though we have less than a trimester left, it is packed with quite a bit of exciting things. Join us on Thursday, **April 19th from 3:30 to 4:30** in the cafeteria for the monthly PTA meeting. Notice the new time and location. We are hoping that the change will make it more convenient and accessible for families to participate. At this month's meeting we will discuss the impact of fundraising and what we can do differently. We will also plan PTA's involvement in the upcoming Special Person's Day BBQ.

As you may know, this year at Thorndyke we've committed to improving attendance, behavior, and course performance. Each month we've provided you with progress updates. We are happy to report a few positive shifts we've seen. For the last two months we have reduced the number of absences in half compared to last year. This tells us that you are making sure your children attend school every day possible. Though we still need to improve in this area, it is fantastic to see we're making progress. Additionally, we are reducing the number of tardies. For the second month in a row, the number of students with 2, 3, and 4 tardies was less compared to last year. However, students with 5 or more was a bit higher. Please make sure your children are at school as early as 8:30, but by 8:50. (Some students arrive at 8:00 for school programs.) Regarding behavior, the overall number of referrals to the office is half what it was last year. However, we are seeing an increase in referrals on Wednesdays. They are mainly for disruptive and inappropriate behavior. At Thorndyke we constantly remind students to be respectful, responsible, and safe. Feel free to use this language when you have conversations with your children about school behavior. Regarding course performance, we are administering the district i-Ready math and reading assessments to all Kindergarten through 5th graders starting on April 16th. We'll share performance results shortly after.

Thank you for trusting in us to do this important work for your children! If ever you have questions, ideas, or feedback, please connect with us. Have a wonderful month. Hope to see you around Thorndyke!

Aaron Draganov
Principal

Javier Roman
Assistant Principal

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following "Students of the Month" for the virtue of **FLEXIBILITY**: Willow McGroarty, Shuayb Abdisamad, Daniela Mendia, Jahnell Counts, Justin Nguyen, Logan Khamsouk, Ailyn Merida Aleman, Ayla Major Banks, Ivy Glanville, Brent Gella, La'shay Haagenson, Mari Lopez, Kaiden Gore, Henry Johnny, Jr, Dima Almasalmah, Julian Harris Sampson, Okichy Johnny, Kaylani McKnight, Batool Al Obaidi, Perla Flores Aquino, Mustafa Shanle, Jeff Garnica Godinez, Sophia Nguyen, Aaron Ortiz Vargas, Allison De La Trinidad Bautista, Victoria Veth, Aydrian Soulisack, Keziah Barcinas

BEAT THE BELL

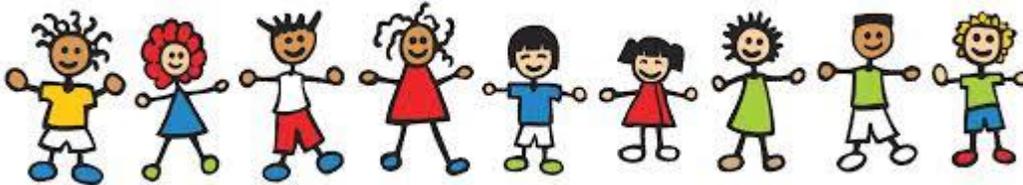
“Beat the Bell” is our incentive program designed to encourage students to be on time to school. Those students who are on time to school could have their class recognized at our monthly assembly. Our **school begins at 9:00 a.m.** each morning. **BE ON TIME** and your class could potentially be recognized for this honor. Congratulations to Ms. West’s 1st grade and Mrs. McClelland’s 3rd grade for earning the honor of “Beating the Bell” for the month of March.

ATTENDANCE/TARDIES

It is **VERY IMPORTANT to Be on Time every day.** Students are expected to be **IN CLASS by 8:55 a.m.** Breakfast is served and announcements are made for the day. It is very difficult for the children when they arrive late and miss out on morning instructions. If your child needs to miss class, please remember to call the office, 206-901-7603, or send a note the following day.

2017-2018 YEAR BOOK

Don't be left out! Order your Yearbook NOW! Your child's year's book will be filled with classmates' photos, activity snapshots, faculty pictures and a pictorial journal of the school year. **Reserve your child's book NOW to avoid disappointment.** Cost for each book is \$20.00. Order forms are available in the main office.



Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Apr 2-6 – NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
- Apr 12 - 3rd Grade Field Trip to Zoo
- Apr 15 - Camp Visit, 1-3 p.m.
- Apr 16 – i-Ready & HiCap Testing begins
- Apr 17 – Report Cards sent home
- Apr 18 – **Early Release at 12:45 p.m.**
- Apr 19 – 1st Grade Field Trip to Pacific Science Center
- Apr 19 – PTA Meeting & Elections, **3:30 p.m. – Please note time change**
- Apr 20 – Kindergarten Field Trip to Woodland Park Zoo
- Apr 27 – Student of the Month Assembly, 9:10 a.m.



THORNDYKE PTA

Please join us **Thursday, April 19th at 3:30** for our PTA Meeting and 2018-19 Board Elections.

If you haven't joined the PTA yet, please be sure to send in your \$10 to join. For more information contact ThorndykePTA@gmail.com.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Support the PTA while shopping from the comfort of your own home. We have an account with **Amazon Smile** and we get 0.5% of all money spent.

Below you will find the link to support the PTA. You will need to click this link or sign into Amazon Smile every time you make a purchase. You can still use your account that you have set up with them.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-3194527>

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PICKING UP & DROPPING OFF STUDENTS

As a staff, we are VERY concerned with the safety and welfare of students during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. Many parents have also expressed their concerns. We have large numbers of cars driving into our very small lot. We must insist that parents follow our directives for driving students to and from the school.

#1: **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR UNATTENDED IN THE LOOP**

The biggest reason for parent frustration is cars parked in the “No Park Zone”. It causes parents to drop students off in the traffic lane, which is very unsafe. ***You must remain in your car and pick your child up at the flag pole.***

#2: **DO NOT STOP IN THE THROUGH LANE**

If you can't drive up to the curb, you need to wait until a space is available. ***Stopping in the through lane slows everyone down and is unsafe.***

#3: **DO NOT DROP STUDENTS OFF OR PICK THEM UP IN THE PARKING LOT**

Having students walk (or run) through the parking lot creates an unsafe situation.

It also causes back-ups when cars want to exit instead of driving through the loop to pick up students appropriately.

#4: **DO NOT BLOCK THE DRIVE EXITING THE PARKING LOT**

We have staff and visitors who need to leave the lot at 3:00. They need to be able to drive out safely.

#5: **DO NOT HONK YOUR HORN!**

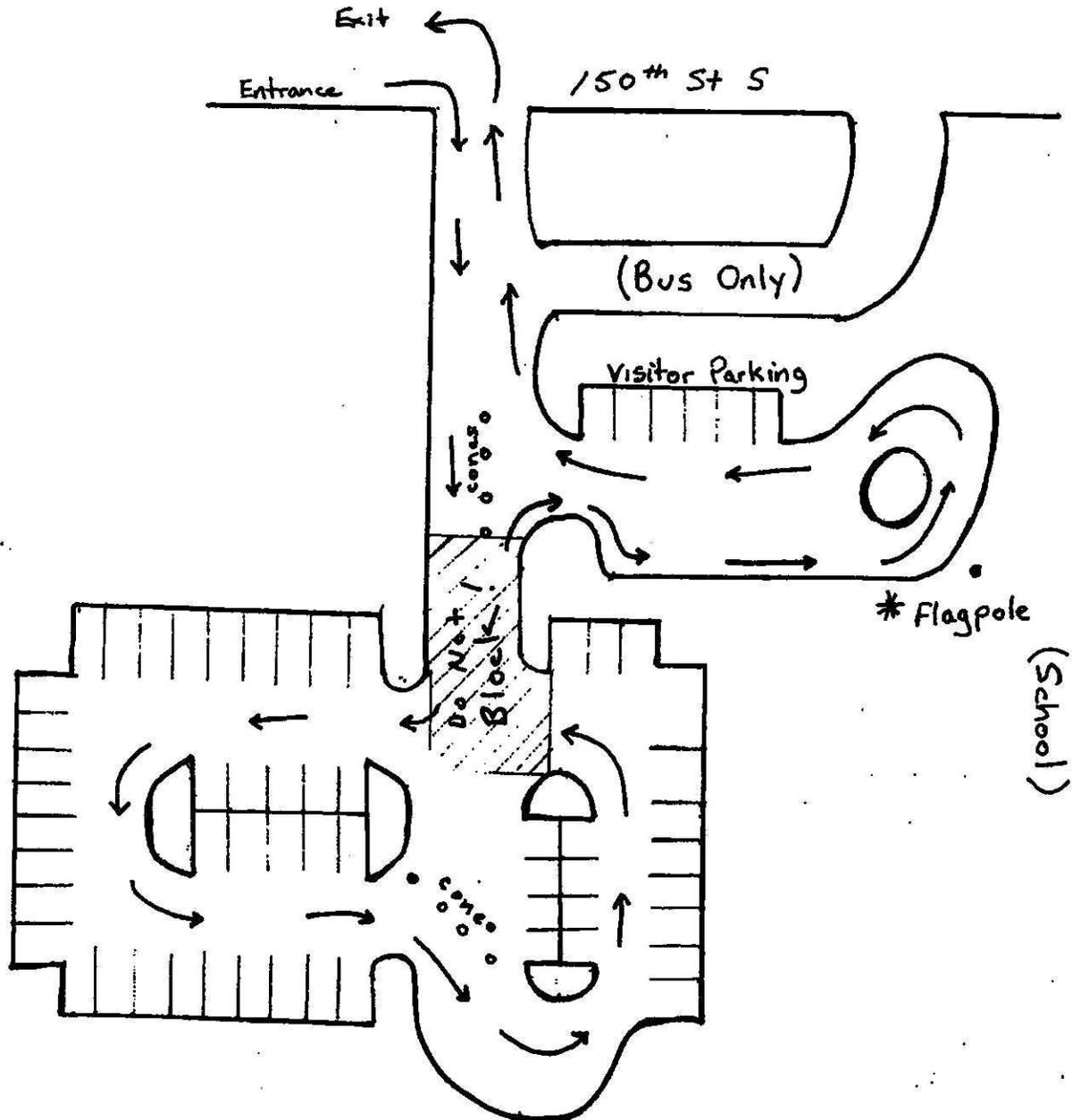
Using your horns not appropriate. When signaling children it disturbs everyone. When trying to get others to move it creates anger and more frustration. ***Please model patience for our students.***

When all parents follow the rules and guidelines, students are made more safe and the process works smoothly. Even on days when we have high traffic, it never takes more than 10 minutes to disperse the majority of cars. THANK YOU for your attention to this and for your help!



Afternoon Student Pick-up Procedures

- ◆ Please drive slowly and carefully
- ◆ Follow the traffic-flow through the parking lot
- ◆ Pick students up at the Flagpole, please!
- ◆ **DO NOT BLOCK THE EXIT TO THE PARKING LOT!**
- ◆ Do not pick students up in the parking lot
- ◆ Follow the directions of safety patrol and adult crossing guards



Did You Know.....

- ❖ Students should arrive at school **no earlier than 8:30 a.m.** and depart **no later than 3:30 p.m.** unless they are enrolled in a before/after school activity.
- ❖ You can call in an absence for your student @ 206-901-7603 at **any** time, 24 hours a day. Please include the name of your student, the reason for the absence and a phone number where you may be reached if there is a question.
- ❖ For the safety of our students and staff, please enter our school only by the main entry door. Visitors **MUST** sign in/out and wear a visitor pass.
- ❖ You can check your student's meal account balance by calling 206-901-8068. Keeping your child's account current is very much appreciated.
- ❖ If you wish to volunteer, either at school or on field trips, you **MUST** complete a volunteer application.
- ❖ You can find out about school activities online at www.tukwila.wednet.edu
- ❖ Our lost and found is located at the rear of the main lobby. Please check for lost items as this collection piles up quickly.
- ❖ Our school collects Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup labels. They can be deposited in the marked container in the office.



THORNDYKE IS A TITLE 1 SCHOOL

Thorndyke Elementary School receives federal money to fund a School-wide Title 1 program. Title 1 programs are intended to help ensure that all children have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and assessments. The program focuses on promoting reform in high-poverty schools (those with 40% or more students from low-income families) and ensures student access to scientifically-based instructional strategies and challenging academic content. Thorndyke uses most of Title 1 funds to pay for important staff members. Funds are also reserved for professional development for teachers that is designed to raise the achievement of low-achieving students by improving instruction throughout the entire school. If you have any questions about our Title 1 programs, please feel free to speak with Mr. Draganov @ 206-901-7605.

The Tukwila School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, color, national origin, or disability. This holds true for all district students, employees, and district employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's title IX/RCW 28A.640 officer and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator located at 4640 S 144th Street, WA 98168: T.C. Wallace, Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer (206.901.8005) and, Section 504/ADA Coordinator (206.901.8035) **Thorndyke Elementary is a Schoolwide Title I School**

