



Thornell Road Star

Thornell Road Elementary, Pittsford, New York

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Roger DeBell, Principal

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PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Parents and School Community,



It is with great pride that I share the news that Ms. Michele Miner, has been recognized as an outstanding teacher from the 55th New York State Senate District by State Senator Rich Funke. Ms. Miner's leadership, expertise, collaboration and dedication to helping our students and her colleagues are some of the hallmarks of her work each day. She is a gifted master teacher who recognizes the importance of knowing students as individuals and as learners. Her expert use of instructional technology to promote rigorous and authentic student learning serves as a model for others. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Ms. Miner leads our building technology committee and she has helped shape the vision for technology use in our school. If you watch her teaching students or helping a colleague, you will quickly recognize that she loves what she is doing and what she is doing is making a positive difference in the lives of others. In November, Ms. Miner and I will have the opportunity to meet with Senator Funke. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Miner for this well-deserved recognition.



Living the Thornell Road Way!

"At Thornell Road School, we pursue excellence in learning and character. We celebrate and honor each other by being respectful, responsible, fair, trustworthy and caring. We give our best inside and outside the classroom. This is who we are, even when no one is watching."

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Each week, as part of my continuous challenge to our students to be their best and do their best, we celebrate “Thornell Road Way Thursday”. During the morning announcements, we say the Thornell Road Way as a school and reflect on the ways in which we have demonstrated respect, responsibility, fairness, trustworthiness and caring throughout the past week. We also consider any times that we might not have lived up to these principles and think about the ways we could make up for missed opportunities.

Each Friday at TRES is “School Pride Friday”. I invite all of our students and staff to wear **school colors** on these days. This is meant to be a fun way to come together as a school community and to show our Thornell Road pride.

Our Thornell Road PTSA makes it possible for our students to enjoy a variety of after-school enrichment activities and coordinates special events for our families. These include our “Welcome Back to School” Picnic, Grades 4/5 Spelling Bee, book fairs, school pictures, Cultural Arts Assemblies, “I Can Code” Club, Science Action program, chess club, Drama Kids acting classes, visiting author workshops, and end-of-year Basket Raffle. **Please help us continue to provide these and other exciting opportunities for our students by becoming a PTSA volunteer.**

For more information about volunteer opportunities at TRES, please visit our PTSA website at

<http://www.pittsfordptsa.net/schools.cfm?subpage=1304526>.

Thank you for all that you do to support our students, our school and our community!

Sincerely,

Roger DeBell
Principal

Thornell Road Elementary School



**A Learning Community Dedicated to
Teamwork, Respect and Excellence for our Students**



Reading Corner

~ Miss Samantha St. James, Reading Specialist



High Frequency Words

Learning and Mastering High Frequency Words (Sight Words)

High frequency words are words that appear most frequently in texts.

A child should recognize the whole word - children should be encouraged **not** to sound out sight words (as most sight words cannot be sounded out, i.e. the)

→ A child has mastered a sight word when they can read it automatically

Recognizing sight words quickly and effortlessly allows students to pay more attention to the more mentally demanding task of understanding what they are reading.

→ According to Patricia Cunningham in *Phonics They Use*, "In order to read and write fluently with comprehension and meaning, children must be able to automatically read and spell the most frequent words. As the store of words they can automatically read and spell increases, so will their speed and comprehension." (Cunningham, 2000).

→ Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade sight words can be found at my webpage <https://www.pittsfordschools.org/Page/4356>

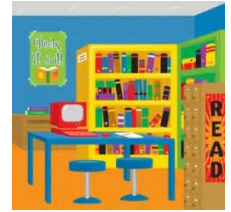
Ways to Practice Sight Words at Home (Beyond flash cards...)

- **Paper Plate Toss:** Write sight words on paper plates and toss back and forth like a Frisbee after reading.
- **Concentration or Go Fish:** Make a duplicate set of word cards and play either game.
- **Tic -Tac-Toe:** Write words in the tic-tac-toe spaces. Take turns selecting a space to read. If read correctly, an X or O is placed on the space until someone wins.
- **Word-O:** This is played just like BINGO. Fill in a card with the words that you are working on. Call out the words and mark the spaces. The first one with a card covered calls out "WORDO"!
- **Word Hunt:** Look for high frequency words in books or in the newspaper. If using the newspaper your child can highlight or circle the sight words that he/she finds.
- **Coin Toss:** Put words on the floor - children toss a coin onto a word and say that word.
- **Chalk:** Children go outside and practice writing their words with chalk on the concrete.
- **Flashlight Words:** Turn off lights and practice sky writing sight words on the wall. You may want to hang a poster up of each word for your child to trace.
- **Making Words:** Using play dough, alphabet stamps, or magnetic letters.
- **Delicious Words:** Write your words in whipped cream, peanut butter, or anything you can eat.
- **Good Clean Words:** Write your words in shaving cream on a counter or some other surface that can be cleaned safely.



TRE Library News

~ Janah Autovino, Library Media Specialist



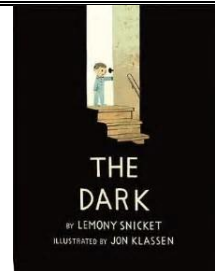
When the students returned to our library this fall, they were greeted by a new and improved story time nook. We wanted to create a cozy space in the library for classes to enjoy stories and lessons. After moving the furniture around and adding some fun decorations, we realized that the space was missing something. Luckily, our wonderfully artistic custodian, Mr. Tom Pulizzi came to the rescue! He designed and painted a one-of-a-kind mural above the story time nook, and it is the first thing the students notice when they come in for their library class. We wish to thank Mr. Tom for his hard work and creativity. Next time you are in the building, be sure to stop in to check it out!

Check It Out!

Each month, we will feature a few books and an electronic database that you and your children may enjoy. You can visit the TRE Library website to browse our catalog and access our databases. If you have any questions, or need passwords for database access, please call the library at 267-1725 or email janah_autovino@pittsford.monroe.edu. All book cover images are from <http://www.titlewave.com>. *Happy reading!*

The Dark by Lemony Snicket

Laszlo has always been afraid of the dark, but with his nightlight on he feels safe. When the light bulb goes out one night, the "Dark" begins talking to him and lures him to the basement. Although Laszlo is scared, he goes to the basement, where he realizes the dark isn't as scary as he once thought. This is a great story and is just a tiny bit spooky. Perfect for students in grades K and up.



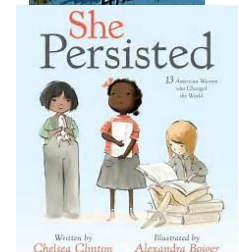
The Detective's Assistant by Kate Hannigan

Set in 1859, this historical fiction novel stars an 11 year old orphan named Nell. She is sent to live with her Aunt Kitty, who frankly seems too busy to care for a child. Nell soon finds out why: Kitty is the first female private eye in the city of Chicago. It turns out that Nell has a knack for undercover detective work and soon proves herself to be an indispensable asset to her aunt's detective agency. Recommended for students in grades 4 and up.



She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World by Chelsea Clinton

This non fiction book provides profiles for 13 American women who changed the world. The book includes many well-known women like Harriet Tubman, Oprah Winfrey and Sonia Sotomayor, and also highlights lesser known people, including dancer Maria Tallchief, Dr. Virginia Apgar and Civil Rights Activist Claudette Colvin.



Britannica Image Quest



This database provides our students with access to millions of copyright cleared photos and images that can be used for student projects and homework assignments. These images are high quality and are a safer place to search for images than using the Google or Bing image search function. Each image includes a citation that can easily be copied and pasted for attribution. You can access this database by going to the TRE library website and selecting "Research Tools".

<http://quest.eb.com/>

Odyssey of the Mind

~ Susan Doran

Odyssey of the Mind 4th & 5th Grade Team Forming Meetings - October 16 & 30th

Students will be forming teams during the month of October. They can pick up a registration form at the main office or attend the team forming sessions at Thornell Road School in the Cafeteria on Mondays October 16 & 30th from 6:30-7:30pm.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.

For more information about the program go to www.odysseyofthemind.com or watch <https://youtu.be/cWHP64kUhWc>.



Health Education

~ Mrs. Lattuca, School Nurse Teacher

- ➔ October is Fire Safety Awareness. Please discuss and practice safety rules, alternative meeting places and to NEVER return into a burning building.
- ➔ Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grade classes will be learning how to stay healthy by decreasing the spread of germs.
- ➔ 2nd grade classes will be learning about healthy bones, vitamin D, calcium and physical activities to keep our "skeleton" healthy for a lifetime.



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Thornell Road!

Please join us November 6 - 9, in the library. The book fair will be open all day, as well as during the roller skating parties. We have a special family night planned for Thursday, November 9 - please SAVE THE DATE! Look for the Scholastic flyer coming home with your child at the end of October. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Getaway pre-order forms will be coming home soon.

If you are interested in volunteering at the book fair, please contact either Nikole Downing (ncmeenan@yahoo.com) or Jenn Hearne (jennifer.hearne@icloud.com).

Art Room Masterpieces

~ Mrs. Lubbers, Visual Art Education



THORNELL ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATED DOTS IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER; INTERNATIONAL DOT DAY IS SEPTEMBER 15. FIRST GRADERS READ P. REYNOLDS' "THE DOT" AND PAINTED MURALS OF DOTS. SECOND GRADERS READ A. CLEMENTS' "A MILLION DOTS" AND PRINTED MURALS OF DOTS. THIRD GRADERS READ J. BRYANT'S "SIX DOTS; A STORY OF YOUNG LOUIS BRAILLE" AND CUT AND GLUED MURALS WITH TEXTURED DOTS. FOURTH GRADERS READ L. BRANTZ'S "NOT JUST A DOT" AND CREATED DRAWINGS OF ART SUPPLIES USING MARKERS AND THE ART STYLE OF POINTILLISM. FIFTH GRADERS READ D.A. CARTER'S "600 BLACK SPOTS" AND "SPOT THE DOT" AND PRODUCED POP UP CARDS FEATURING DOTS.



P T S A



N E W S



Enews sign up instructions

Please sign up to keep up to date with activities and events at TRE!

Instructions to receive TRE PTSA Enews:

- 1) Go to www.pittsfordschools.org
- 2) Quick Links - "PTSA"
- 3) Register for Enews (grey box)
- 4) Submit "Your Information"
- 5) Choose the Thornell Rd. box
- 6) Click "Sign me up" at the bottom

Parents of sixth graders at Barker →

Instructions to receive BRMS PTSA Enews:

- 1) Go to www.pittsfordschools.org
- 2) Quick Links - "PTSA"
- 3) Register for Enews (grey box)
- 4) Submit "Your Information"
- 5) Choose the Barker Rd. box
- 6) Click "Sign me up" at the bottom

Any questions? Email Jess Izzo at
jcizzo247@gmail.com



Please be sure to turn in all Box Tops soon, as our competition will be coming to a close on Oct. 20th! To help this fundraiser be successful, your job is simple. Look over your groceries and other retail products and start clipping. Bag all clippings with your child's teacher's name and their class will receive credit.

Remember, the competition closes on Oct 20th

It's not too late to join the PTSA for the 2017-2018 school year!
Your membership fee of only \$17.00 supports so many important programs such as:

- Field Trips
- Science Action
- Art Ambassador
- After School Enrichment
- School events



To join, simply click

<http://www.pittsfordptsanet/about.cfm?subpage=1304532> or return the form that was sent home with your child. Extra forms are available in the District calendar.

Thank you for your support!

Breakfast with Veterans ~Mrs. Stevens-Oliver

4th Grade

Mrs. Stevens-Oliver's fourth grade class had a delicious breakfast with our local veteran's at the Rayson-Miller Post of the American Legion as a way to kick off one of their service projects for the year. Students will be creating an augmented reality book about the history of our Legion post, and interviewing the members in order to write about their experiences. After breakfast, they walked down to the Pittsford Cemetery where they met up with Mrs. Vicki Profitt, Perinton Town Historian, for a tour of the graves of some of the Civil War soldiers buried there. This was to kick off the second augmented reality book project they will be creating about Pittsford's Civil War Veterans.





Upcoming Events

- 10/18 – Grade 4 - Ganondagan
- 10/18 to 10/20 – PTSA Super Sale, MHS, 9am-7pm
- 10/20 – Grade 5 – Nazareth (The Money Tree)
- 10/23 – TRE BOE Report, 7pm
- 10/31 – Halloween Parade, 1:30pm
- 11/6 to 11/9 – TRE Book Fair
- 11/6 – Grade K-1 Roller Skating
- 11/7 – Grade 2-3 Roller Skating
- 11/8 – Grade 4-5 Roller Skating
- 11/9 – TRE PTSA – Adult Square Dancing 6-8pm
- 11/10 – Veterans Day NO SCHOOL
- 11/14 – Grade 3 – Strong Museum of Play
- 11/15 – TRE Picture Makeup Day
- 11/22 – 11/24 – Thanksgiving Recess



**The TRE STAR is a monthly publication.
We welcome any contributions you
may have to our newsletter!**

**Written content and high resolution
photos would be greatly appreciated.
Deadline for submission is generally
one week before the first of the month.**

**Please send submissions to
trestarnews@gmail.com**

