



# Thornell Road Star

Thornell Road Elementary, Pittsford, New York

Volume VII, Issue 1

Roger DeBell, Principal

September 2016



## Contents

Principal's Perspective 1,2
PTSA News ...3
Box Tops ...3
Reading Corner...4
Odyssey of the Mind...5
Service Stars...5
Coats for Kids...6
Upcoming Events...6



## PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE



*Dear Parents and School Community,*

**Welcome back to school!** I hope that you had a fantastic summer and have now made a smooth transition to the start of the new school year. **Our construction project is in the final stages.** Some of the work that has been accomplished includes the replacement of our roof, the installation of new boilers, the integration of new a HVAC system, bathroom renovations, asbestos abatement and new flooring. In addition, a number of classrooms have new cabinetry, casework, countertops and plumbing fixtures.

**It is my pleasure to introduce the newest members of our TRES family:**

- \* Laurie Chernyak, Main Office Secretary Substitute
- \* Keith Anderson, Custodian/Cleaner (12n-9pm)
- \* Jill Adams, Educational Assistant (1H)
- \* Margaret Ciaccio, CSE-Assigned Paraprofessional (DPP)
- \* Brianna Pumputis, CSE-Assigned Paraprofessional (IDP)
- \* Pam Rock, Recess/Lunch Monitor



**We also welcome the following staff members to new assignments at TRE:**

- \* Rich Parkison, Head Custodian
- \* Lisa Mauger, Grade 3 Teacher
- \* Anne Holahan, Educational Assistant (IDP)
- \* Nancy Ashbaugh, CSE-Assigned Paraprofessional (DPP)
- \* Judy Flagg, Educational Assistant (1R)

**During the '16-'17 school year, we will use our new 6-day rotating schedule to expand our collaborative team practices.** We will also continue our work identifying essential learning targets for at each grade level and further our use of instructional technology to engage our students in rigorous and authentic learning experiences.

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, book fairs, school pictures, Cultural Arts assemblies, Art Ambassador projects, Science Action program, chess club, Drama Kids acting classes, visiting author workshops, and Family Fun Fair. **Please help us continue to provide these and other exciting opportunities for our students by becoming a PTSA volunteer.** Without the support of volunteers, we may need to significantly reduce these offerings in the 2016-2017 school year. For more information about volunteer opportunities at TRE, please visit our PTSA website at <http://www.pittsfordptsa.net/schools.cfm?subpage=1304526>.

.....continued on page 2

.....continued from page 1

**Remember that our district and school websites are excellent resources for information.** To link to the Thornell Road website go to <http://pittsfordschools.org> and click on the blue “Schools” tab located at the top left corner of the page.

**If you would like to receive text message alerts, sign up on our school website** by clicking on the blue “Parents” tab located on the left side of the page. Click on the “e-Messaging Registration” box and then enter your cell phone number at the bottom of the page. We will continue to use our Infinite Campus Messenger system to send information directly to your e-mail inbox. This system is linked to our student census information and there is no need to do anything to sign-up for this service.

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

Sincerely,

Roger DeBell  
Principal

P.S. This summer, TRES again participated in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge. For the results of this challenge, **please read Ms. St. James’ Reading Corner.**



Follow TRE on Twitter @PCSDThornellRd

### **Thornell Road Elementary School**



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





# PTSA



# NEWS



## Don't Miss out on Important Information!

The PTSA communicates a wealth of important information regarding programs at your child's school via email through the Classroom Communicators.

Please provide the PTSA with an accurate email address where you would like to receive important information regarding programs like Science Action, Art Ambassador, and other volunteer opportunities. **Please note: we are not asking for a commitment to join the PTSA, we just want to keep you informed of all that is going on so you and your child don't miss out!**

Please send an email to [thornell.ptsa.patty.gyle@gmail.com](mailto:thornell.ptsa.patty.gyle@gmail.com) with the following information:

Parent Name

Preferred Email

Student Name(s), grade(s), and teacher(s) for 2016-2017

Please also indicate if you are willing to serve as Classroom Communicator for your child's class. This role differs from that of the room parent in that you are not asked to plan parties, field trips, etc. Your role will be to support the PTSA by receiving and forwarding emails from the PTSA regarding programs geared toward your child's class to the other parents in the class. This is a great way to help support the PTSA and won't take too much of your time.

Thank you,

Patty Gyle

Classroom Communicator Chair

[thornell.ptsa.patty.gyle@gmail.com](mailto:thornell.ptsa.patty.gyle@gmail.com)



Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to help earn cash for our school. Each one is worth 10¢. Just look for the pink Box Tops on hundreds of products. All you have to do is clip them and send them to your child's teacher. Tape them to the collection sheet or simply put in a baggie! Our school contest has started and ends October 21st. Last school year, we earned \$100 for our school from Box Tops and this school year, our goal is to earn \$2000. Thank you for your help!

~ Jackie Hughes and Lauren Lauterbach

## PTSA Reminder

Parents and teachers, please return your 2016-2017 PTSA Membership Form with your contribution as soon as possible.

You do not have to attend meetings to join but your contribution is needed for the PTSA to continue their efforts for the children, teachers and the schools.

Also, parents we need your PTSA Volunteer Forms. There are many volunteering opportunities you can do from home. Without your support, the activities and programs offered cannot happen!





## Reading Corner

~ Miss Samantha St. James, Reading Specialist



Hello Thornell Road Families,

I am very excited to be kicking off the 2016-2017 school year with the results from our participation in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge. **Congratulations to all participants** for a job well done! Here are the final results from the challenge:

- TRE students logged **862,367 minutes** towards the new Scholastic World Record
- TRE placed **36<sup>th</sup> worldwide**

### Top Readers from the 2016 Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge

Thanks to the PTSA, these top readers will each receive a Barnes & Noble gift card!!



Everette Tessa  
(Last Year's Kindergarten)



Jaelyn Dominic  
(Last Year's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade)



Zachary Matthew  
(Last Year's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)



Gregory Jonah  
(Last Year's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)



Lucy Melissa  
(Last Year's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Angel Valerie  
(Last Year's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Top Logging Classrooms:

K - Mrs. Dickerson's PM

1 - Mrs. Hess

2 - Mrs. Engert

3 - Ms. Canfield

4 - Mrs. Magioncalda

5 - Mrs. Chapman

**Everyone should be  
very proud of our  
school 😊**

**Keep on reading!**



## ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

**Teams will be forming in October!**

Thornell Road Students in 4th and 5th grade will have the opportunity to join an Odyssey of the Mind team. A parent information meeting will be held on Monday, October 3rd from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Thornell Road School Cafeteria.

For more information about the program go to:

<https://youtu.be/cWHP64kUhWc>

to view a video made by a past Thornell Road Student or go to Mrs. Doran's web page at:

<http://www.pittsfordschools.org/webpages/sdoran/odyssey.cfm>



## Service Stars in the Greenhouse

~Mrs. Doran

5<sup>th</sup> grade Thornell Road students have the opportunity to learn more about recycling by participating in our Greenhouse project during recess at school. By participating in an environmental service-learning project, students make difference in their future and the future of our planet. Service Stars will learn how to make handmade recycled paper out of material from the blue box, study worms and how they make natural compost and learn how to grow and care for herbs and flowers in our Greenhouse. They will be able to share these skills with the whole school by giving tours of the greenhouse and worm farm and at Open House with Mrs. Lubbers making paper for the whole school.

To learn more about our Thornell Road Service Stars and the Greenhouse go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8X8tafCFJPI>

One of our Service Stars starred in the film called "Paper" in the 2015 Environmental Fast Forward Film Festival. Go to <http://www.pittsfordschools.org/webpages/sdoran/service-stars.cfm> to see the film chosen for "Most Unique Perspective".

The students will get more information about signing up in class.





## COATS FOR KIDS



The Women's Club of Pittsford is holding its annual "Coats for Kids" drive during the month of October. Collection boxes will be in each Pittsford Elementary school as well as the Pittsford Federal Credit Union, Pittsford Library, the Spiegel Center and the "Y" and also at PUNS, Christ Clarion Nursery School and the Montessori Pre-School on French Road.

Clean out your closets and donate any unwanted/outgrown coats, hats, mittens, scarves, sweaters and boots in **SIZES INFANT THRU ADULT** to help others in the Monroe County area who are in need of warm winter clothing. The economy may be improving but there is still a great need in our area and agencies are already calling to be placed on our donor list.

Thank you so much for your generosity and for making this another successful year!

~ Judy Flagg



## Upcoming Events

- 9/22 – Band Starts (teacher is here 2 days)
- 9/23 – Band Starts (teacher is here 2 days)
- 9/26 – Chorus – Grade 4 begins
- 9/27 – Orchestra Begins
- 9/27 – 2S to Stone Tolan House, 9am
- 9/28 – 2C to Stone Tolan House, 9am
- 9/29 – 9/27 – 2O'C to Stone Tolan House, 9am
- 9/28 – Chorus – Grade 5 begins
- 10/7 – Super. Conference Day (No School)
- 10/10 – Columbus Day (No School)
- 10/13 – School Picture Day
- 10/31 – Halloween Parade

The **THORNELL ROAD 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](mailto:trestarnews@gmail.com)