



Thornell Road Star

Thornell Road Elementary, Pittsford, New York

Volume VII, Issue 4

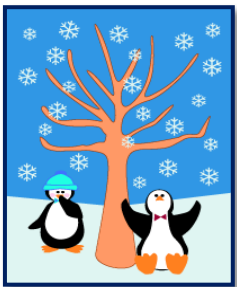
Roger DeBell, Principal

Dec. 2016



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PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Parents and School Community,

We live in a world surrounded by technology. Whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on their understanding of how technology works. As part of our commitment to engaging students in rigorous and authentic learning through the use of technology, we are pleased to continue and expand our participation in the Hour of Code.



On Friday, December 2nd, we will welcome members of the Xerox Innovation Team to help us "kickoff" this year's Hour of Code. This presentation for students in grades 3 through 5 will focus on a variety of coding applications including facial recognition software.

Our school-wide Hour of Code event for Kindergarten through Grade 5 will take place on Wednesday, December 7th. Using the format provided by <https://code.org/learn>, our students will write code from a variety of tutorials. Again this year, we are privileged to have Mr. Matt Gostling and his Computer Programming students from Mendon High School partner with us for this event. Our students will work alongside these high school students during the writing of code. We also expect a number of special guests from our community to visit during the Hour of Code event.

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code.learn(you);
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I encourage you to ask your child to show you how it is done. For more information and to try some of the activities, you can go to <https://code.org/student>. All curriculum resources and tutorials offered at this website are free to use and openly licensed. For your convenience, you can also access this information from the *Websites We Use* section of the TRE website.

Please remember to stay connected to TRE by following us on Twitter. There you will find pictures of the Hour of Code as well as information regarding other events and activities at our school.

As always, thank you for all that you do to support our students, our staff and our school community. Best wishes for a joyous, safe and restful Winter Recess.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Roger DeBell
Principal

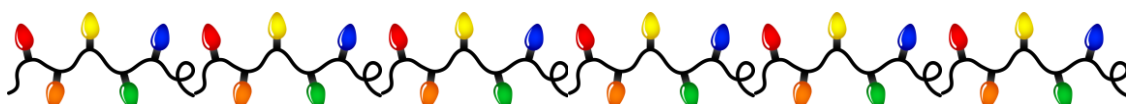


Follow TRE on Twitter @PCSDThornellRd

Thornell Road Elementary School



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



Reading Corner

~Miss Samantha St. James, Reading Specialist~

Welcome to Miss St. James' Reading Website

<http://www.pittsfordschools.org/webpages/sstjames/>



Dear Thornell Families,

This month I wanted to take the opportunity to share with you the various resources you can find at my webpage. Enjoy!

From my homepage you can access:

- **Reading Websites:**
 - **Phonemic Awareness & Phonics** (K-2nd: Great for practicing skills at home)
 - **Literacy Games** (Kindergarten - 5th Grade)
 - **Comprehension & Text Features Games** (3rd-5th Grade)
 - **Learning Songs** (You Tube videos kids love)
- **Sight Words Lists** (K-2nd sight word lists and games)
- **Where to Find Books** (School & public library links; book lists)
- **Tips for Parents** (Supporting your child's reading at home)
- **Spelling & Vocabulary Games**
- **Education Apps**
- **Summer Reading** (Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge results and summer reading lists)
- **Developing Your Child's Reading Comprehension** (Questions to guide conversations about texts read at home K-5th grade)
- **QAR** (Question Answer Relationships)
- **Decoding Tips** (Support your child with strategies to help them read unknown words)
- **Online Story Books & Read Alongs**
- **Read Live**
- **Mt. TRE Reaching Challenge** (Parent flyer, logs, and more)



The Women's Club of Pittsford would like to say "Thank You" to the Thornell Road families who contributed to the October "Coats for Kids" collection. The following charities benefited from the 40 extra large, black garbage bags this year:

Catholic Charities
Daystar

Pittsford Food Cupboard
St. Joseph's House of Hospitality
Cameron Community Ministries

These agencies were so very grateful, humble, and appreciative of the hard work that was done to supply coats and warm items for the people that really need them this year. Great Job!!



Health Education

~ Mrs. Lattuca

K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders are learning about personal safety. Please remember to talk to your child about safety rules regarding staying safe while in public places, learning telephone numbers and knowing when to call 9-1-1. Role playing is a great way to practice safety rules!



Art Class Volunteer Opportunities!

Parents of students in grades 1-5 who are looking for ways to spend time with their child at school, look no further! Ms. Lubbers' Art class is the perfect place to help, observe, and make a difference in your child's day! No art experience or background necessary. *This is NOT the same program as Art Ambassador.* Contact Jess Izzo, Art Room Vol Coord: jcizzo247@gmail.com

Attention New Families to TRE this Year!

New families who participated in the orientation or are new since the summer: Please contact Jess Izzo, New Family Liaison, with any questions or concerns you may have, now that the school year is in full swing! Also, don't forget that all parents are welcome and encouraged to attend the TRE PTSA meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 9am. Siblings welcome! jcizzo247@gmail.com

Service Stars

~Mrs. Doran



Busy Making Paper in the Greenhouse!

5th grade Thornell Road students have the opportunity to learn more about recycling by participating in our Greenhouse project. 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. We train all students from 3:00 - 4:00 on Mondays in the Greenhouse. To participate, students need to have a signed permission slip and a ride home at 4:00 pm. Check the website for dates.

Go to <http://www.pittsfordschools.org/webpages/sdoran/service-stars.cfm> to print a permission slip and check out our movies.

2016 TRE Spelling Bee Winners

~ Jill Garringer and Jaspal Bains



Congratulations to the trophy winners!

The Fall 2016 TRE Junior Spelling Bee for 3rd grade was held on Friday, November 4th.
1st place: Alex Weimer, 2nd place: Lily Archer, and 3rd place: Ethan Postle.

The Fall 2016 TRE Spelling Bee for grades 4 and 5 (combined) was held on Friday, November 18th.

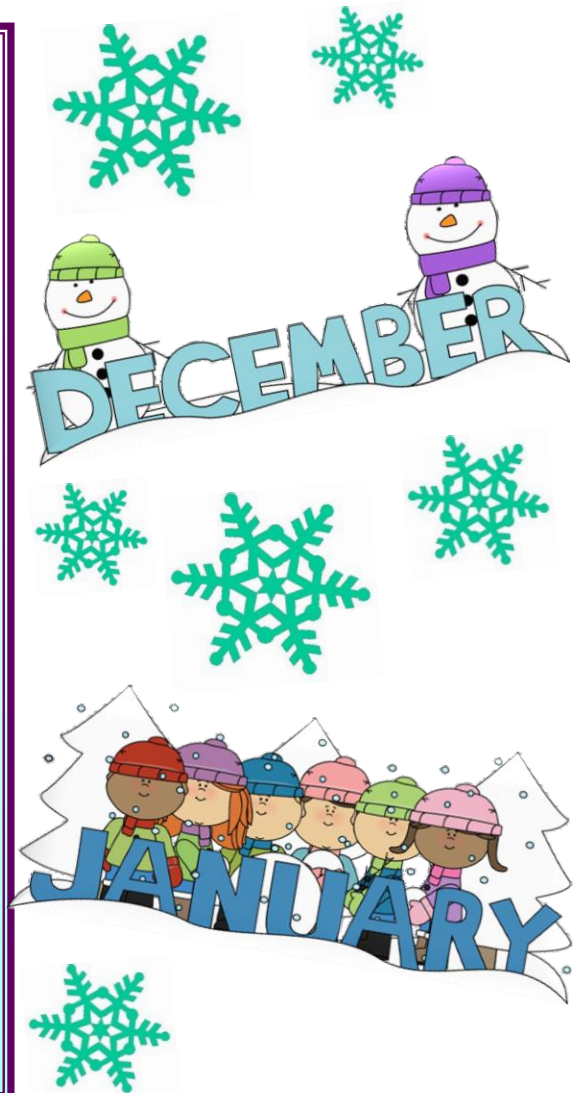
1st place: Jack Archer, 2nd place: Jack Lomenzo, and tied for 3rd place: Lily Goldberg and Madison Thomas.

Congratulations to all of the participants! Thank you to the students for their efforts, the parent volunteers, and the TRE staff for their help with the bee.



Upcoming Events

- 12.6.16 – Half Day for Conferences (no school for K)
- 12.7.16 – Hour of Code, 9:00am – 12:00pm
- 12.15.16 – Gr. 2 to Nazareth Arts Center
- 12.26.16 – 1.2.17 – Winter Recess
- 1.10.17 – PTSA Meeting, STaR Lab, 7:30am
- 1.16.17 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day – NO SCHOOL
- 1.19.17 – Grade 1 RMSC Planetarium, 9:20am – 11am
- 1.19.17 – Band & Gr 5 Chorus Concert Assembly 1:30pm, Auditorium
- 1.19.17 – Band & Gr 5 Chorus Concert 7pm, Auditorium
- 1.24.17 – Orchestra & Gr 4 Chorus Concert Assembly 1:30pm, Auditorium
- 1.24.17 – Orchestra & Gr 4 Chorus Concert 7pm, Auditorium



BOYS GRADES K-6 FREE LACROSSE DROP-IN CLINIC

(All participants must attend Pittsford Schools)



Free Clinic for all boys grades K-6 interested in trying out lacrosse for the first time. No equipment needed! Bring a lacrosse stick if you have one. Clinic will include warm-up, stations, drills, and a review of the basics of lacrosse. There will be current players and coaches there to answer any questions.

This is a great way to try lacrosse and see for yourself what all the kids are talking about! Tell your friends!

<https://leagueathletics.com/Registration/Restrictions.asp?RegID=118159&n=44116&org=PITTSFORDLACROSSE.ORG>

LOCATION: Brighton Sports Zone Red Field- On Brighton-Henrietta Townline Rd.

DATES: December 6th or December 13th

TIMES: 5:00-6:00 PM

COST: *FREE (US Lacrosse membership is not required for the free clinic however players must register on the Pittsford Lacrosse website)