



Thornell Road Star

Thornell Road Elementary, Pittsford, New York

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Roger DeBell, Principal

September 2018

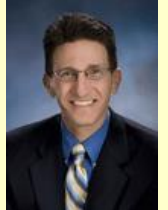


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PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Parents and School Community,

Welcome back to school! I hope that you had a fantastic summer and have now made a smooth transition into the start of the new school year. The **TRES** staff and I are very excited to have every one back at school, especially our very first group of full-day kindergarten students.

Please join me in welcoming the newest members of the **TRES family:**

- * Sarah Jacob, Main Office Secretary
- * Kate Schreiber, Student Services Teacher
- * Alexis Aponte, Kindergarten Teacher/Educational Assistant
- * Melissa Dacey, Grade 1 Teacher
- * Patti Bower, Grade 2 Teacher
- * Ben Wilson, Grade 3 Teacher
- * Kristin DeTaeye, Grade 4 Teacher
- * Kavita Bhatia, Educational Assistant
- * Jessica Izzo, Paraprofessional
- * Jessi Topping, Paraprofessional
- * Adriana Scalise, Paraprofessional
- * Susan Pluta, Paraprofessional



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

- * Amy Adams, Grade 5 Teacher
- * Becky Hess, Kindergarten Teacher
- * Jill Adams, Educational Assistant (KH)
- * Judy Flagg, Educational Assistant (1D)
- * Jane Frame, Educational Assistant (1R)
- * Gloria Clouser, Educational Assistant (2B/3S)

During the '18-'19 school year, we will refine the alignment between our social emotional learning practices, our cornerstone of "living the Thornell Road Way", our district vision statement and the Next Generation Skills. As an extension of our curricula, we will also strengthen existing and build new community partnerships as part of authentic student-learning opportunities that lead to long-lasting relationships and service to others.

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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 Basket Bonanza. **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 2018-2019 school year.



For more information about volunteer opportunities at TRES, please visit our PTSA website at <https://www.pittsfordptsa.net/>. From this website, you can also subscribe to receive a monthly PTSA electronic newsletter. Click on “eNEWS” in the top banner and then “eNews Sign Up”. Type your information and subscribe to Thornell Road Elementary and other information as you wish. Click “Subscribe to List” when complete.

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 menu icon to select “Schools”. You can also link to the PCSD Communication Office web page by going to <https://www.pittsfordschools.org/Domain/73>. There are a number of ways to stay connected to our district and our school.

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

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**

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It's time to start collecting and clipping those box tops for our bi-annual Thornell Road Box Tops Fundraiser! Our goal is to raise \$1500 in box top funds for PTSA led school programs, but we are going to need your help! Look over your groceries and other retail products to start clipping. Ask a relative or neighbor to help save tops too. Our first classroom competition begins shortly. Keep an eye out for the flyer in your child's take home folders.

~ Jackie Hughes

**FUN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!**

ATTENTION PARENTS: EASY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY! MS. LUBBERS IS LOOKING FOR PARENTS TO HELP OUT IN YOUR CHILD'S ART CLASS. THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO BE A PART OF THE CLASSROOM! THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE. YOU WOULD HELP BY BEING AN ADDITIONAL SET OF EYES, EARS AND HANDS! NO ART EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!

PLEASE CONTACT CARRIE ARCHER FOR MORE INFORMATION!
carriearch@gmail.com



Reading Corner

~ Miss Samantha St. James, Reading Specialist

Hello Thornell Road Families,

Welcome back! We are pleased to announce that we had 70 students participate in the Summer 2018 Thornell Reading Extravaganza!

On Friday September 14th, we gathered all participants to celebrate their summer reading. All students were given a certificate for their participation. Then we announced the top two readers at each grade level. The following students received special recognition and a Barnes & Noble gift card courtesy of our PTSA:

Grade 1: Alex R. & Mira S.
Grade 2: Katka N. & Julian S.
Grade 3: Ainsley B. & Annie S.
Grade 4: Tristan Z. & Dominic S.
Grade 5: Sukhmani J. & Lauren P.

Congratulations to our top readers and all of our participants! Keep on reading!

~ Mrs. Autovino, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Gulisano, Mrs. Kreienberg & Mrs. Ramesh ~

Summer 2018 Thornell Reading Extravaganza Participants

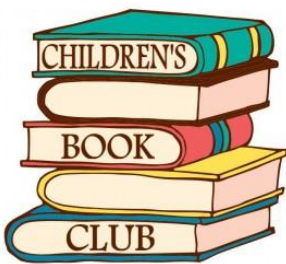


News from the Library

~ Janah Autovino, Library Media Specialist



Our library is pleased to offer several opportunities for students to read and discuss great books together.



We have a new club this year for our 3rd grade students. It is called "The Walking Bookclub". Students will meet with library staff members on Tuesdays and Thursdays during recess time to walk outside while listening to an audiobook using a Playaway device. A Playaway is a small, hand-held listening device that comes preloaded with a story. Students plug in their classroom headphones to start listening. Our library received a grant from the Monroe #1 BOCES School Library System to purchase a variety of playaways. We have a great selection of new novels like *The One and Only Ivan*, *Big Nate*, *The Terrible Two* and classics including, *Charlotte's Web*, *Ramona Quimby Age 8* and *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*. Ten students at a time may join the Walking Bookclub, and 3rd grade classes will alternate months, so that all students who are interested will be able to join at some point during the year. We are looking forward to reading some great books and getting exercise at the same time!



We also offer our Brown Bags and Books Club for our 4th and 5th grade students. During library class, students will hear booktalks about the novels chosen for our bookclub. If interested, students will sign up and check the book out. They will have about a month to read the book, and then we will meet during lunchtime on a Friday in the library to discuss the book. Multiple copies of the bookclub books have been generously purchased for our library by the PTSA. We have many new novels that we are excited to share with students this year including: *Orphan Island*, *A Night Divided*, *Save Me a Seat*, *Ms. Bixby's Last Day* and *Beyond the Bright Sea*. Students are also encouraged to seek out the eBook or audiobook version of the bookclub book if they wish via Overdrive or through the public library. Each 4th and 5th grade class will have at least two opportunities to join bookclub during the school year.



Counselor's Corner

~ Lisa Hems, School Counselor



As parents, we don't want our children to suffer unnecessarily. An important part of our role as parents (and educators) is to protect our children from physical and emotional harm. However, try as we may, there are inevitable challenges in childhood - separation from parents, academic demands, social pressures, world news, and family changes. There will likely be a multitude of other large and small unexpected challenges throughout our children's development.

Knowing that we cannot prevent adversity, and indeed need to prepare for it, FDR noted in a 1940 address at the University of Pennsylvania, "We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future." This quote underscores the need for us to foster the ability to tolerate and recover from difficulties; to develop resilience. Resilience is not an inborn trait, rather it is a cultivated skill that is best fostered from an early age. Childhood is the ideal time to allow our children to be challenged, and to sometimes fail, when we can monitor and support the consequences of endeavors gone awry. Failure also teaches us that setbacks are expected and that useful knowledge and abilities arise from failure. Classroom counselor lessons often focus on developing resiliency based skills.

You may wonder how to strike a helpful balance of safety and risk, certainty and doubt. It is indeed a tricky undertaking. Here is a 6 minute read that I think nicely captures practical approaches to help parents raise resilient children. Margarita Tartakovsky discusses [Ten Tips for Raising Resilient Kids](#). Public service announcement: there may be some discomfort, risk taking, ambiguity, and mistakes along the way. Known side effects include confidence while managing stress, ability to solve problems, and openness to change.

Please contact me if you are interested in further discussing the topic.



Nurse's Office

~ Mrs. Lattuca, School Nurse Teacher



- ➔ Please reinforce the school safety rule regarding food in the classroom and cafeteria. NO sharing food or snacks
- ➔ Please remember to hand in current physical/immunization records to the Health Office. All new students to Thornell Road, all K, 1st, 3rd and 5th grade students require an updated physical and immunization record this year.
- ➔ Please pack an extra pair of undies and pants in your child's backpack. It will save you a trip to school if there is an accident or muddy mess while on the playground.