



Thornell Road Star

Thornell Road Elementary, Pittsford, New York

Volume IX, Issue 8

Roger DeBell, Principal

May/June 2019

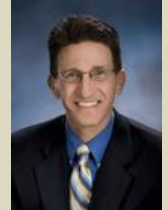


Contents

Principal's Perspective 1,2
Student Council News.....3
Health Office.....3
Thornell Reading Extravaganza...4
Fourth Grade News...5
Book Fair Update...6



PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE



It is hard to believe that in a couple of weeks we will come the end of another school year. On behalf of everyone at TRE, I would like to **thank you for your on-going support and partnership with our school.**



As many families begin to think about summer vacation, please continue to encourage your child to keep reading. **Here are a few strategies from a variety of sources that can help your child maintain and even improve reading over the summer months:**

Four or More for Summer Success - Research shows that children who read at least four books during the summer are more likely to maintain and even improve valuable reading and comprehension skills. Take advantage of our local library and feel free to ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests and abilities.

Allow for Your Child to Choose - Nine out of ten children are more likely to finish a book when they choose it for themselves. You can add some excitement to the trip to the library or bookstore by having your child show you the books he or she is interested in reading.

Take Reading Beyond the Book - Ask your child questions about the story that he or she is reading. You can often find supplemental activities to enhance your child's enjoyment and comprehension by visiting a relevant museum exhibit, learning more about the author on the internet or by visiting the book's website.

Keep Reading Aloud - Reading aloud benefits all children, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so he or she will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This will increase your child's knowledge and expand his or her experience with text, so that he or she will do better when reading independently. In addition to reading aloud with your child, you may also find that there are a number of audio books available. Having your child follow along in the book while listening to the story provides a measurable benefit.

.....continued on page 2

.....continued from page 1

Every Little Bit Helps - Encourage your child to take advantage of every opportunity to read throughout the day. Even small opportunities like reading magazines, recipes or other printed material reinforce the importance of reading and can help improve a child's skills.

*Information about our **Thornell Reading Extravaganza** will be sent home with your child's report card. Please encourage your child to record reading minutes over the summer.*

Thank you for all that you do to support our students, our staff and our school community. Have a great end to this school year. **As a reminder, the last day of school for our students is Friday, June 21st.**

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer!

Sincerely,

Roger DeBell
Principal



Thornell Road Elementary School



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

Student Council News

The Student Council's Pittsford Food Cupboard Cleaning Drive was a HUGE success! We collected 784 items! Thank you to all the families that participated in helping our neighbors! The winning grade level was 3rd grade! They enjoyed a snack from the cafeteria as their prize!

In June, Student Council will take a field trip to the American Legion to share breakfast with the Veterans that our school has a partnership with. We are excited to continue this meaningful connection.



Health Office

~ Teresa Lattuca



Please remember to pick up any medication you might have in the Health Office. By State Law, no medication can be stored over the summer. Stay healthy and enjoy the summer!

News from the Library

~ Janah Autovino, Library Media Specialist



Coming soon... The Thornell Reading Extravaganza Summer Reading Challenge!

Once again this summer, we are challenging students to participate in our school's summer reading program. Simply keep track of the number of minutes you spend reading each day during the months of July and August, and in when students return to school in September we will celebrate our reading accomplishments. Reading logs will be due during the first week back at school, and all of those who participated will be invited to a special ceremony with Mr. DeBell in the auditorium. The two students at each grade level with the most logged minutes will win a Barnes and Noble gift card, courtesy of the PTSA. Be on the lookout for our Summer Reading Letter and Reading Log in your child's report card folder.

Although our library is closed in the summer, there are a few other great places and resources for great books! The PCSD librarians have compiled a list of fabulous recommended books at each grade level. This list can also be found in the report card folder. The books on this list includes a variety of books from every genre and are books that our librarians have enjoyed. Many of these books are available at the Pittsford Public Library and as eBooks/Audiobooks, which are available via Overdrive through Monroe #1 BOCES

While you are visiting the Pittsford Public Library, be on the lookout for a Summer Reading Binder. This is a place for you to write a quick note to Mrs. Autovino and Mrs. Ramesh to share with us about the books you are enjoying during the summer. *Children who write a note will receive a small prize when they return to school in September.*



**Please return all
library books by
June 5th!**

As part of our ongoing partnership with the American Legion Rayson-Miller Post in Pittsford, students in Mrs. Stevens-Oliver's Fourth Grade class partnered with Veterans to create augmented reality "Pizza Box Biographies". Students interviewed the Veterans, then wrote the Veterans' stories on a "pizza". The lid of their pizza box project included an illustration and a quote from the Veteran. Each box also has an augmented reality component; when one scans the Veterans illustration with the app BlippAR, a video clip from the Veteran's interview will play. On May 15, the students honored the Veterans with a ceremony that was attended by parents, Board of Education members, Veterans and elected officials. Afterwards, the students hosted a Pizza Party, where they shared their projects and all enjoyed some pizza (compliments of Pontillo's in Bushnell's Basin).



THE SPRING 2019 BOOK FAIR SUMMARY

Volunteers ROCK! The Spring Book Fair was a total success! Thank you to all of the parents & teachers who supported the book fair. I also want to send a huge thank you to all who volunteered; we absolutely could not have done it without you.

Our total sales were \$7,834.65! That's a lot of books for our kids! Great, but how will our school benefit from this? Scholastic rewards our PTSA with either 25% of our sales in cash or 50% of our sales in Scholastic Dollars! There are also additional rewards for having multiple book fairs, attending workshops, etc. This reward system helps fund PTSA activities and helps provide new and exciting resources for our library and classrooms.

- The book fair also uses a portion of these Scholastic Dollars to purchase books from each teacher's wish-list box, putting new books in every classroom, every book fair!
- Our current Scholastic Dollar balance is \$4,631.94. Our PTSA will utilize this to purchase items from the Scholastic catalog. This may include books, furniture, STEM/Maker stations, carpets, technology and/or equipment.
- To understand more and to share your ideas, join the PTSA and get involved!

Our All-For-Books Coin Drive total was \$580.89! Great, but what does this mean? We use 100% of the money collected to buy books from our fair, this adds to our total sales and total rewards! The student council votes on where we will donate these books.

- A big shout out to Mrs. Mahar's classroom that collected the most, totaling \$164.33!
- We purchased (66) books from our book fair and donated them to the Golisano Children's Hospital!
- This helps teach our children to help others by volunteering and donating.

If you are interested in joining the PTSA please contact Virginia Brown (gina275@me.com)

If you are interested in volunteering for the next book fair please contact Nikole Downing (ncmeen@me.com) or Becca McCormick (beccabookfair@gmail.com)

We will be looking for a new Co-Chair soon, please let us know if you're interested



Pittsford District
PTSA[®]
everychild.one voice.

