

Thorndyke Happenings

Volume 2, Issue 1

October 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Thorndyke Families,

This has certainly been an interesting start to the school year! I know you are all working very hard to support learning at home for your child(ren). If you click on this link [Student Guide to Learning at Home](#) you will find some helpful tips for your child's learning at home, including creating learning routines, allowing breaks for movement, how to lessen distractions, and maintain organization.

You might consider goal setting with your child. For example, you might ask your child to set a goal to improve their engagement during virtual learning. Then ask your child to think about the challenges they face in staying focused and what they notice about the circumstances when they notice more focus during remote learning. If your child knows what their strengths are, they will be able to build from strengths and include those in their plan to meet the goal.

Teachers at Thorndyke will be reading *The Distance Learning Playbook K-12*. In addition to the Race & Equity, improving instruction, and closing the achievement gap work we do during trainings on Early Release days, we will be using this text to learning more about making virtual instruction successful.

Thank you for all you are doing to support students during remote learning and let us know if there is anything we can do to support.

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING TEACHERS

We are excited to welcome several new staff members this year! **Eleanor Raban** is co-teaching our 3/4 split class with **Caroline Doellefeld**, who is returning from leave. Ms. Doellefeld will teach the math and science and Ms. Raban will teach reading and writing. This is a fabulous combination as Ms. Raban comes with an extensive background as an Educational Support Professional at Thorndyke and shows strengths working with English Language Learner (ELL) students. Ms. Doellefeld also has extensive training working with ELL students and has a passion for teaching math and science. Both are dedicated to serving students at Thorndyke and it is an honor to have them both continue contributing to our learning community.

Emi Schwartz was hired to teach 4th grade, just before school shut down due to COVID mid-March. She completed her teaching internship at Cascade View and is dedicated to serving students in our district. Ms. Schwartz has shown strengths in building community in her classroom by showing she values students and families and is committed to their prosperity.

ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING & HEALTH SCREENING

In order to ensure health and safety protocols are being followed the main entrance to the building will remain locked during hours of operation. Everyone must complete a health screening upon entrance to the building. Adults have the option of scanning the QR code posted on the door of the main entrance to the building and completing a Google Survey with COVID and health related questions or having a staff member take their temperature and answering health screening questions. When you arrive, call the main office number posted on the entrance door and someone will come meet you to help.

If you have an **iPhone** and wish to complete the QR code and survey, open up your camera and point it to the QR code. The health survey will open up in a Google form and you can answer the questions on your phone. If you have an **Android**, you need to download the app for QR codes first.

All **students must have their temperature taken** and answer questions about how they are feeling.

ATTENDANCE

Please be sure to call the office (206) 901-7603 to inform us if your child(ren) will not be attending class online for illness, dentist, etc. If you are leaving for vacation or to go out of town for work or family reasons, all extended absences must be approved two weeks before departure. Students are expected to take their Chromebooks, learning materials, and work packets with them and attend since we are engaged in virtual learning. If the student does not follow the virtual learning schedule and complete work while away, the absence will be unexcused.

iREADY Diagnostics

When your child(ren) takes the iReady diagnostic assessment it is very important they do all the work independent of any help. This allows our teaching staff to get accurate information regarding student skills and knowledge so we can create flexible groupings, assign just right work, and design instruction that meets students learning needs.

This year the iReady Diagnostic assessments windows will be:

- October 5 to November 6
- February 1 to March 5
- May 17 to June 11

You can click on the family presentation ([English](#) | [Spanish](#)) for more detailed information about iReady diagnostic assessments.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

Even though we are engaged in remote learning, our fabulous Community in Schools (CIS) Coordinator, **Sebastian Duckworth**, and Social Worker, **Kimberly Goodman**, will continue to celebrate human virtues and **recognize students** who exemplify the related behaviors. Here is some important information:

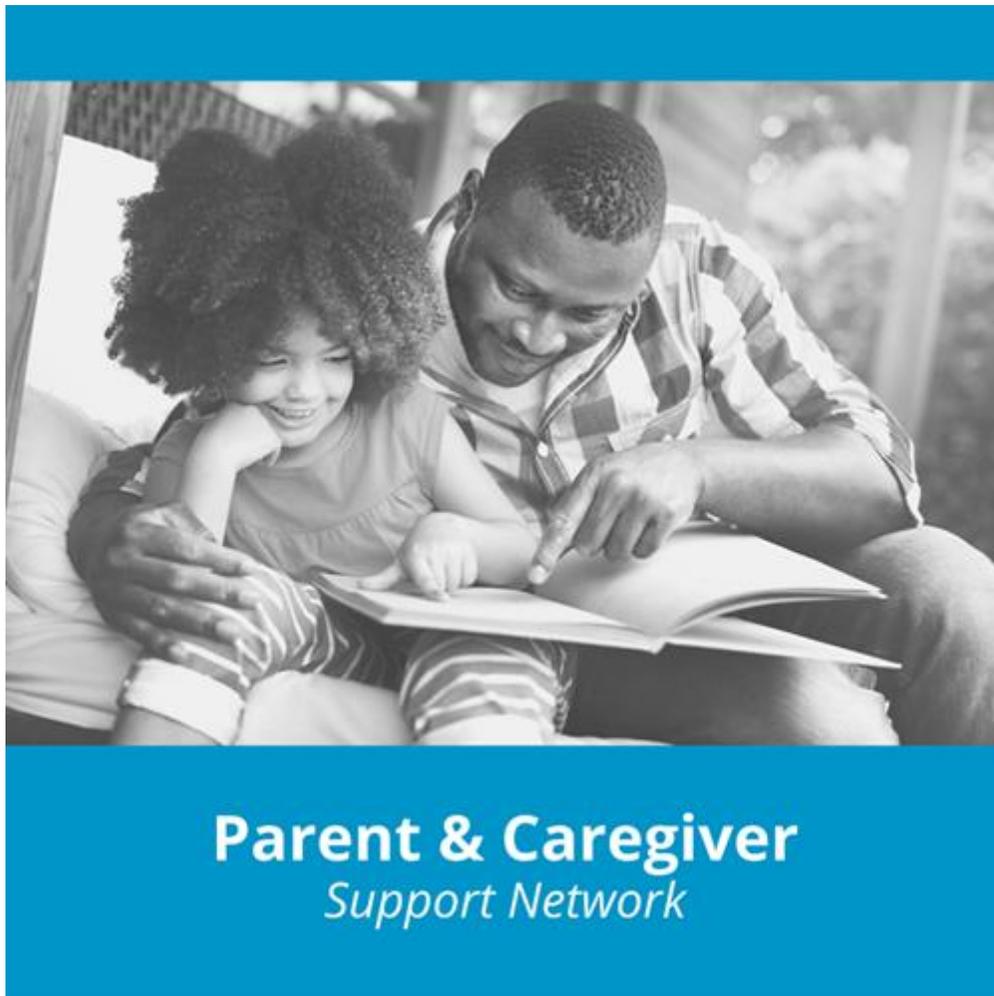
- October Virtue of the Month is HONESTY. Teachers will choose a student who is both honest in their words and action. The child will be recognized for being a trustworthy kid!
- **When teachers choose a student** who represents the virtue of the month, they will send a short video recording announcing the chosen student.
- A video announcing students to be recognized will be sent by Wednesday Oct 28th.
- Teachers are expected to find time **on FRIDAY OCT 30th** to watch the video with students.
- **Student of the Month** is another way we can recognize our students for being the wonderful kids they are and encourage them to be at their best.

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

The district is moving forward with Fall Conferences as scheduled on the 2020-21 district calendar. They will be held virtually on the afternoons of November 4th, 5th, and 6th. Early dismissal time during conferences will be at 12:45pm. *(This is also the dismissal times for the early release prior to Thanksgiving Holiday, the Spring Conference day, and the last day of school.)* If you have not yet signed up for a conference with your child's teacher by October 30th.

TEACHER OFFICE HOURS AND TECH SUPPORT

Teacher office hours are 10:45-11:30 Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays and their planning times are Monday through Friday 8:00-8:45 and 10:00-10:45. If you are having technical difficulties, please first reach out to your child's teacher. If you are not able to get onto a Zoom class while it is occurring, please call the main office 206-901-7600. We will do our best to help you over the phone. If you plan to come to the school for technical assistance, please call ahead of time to ensure we have someone on staff to help. If the Chromebook is not working, take it directly to the Tukwila School District's Service Center @ 4160 South 144th Street, Tukwila, WA 98168. The technology department will replace the Chromebook and/or charger.



FREE PARENT & CAREGIVER SUPPORT NETWORK

One of Thorndykes community partners is Sound Discipline and they have created a regular space for our parent and caregiver community to support each other during this unprecedented time. These weekly online meet-ups take place each Thursday night from 7-8:30pm and are led by Sound Discipline Facilitator and parent to two young kids, Aaron Norikane. All parents and caregivers have extra challenges this year. This will be an interactive, engaging opportunity to share your stories, ask questions, and offer and receive feedback from the community. We look forward to sharing and learning with you! Some of the topics that have surfaced at these meetings thus far include how to establish daily learning routines, assist children with self-regulation, how to create a schedule, how to navigate online learning,

Every Thursday 7:00 to 8:30. Attend as much of the meeting as possible.

To Join Zoom Meeting, click the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89120804185?pwd=TkIVdnJxUTAweExSOGZDbDVZY25OQT09>

Meeting ID: 891 2080 4185

Passcode: 823205

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

If you believe your family might qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch, please complete an application at your earliest convenience. Each family who qualifies for Free and Reduced Lunch benefits the entire school, as it increases the amount of state funding to our school. Free and Reduced Lunch Applications will be accepted all year. Applications are available in the Thorndyke main office or on the Tukwila School District web page 2020-2021 Free-Reduced Lunch Application.



Mark Your Calendar

» UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Dates to Remember

October 28	EARLY RELEASE @ 1:55 pm
November 4, 5, & 6	EARLY RELEASE @ 12:45 pm
November 11	NO SCHOOL – VETERAN’S DAY
November 18	EARLY RELEASE @ 1:55 pm
November 25	EARLY RELEASE @ 12:45 pm
November 26 & 27	NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING DAY BREAK



helping
children
to succeed

THORNDYKE IS A TITLE 1 SCHOOL

Thorndyke Elementary School receives federal money to fund a School-wide Title 1 program. Title 1 programs are intended to help ensure that all children have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and assessments. The program focuses on promoting reform in high-poverty schools (those with 40% or more students from low-income families) and ensures student access to scientifically-based instructional strategies and challenging academic content. Thorndyke uses most of Title 1 funds to pay for important staff members, including highly qualified Instructional Assistants and our Literacy and Math Interventionists. Funds are also reserved for professional development for teachers that is designed to raise the achievement of low-achieving students by improving instruction throughout the entire school. If you have any questions about our Title 1 programs, please feel free to speak with Ms. Thomas @ 206-901-7605.

The Tukwila School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, color, national origin, or disability. This holds true for all district students, employees, and district employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's title IX/RCW 28A.640 officer and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator located at 4640 S 144th Street, WA 98168: Aaron Draganov Title IX/RCW28A.640 Officer (206.901.8005) and Jennifer Jones, Section 504/ADA Coordinator (206.901.8035)

Thorndyke Elementary is a Schoolwide Title I School