

Truman Times

November 2008

Red Ribbon Week

Thank you to all the students who participated in the dress-up days during Red Ribbon Week. We saw some pretty wild hair and goofy hats during vision screening last Wednesday. Thanks especially to all the teachers who decorated their doors for the door decorating contest. Mrs. Parry and Mrs. Martin's doors were the winners. But they all got award certificates on Friday afternoon. I hope parents got a chance to see how cleverly the doors were decorated. Some themes that stood out were: "Be a smart fly- don't get caught in a web of drugs", "No bones about it, drugs can kill", "Don't monkey around with drugs", "Drugs are for thugs", "Wii pledge to be drug free" ('Game Over' when you play with drugs), and one class even wrote poems about the color "red". We are so grateful for our Truman teachers who go above and beyond to inspire our children to be the best they can be. We also hope you parents got a chance to read the story of the origin of Red Ribbon Week on the back of the Red Ribbon Week flyer. It was an inspiring story!



Thanks to everyone who has brought in Box Tops, we are off to a great start! Box Tops can be found on lots of products so keep watching for them. Then attach the 10 cent ones to the blue box tops forms which can be found in the office. Turn them in your student's teacher with names of all students in the family attending Truman, grade and teacher. Bonus Box Tops can be sent in separately in a Ziploc baggie, watch for the expired ones. There will be a new contest every month. Congratulations' to September winners! October winners will be announced on October 31. November's contest is the class that brings in the most Box Tops gets a treat. So keep collecting and turning them in.

*****Vision Screening Volunteers*****

a great big
THANKS
for all you did !!

From the Principal....

WalMart has started its plastic bag recycling. The collection bin is in the front hall area. I encourage you to recycle. For each extra large bag filled, we earn \$5. At my last school, we won for the state and brought the school \$8,000 plus a \$3,000 reward from WalMart. What is interesting about this win is how we got so many bags. A young, not rich, single mother worked where a lot of plastic was discarded every day. She got permission, bundled it all up and delivered six large black bags every week. When I asked her why she did so, she said that she couldn't help the school any other way – no money for the fund raiser or to donate to class. She didn't know how much she helped. I know that there was a lot less plastic in the land fills because of her.

Truman is in the top five Granite Schools in energy management. We turn off lights when not needed; turn off computers and a number of other energy saving ways. Congratulations to Mr. Francis and the staff for their efforts.

Picture retakes will be Thursday, November 6th. If your student missed the last picture day, please have him/her come dressed for pictures even if you don't want to buy any. That way everyone will be included in the class composite. If the pictures taken in September were not to your liking, then return the packet on retake day, and your child will get another picture taken. Retake pictures will be back before Winter Break. Class pictures will come after Winter Break.



Truman Elementary will be having an A+ Book Fair November 17th – 25th. Students look forward to this event each year. The Book Fair will be open to students during their assigned recess times and after school for 45 minutes. Parents are welcome anytime during the day. SEP nights are November 24th & 25th. The Fair will be open until 7:00 p.m. on these nights. Hopefully, your child will be able to have some opportunities to earn some money to buy a book at the Book Fair. This is also a good way to do some Christmas shopping. The money goes towards building up our library. We have been able to purchase many new books, many A/R quizzes, a big reading rug, and other items. Thank you for your continued support in our Book Fairs. The PTA has also been very supportive in providing volunteers to work during the Book Fair. Without this support we would not be able to have the help needed to run the fair. If you would be available to help, please contact a PTA member or myself. We can always use your help. Thank you again for all your help and support. Hope to see you soon at the Book Fair.

GAGC

Granite Association for the Gifted Children

Deborah Byrnes, Ph.D. *Presents*
Fame, Fortune and Emotional Intelligence

Thursday, November 6, 2008 7-8:30pm
Cottonwood High School, Room 101
5715 South 1300 East
Please park in the North parking lot

CONNECT with other parents
LEARN strategies to support your child
MEET Gifted Program Coordinators & Local Board Members
GATHER resources about gifted children and programs
ELECT new board members
GET INVOLVED with your local affiliate

Classes for K-6th grade children will also be available please contact Gail Dawson at 646-4620 if your child will be attending.

Community of Caring News:

Teaching good judgment to our children is a big part of teaching them good character. In Thomas Lickona's book "Character Matters" he suggests several ethical tests we can teach our children to apply when they are making decisions. Here are three tests: "1. The Golden rule (reversibility) test: Would I want people to do this to me? 2. The fairness test: Is this fair to everybody who might be affected by what I say or do? Who might be affected and how? 3. The what-if-everybody-did-this-test: Would I like it if everyone else did this? Would I want to live in that kind of world?" Teach these to your children next time you are working on a decision together. We will share more ethical test next month.

Parents stop by and read our monthly contest winners on our bulletin board by the office.



We are very excited to announce the Meet the Masters Art enrichment program will begin in November with Vincent van Gogh. An assembly on November 5th will introduce students to van Gogh's life and work. Later in the month students will create their own work of art in van Gogh's style with their individual classes taught by talented and trained volunteers.

In February 2009, Meet the Masters will introduce Claude Monet. In March we will introduce Piet Mondrian. We are looking forward to having a wonderful time!

The school year is well underway and we are so grateful to the many faithful volunteer parents who have helped so far in the PTA-sponsored projects such as: Back To School Night, Presidential Physical Fitness, Reflections, Junior Achievement, Meet the Masters, Vision Screening and Red Ribbon Week.

In November, we are planning more fun events! **Please put on your calendars our "Kung Fu Panda" Movie Night. This is our PTA Membership Drive activity for the year.**

It will be on Friday, Nov. 14th starting at 6:30 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room at school. We will provide the movie and real movie theatre style popcorn. You bring your family and blankets to spread out on the floor.



We want to encourage every Truman parent to support and join our school's PTA at this membership drive activity (only \$5 per adult). If you are already a member, you can pick up your membership cards at the PTA table that night. It will be a fun night and our way of saying 'thank you' for joining our school's PTA.

Remember that joining the PTA does NOT mean you are required to volunteer for anything but know that a PTA could not function or provide any enriching activities to students without parents stepping up to volunteer their time, talents or membership dues. Thank you!

Meet the Masters