

Thoreau Matters

Thoreau Matters is published every two weeks by the PTA and the Thoreau administrative staff to inform parents of important information about school life at Thoreau Middle School.

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Thoreau Web Page: www.fcps.edu/ThoreauMS

PTA Web Page: www.ThoreauPTA.org

October 27th, 2011

1. **The 2011-2012 Student Directory has been distributed to students this week through Time to Soar classes.**
 - The Thoreau PTA is providing one free directory to every Thoreau student. If additional directories were purchased, they will also be distributed at this time.
 - The Student Directory is for the exclusive use of Thoreau students and their families. It is not to be used for any political or commercial purposes whatsoever.
 - The PTA would like to express their thanks and appreciation to Navy Federal Credit Union for printing this year's directory.
2. **A schedule listing Thoreau's after-school activities can be found on Blackboard.**
 - The schedule, which is updated weekly, is located in the "Thoreau Activities" course. In addition, you will find a current list of after-school activities and specific club information at the Blackboard site. Please check back frequently for updates on new clubs and any last minute changes to the weekly schedule.
 - Students may also find the after-school schedule posted outside the cafeteria. The after-school board is updated every week.
 - Please encourage your student to get involved in as many activities as possible. After-school activities provide a safe, structured environment to meet new friends, build relationships, complete homework, get extra help, etc.
3. **The American Mathematics Contest 8 for students seventh and eighth grade and students that have qualified from the AMC 6 will be administered after school on Tuesday, November 15th in the cafeteria.**
 - The AMC 8 is a 25 question, 40 minute, multiple choice examination in middle school mathematics designed to promote the development and enhancement of problem solving skills.
 - There are 50 seats available for students who are interested in participating. Please pick up a registration materials/permission forms from Ms. Galus at TTS or your math teacher.
 - Since Tuesday is not a late bus day, students will need to provide their own transportation home that day or walk.
4. **Don't miss your opportunity to order your full color yearbook this year. The yearbook is available only through the Herff Jones Order Center and must be ordered by December 31, 2011.**
 - Ordering a yearbook is simple. Either call the toll free number 1-866-287-3096 or order online at <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/index.cfm/jobSearch/displayLanding>. order number 5403.
 - The price for this year's 2012 Walden yearbook is \$36.00. The Walden yearbook with a Autograph supplement is \$41.00 (Gold Package). The Walden yearbook, a one-line name Plate, and an 8-page autograph supplement costs \$43.00.
 - Please be sure to include your child's first and last name as you would like it to appear on the yearbook.
 - If you have any questions about ordering your yearbook, you may contact Mrs. Kolly or Ms. Hinrichsen, the yearbook sponsors, at 703-846-8000 or karyn.kolly@fcps.edu & KRHinrichsen@fcps.edu.
5. **Attention parents and students: You can share photos you take at Thoreau events with the yearbook staff for possible inclusion into this year's yearbook!**
 - The website for students and parents to submit JPEG pictures. <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/index.cfm/jobSearch/displayLanding> The site will only accept JPEG picture files. Watch the video on how to add JPEG pictures.
 - If you take pictures at concerts, Theater sports, Lip Sync, school play, or any event related to Thoreau Middle School please submit your pictures to the website.
 - Thank your in advance for sharing your pictures for our yearbook. Should you have any questions or concerns about this process, you may contact Ms. Kolly at Karyn.kolly@fcps.edu.
6. **Thoreau's Teen Chef After-School Program will be starting on October 27th.**
 - This eight-week program is the result of a partnership between Thoreau's After-School Program, FCPS Food and Nutrition Services, and the Nation's Capital Chef's Association.
 - Chefs are coming to us from various businesses and around DC/NOVA, such as Nestle professional, Chesterbrook Residences, Hyatt Dulles, Keany Produce and Culinary Institute of Virginia.
7. **There will be an FLE preview available to families before the 7th Grade Dinner on November 16th from 5:30-6:30.**
 - Parents who are interested in seeing the Human Growth and Development materials that will be presented in January can review them at this time.

PTA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We're getting closer to our goal thanks to those of you who have joined the PTA and made a donation to our No-Fuss fundraiser. We've currently got 201 members and about \$6100 in donations, but it's NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN OR DONATE! We've still got plenty of room to grow in order to meet our goal!
- The landscaping club will meet on Saturday, 10/29 9am-12 noon and Thursday 11/10 after school from 2:55-3:55. If your student needs service hours, this is a perfect opportunity. A snack is provided.
- Calling all 7th grade families! Seventh Grade Family Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16. Dinner is catered by Skorpio Maggio's Restaurant, entertainment of music, games, raffles and prizes. Contact VickiJenkins at 7thgradedinner@ThoreauPTA.org if you can help tally ticket sales, decorate during the day or serve dinner that night. Download the [invitation here](#).
- The PTA hosted two successful programs in our Parent Education series:
 - In October over 40 parents attended Middle School Must-Knows and learned more about Thoreau's teams, grading, Time to Soar and after school activities .
 - Coming up November 14: Social Networking, Cyberbullying & Protecting Your Online Digital Reputation presented by Iris Beckwith, President, connectED4safety LLC. Learn how to help your child know what is ethical, safe and secure online behavior.
 - Information about the entire parent education series can be found under the "Parent Resource" tab at on our web site, www.thoreaupta.org.
- After-Halloween Candy Collection: A box will be placed in the foyer November 1, 2, and 3rd to collect any "Sweet Treats" you are willing to part with. It will be brought to the local food pantry, Food for Others. Share your bounty with those less fortunate. Please also consider sharing some of your favorites as well as the ones you don't like. Questions ? Contact Communityservice@ThoreauPTA.org.
- **New to Thoreau?** Check out the PTA's Parent Handbook...everything you need to know about Thoreau in the "Orientation Handbook for New Families." Go to the PTA website at www.thoreaupta.org and click on Parent Resources tab.
- November 18 is Health Screening Day (Vision/Hearing). If you are available to assist 7:45-11:45 am or 12:00-2:45 pm please contact Jill at President@ThoreauPTA.org.

Upcoming Events

November...

4: First Quarter Ends

7-8: Teacher Workday; No School for Students

11-12: TheaterSports

14: Internet Safety Presentation to Parents, Lecture Hall, 7-8pm

15: Internet Safety Presentation through PE Classes

16: Picture Retakes

16: Seventh-Grade Family Dinner

17: Student of the Quarter, Lecture Hall, 3-4

23: Two-Hour Early Release

24-25: Thanksgiving Holiday

THOREAU 7th GRADE DINNER



A PTA SPONSORED FAMILY EVENT

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

6:30 - 8:30 pm

THOREAU CAFETERIA

Registration Deadline: Friday, November 11, 2011

Dinner from **Skorprios** will be roasted chicken, choice of rice pilaf or roasted potatoes, Greek salad, pita bread, beverage and dessert.

Good music, Fun Games for kids, Social time for parents!
All children, including Thoreau students, **must** have adult supervision.

PRICES:

Adults & Thoreau Students: \$10.00
Children (Under the age of 11): \$ 7.00

Questions?

Vicki Jenkins vbjenkins@verizon.net or Jill Hecht JHecht3765@aol.com.

Tickets will NOT be sent home - please pick them up at the door!

THOREAU 7th GRADE DINNER REGISTRATION FORM

Student Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Total # of Adults and Thoreau Students: _____ @ \$10.00 = \$ _____

Total # of Children Under the Age of 11 _____ @ \$ 7.00 = \$ _____

Please make checks out to Thoreau PTA. Add \$1.00 per ticket after deadline.

TOTAL: \$ _____

Return form and payment to school office; or e-mail reservation to vbjenkins@verizon.net and pay online www.pay4schoolstuffonline.com