



# ELEMENTARY

## newsletter

Week of Dec. 9-15, 2024

volume 14

### Dates to Remember

- ~Social post (4K & K)
  - ~FBLA Toy Drive Begins (grade level competition)
  - 9-13 - Holiday Store (Library Story Room)
  - 9 - Info on Act 20 sent to parents - SLT meeting 3:20 pm - Christmas Dress-up days sent to parents
  - 10 - Shaunna at CESA for Act 20 training 8:15-3:30 pm
  - 11 - Early Release PD (TTT - Tool 4) for all staff 3:10-3:50 pm - 4K-3rd ACT 20 training 3:50-4:20 pm - **lockdown drill at 2 pm** - Meeting of the Minds - Christmas Door Contest judging [Christmas Door Contest](#)
  - 13 - Staff Potluck (Salads) - Hearing Screening 4K-3 grade - Holiday Shopping - Snow Day Packets shared and letter sent to parents
  - 15 - Tim Tieman's Birthday
- \*Use each moment for instruction, 2 weeks left before break. We got this.  
\*Focus on those [engagement strategies and practice SLANT!](#)

### Strategy of the Week

#### Attention Getters

- Watch the video for a variety of [attention getters](#). (It was hard not to laugh because she is a bit strange, but shares good strategies.)

### Noteworthy Celebrations

The 3-5 concert was great! A huge shout-out to **Jen & Bobbi!** Thank you to Ms. Rita for organizing everything, and to Mrs. Sivertson for providing the wonderful artwork!

Thank you, **Julie B**, for completing the Vision Screeners!

Thank you to **all** that participating in the McTeacher's event.

Happy birthday, **Tim Tieman** (12/15). I hope your day is fantastic.

**You MATTER. Together, we are stronger.**

### Growth Mindset and Well-Being

#### Growth Mindset: We LOVE a Challenge!

When students develop a growth mindset, they embrace challenges with enthusiasm. They demonstrate resilience and do not give up easily, applying grit and perseverance to overcome obstacles until they find success. To create this mindset in our students, we must uphold high expectations. This involves setting high goals for their daily tasks, projects, and classroom discussions. It is important to remember that students are not born with a growth mindset; it requires intentional development.

**Well-Being:** Students who develop a strong sense of belonging view themselves as members of an intellectual community. They understand setbacks and challenges as a natural part of the learning process. Students lacking a sense of belonging in school often withdraw from peer interactions, which may lead them to exert minimal effort in their learning. When you notice a student who seems to be "not putting forth effort," consider reframing that thought to "this student needs to feel that they belong!" It is our responsibility to foster a sense of belonging in our students. We also work to create a sense of belonging among our colleagues. We either nurture that sense of belonging or we risk failing to do so.

### Making Learning Visible

#### ENGAGEMENT: The Importance of Teacher-Student Relationships

Research highlights that strong teacher-student relationships play a vital role in fostering various forms of student engagement. When students connect well with their teachers and feel valued in their classrooms, they are more inclined to display positive signs of engagement. Additionally, social-emotional learning (SEL) significantly influences student engagement. When SEL practices are effectively integrated, they can strengthen relationships between students and teachers, enhancing students' sense of belonging within their school and classroom community.

### PeaceBuilders

#### Notice and Speak Up About Hurts I Have Caused!

Students must first learn to recognize the hurts they have caused. It is important for them to understand the impact their words and actions have had on others. Everyone needs to engage in self-reflection, noticing the effects their words and actions have on those around them.

A key skill that needs to be developed in this process is Empathy. This means saying, "I see what you're going through, I understand, and I will show kindness." Having Empathy involves the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person. By fostering Empathy, we can create a more supportive and positive environment for everyone.

**STRONGER**  
*together*

THANKFUL FOR EACH OF YOU.

Review these with your students throughout December.



# Growth Mindset

## We LOVE a Challenge.

- Use **GRIT** and **PERSEVERANCE** until you get it right.
  - When things get tough, I don't quit.
  - Just keep going.
- We value **HIGH EXPECTATIONS**.
- **PUSH** yourself to **GROW**.
- Have **EXCITEMENT** and **BELIEVE** that hard work helps to be successful.
- We **CELEBRATE** challenges because they help us **LEARN**.

# PeaceBuilders Principle



## NOTICE and SPEAK UP About HURTS I Have Caused

- What would a *sincere APOLOGY* sound like?
- **NOTICE** how a hurt make someone **FEEL**
  - Show **EMPATHY!**
    - "I see what you're going through, I understand, and I will show kindness."
- **NOTICE** when we have caused a hurt
  - What does it **LOOK** like?
    - Sad,...

# SLANT

- **S - Sit up**
- **L - Look & Listen**
- **A - Ask & Answer questions**
  - Ask
    - Public question that helps all - hand straight up
    - Private question that pertains to only one student - hand on heart
  - Answer
    - We do not raise our hands
    - Quick as a class - teacher shows thinking and then puts hand out to have class respond together
    - Partner share
      - Partners 1 and 2
      - Look, lean, whisper
      - Teacher calls either student 1 or 2 in the pair to answer specific questions
- **N - Nod & Note**
  - Nod
    - Students agree by nodding their heads or show “agree” hand signal
  - Note
    - Students take notes
- **T - Track**
  - Students keep track of the teacher, eyes always following the teacher

**“Give me a little SLANT!”**

Just an FYI for Dec. 16-20



THORP ELEMENTARY

# CHRISTMAS

## *PBIS Dress-Up*



DECEMBER 16TH-20TH

MONDAY (12/16)

THERE'S NOTHING UGLY ABOUT BEING RESPECTFUL  
-WEAR YOUR CHRISTMAS APPAREL-

TUESDAY (12/17)

SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A PEACEBUILDER  
-WEAR YOUR TINSEL, LIGHTS, AND GLITTER-

WEDNESDAY (12/18)

CARDINALS ARE COMFORTABLE WITH KINDNESS  
-WEAR YOUR FLANNELS-

THURSDAY (12/19)

COZY UP WITH GOOD BEHAVIOR  
-WEAR YOUR PAJAMAS-

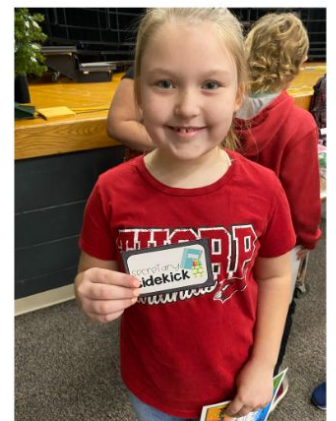
FRIDAY (12/20)

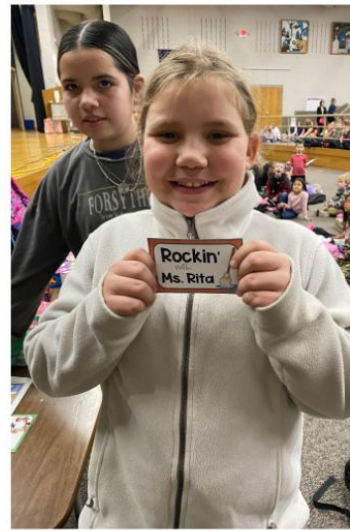
USE YOUR HEAD, BE SAFE  
-WEAR YOUR CHRISTMAS HEADGEAR-

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an evidence-based, tiered framework for supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health.



# November Winners- Cash in their prize







**LIL' SHOPPER'S SHOPPE**  
WHERE CHILDREN DISCOVER THE JOY OF GIVING!

# THORP ELEMENTARY HOLIDAY STORE

DECEMBER 9TH – 13TH

LOCATED IN THE ELEMENTARY LIBRARY

Store will be open for students to shop during their regular library visit and again on December 13.

Students can shop for family and friends and experience the joy of giving!

Gifts priced \$0.50–\$10 with most under \$5  
Every student is gifted \$1

## SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT THE HOLIDAY STORE WEBSITE.

The website has information about purchasing Gift Certificates for your student, as well as a brochure to preview the gifts and prices.



Parents can send cash to school in the envelope/flyer that went home with students.



# Holiday Drive for the Thorp Food Pantry

The holiday season is here and we, as a Sixth Grade, would like to spread some Christmas cheer to our community. We will be collecting donations for our local food pantry. Please consider donating non-perishable food items or essentials such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, etc. **Toiletry donations** are badly needed, and are often some of the first items to go at food pantries. Please consider donating by December 17th, as we look to spread some Christmas cheer this year!

Thank You,  
The Sixth Grade







JOIN US FOR A

Staff Potluck

# So Much Salad

FRIDAY

DECEMBER

13

11:00 - 1:45

## Menu:

Chili Cheese Corn Frito Salad

Bacon Avocado Salad

Mediterranean Bean Salad

Lettuce Salad with Toppings

Desserts & More



*Hope to see you there!*