

Christmas Concert

The Elementary Christmas Concert, starring kindergarten through 6th grade students, will be held on **Monday, December 16th** beginning at **6:30PM** in the **High School Gym**. The concert will be under the direction of our music teacher, Mrs. Lisa Mickelson and our Band Director, Mrs. Brittany Nichols, who have requested that **students arrive at the High School by 6:15PM**. The move to the High School Gym will allow for more parking. The theme of this year's concert is "Cookin' Up a Musical Marshmallow World". Watch for a note from Mrs. Mickelson with seating arrangements and suggestions for dress, being sent home today.

FOOD DRIVE

Our K-8 Student Council will be conducting a Food Drive next week, **Monday, December 9th through Monday, December 16th**. We are accepting donations of non-perishable, non-expired food items. The Food Bank noted that they are especially short of mayonnaise and sugar. For safety sake, we do request that there be no glass containers. The class that gathers the most food items, as measured by weight, will be awarded a root beer float party. The Food Drive is an opportunity for our students to practice our core values, especially Unity (both the Elementary and Junior High will be participating) and Compassion (as they work to meet the needs of others less fortunate than themselves). All gathered items will be delivered to the Community Harvest Food Bank.

PTO's ELF SHELF

Our wonderful PTO will once again be offering an opportunity for young shoppers to purchase gifts for their family members without those family members being present. They are calling this The Elf Shelf! The Elf Shelf will be open 11:00am—12:30pm (during the students recess time) on **Monday, December 9th - Thursday, December 12th**. Prefer not to send cash with your student? The Elf Shelf offers an ewallet which can be accessed at www.schoolshoppes.com/qr Watch for flyers coming home today.

SPECIAL DAYS

The Elementary and the Junior High Student Councils chose the Fun Friday themes for this month at their recent meeting. They also voted to add a bit of fun to the final week before we go to Christmas Break. Those special days are listed here:

- Monday, December 16 - Elf Day—wear your elf gear
- Tuesday, December 17 - Christmas Tree Day - How will you decorate yourself?
- Wednesday, December 18 - Snowman Day - Will you dress in white?
- Thursday, December 19 - Santa or Mrs. Santa Day - Ho Ho Ho
- Friday, December 20 - Ugly Sweater Day—Each class will vote on a class winner. We will also vote for a K-8 winner.

Important Happenings

- 12/5 REACH (after school program for Gr 3-8) 3:30-5:00PM
- 12/6 Fun Friday - Anything But A Backpack Day
- 12/6 Early out—2:05PM
- 12/9-12/12 PTO's Santa Shop
- 12/9 The Elf Shelf—open 11:00am-12:30pm
- 12/9 REACH (after school program for Gr 3-8) 3:30-5:00PM
- 12/10 The Elf Shelf—open 11:00am-12:30pm
- 12/11 The Elf Shelf —open 11:00am-12:30pm
- 12/11 REACH (after school program for Gr 3-8) 3:30-5:00PM
- 12/11 PTO Meeting - 5:00PM - Elementary
- 12/11 Little Guy Wrestling Signup - 6PM - lunchroom
- 12/12 The Elf Shelf—open 11:00am-12:30pm
- 12/12 REACH (after school program for Gr 3-8) 3:30-5:00PM
- 12/13 Fun Friday—Movie Character Day
- 12/13 The Elf Shelf - CLOSED
- 12/13 Popcorn Friday - sponsored by Double H Dirt Works
- 12/13 Early out—2:05PM
- 12/16 Holiday Spirit—Elf Day
- 12/16 No REACH
- 12/16 **K-6 Christmas Concert—6:30PM—HS Gym**
- 12/17 Holiday Spirit—Christmas Tree Day
- 12/18 6th grade performance of Elf
- 12/18 REACH (after school program for Gr 3-8) 3:30-5:00PM
- 12/18 Holiday Spirit—Snowman Day
- 12/19 Holiday Spirit—Santa/Mrs. Santa Day
- 12/19 6th grade performance of Elf
- 12/19 REACH (after school program for Gr 3-8) 3:30-5:00PM
- 12/20 Fun Friday—Ugly Sweater Day
- 12/20 PTO MEGA Bucks Drawing
- 12/20 Classroom Christmas Parties—PM
- 12/20 Early out—2:05PM

Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorscher,
Principal

School web site:
<https://tfes.thompsonfalls.net>



ThompsonFallsSchools



Are You Teaching Your Kids the Power of Gratitude?

I grew up in a family where enough food was hard to come by. My father was a hard worker who provided the best he could on a fry cook's salary. As kids, my brothers and I wished for things that many other kids had, and one of those things was a bicycle.

Knowing this, a kind neighbor gave me a bike that was mostly worn out, but to me it was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. As soon as I could get the tires to hold air, I was ready to give it a test run. But no! My mother called me into the house and asked, "Do you think you deserve that bike?"

"Well, yeah," I answered.

"I don't think so," she said. "Sit on that chair until you figure out why you don't!"

All that I could think of was all the things I'd done that she didn't know about, and each time I gave her a reason, she said I hadn't figured it out yet. It finally dawned on me—I had not thanked our neighbor for the bike.

Being thankful was a very big deal in our family. My Mom and Dad couldn't give us a lot of stuff, but they made a big deal about giving us character.

Do our kids really learn life's most important lessons by being lectured? Thankfulness, like just about everything else, is only learned via the Three Es of Love and Logic.

Example

Kids need to witness us being sincerely thankful for the air we breathe, our health, making it home from work without having a car accident, the food we have, the water we drink, and the family we have.

Experience

Giving kids everything that they ask for can lead them to always expect to get whatever they want. Although we certainly don't advocate depriving kids of the things that they need, will they ever experience true thankfulness if they are given everything they want, without having to wait or work for it?

Empathy

Parents who use anger, lectures, threats, or punishment to coerce their children into being thankful, will find that they create resentment and rebellion instead.

Parents who demonstrate their genuine empathy and love as they allow their children to learn sometimes uncomfortable lessons about humility and thankfulness, are far more likely to raise kids with an attitude of gratitude.

Be thankful and enjoy your kids this Holiday Season!

Each week we will share Love & Logic tips here. We also have many Love & Logic resources available for loan.

Contact our school counselor, Ms. Taylour Freed, for more info.