2024-25 Issue 24 March 6, 2025



Grade Wax Museum Our sixth grade students, under the leadership of Ms. Jessy Lewis, have been studying Ancient Civilizations and are currently putting the finishing touches on their Living Wax Museum, where each student will present their research and portrayal of a historical character. Parents and community members are invited to visit the 'museum' tomorrow, Friday, March 7th between 10:10AM and 11:20AM in the Elementary - Junior High Gym. What a great way to step back in history!

... to a Running Start! The Running Start Program, which promotes daily reading with family, ends on the **31st of March**. Reading Logs, which are available from classroom teachers and on the Forms page of our website, have space to record 21 books or 21 chapters. Students may read or be read to. Each time a log is filled, it is entered into the drawing for some amazing prizes. Running Start is sponsored by the Woman's Club, who gifted each student with a free book this week to kick things off.

Shadow, our resident plecostomus, passed away this week. He has graced our fishtank with his presence for approximately 15 years. In fish years he was nearly 73. Shadow enjoyed much admiration from students, staff and visits over the years and entertained us with his antics. He will be missed! Rest in peace Shadow.

BS 0 $(\underline{=})$

Tis the season for baseball and softball. Students may bring their gloves to play catch at recess. However, they must stay away from other students as much as possible and throw in a direction that will be safe for others. We DO NOT allow bats to be used at school. As long as students remain safe, they may continue to play catch with one another.

E GAR **LIZIN**

Kindergarten Roundup is fast approaching. Tentative dates of April 2nd and 3rd have been set. More information will be shared soon as to how to sign up for this event.



At their meeting this week, PTO finalized details of their upcoming Popcorn Friday and plans were set for their Donuts with Dads Event. That event is scheduled for Friday, March 28th beginning at 7:30AM in the Elementary Lunchroom. An update was given about the Box Tops Campaign, which is making steady progress to the goal of \$200 by the end of March. If reached students will receive an extra recess. Ideas were shared and plans were begun for the upcoming Staff Appreciation Week, which is celebrated at the beginning of May each year. Several fundraiser options were also discussed. PTO's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9th at 5:00PM in the Elementary. They would love your input and participation.



Important Happenings

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Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorscher, EXCELLENCE Principal NTEGRITY School web site: https://tfes.thompsonfalls.net Find us on: facebook

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By Dr. Charles Fay

Preteen and Teen Behaviors

Many families are struggling with a wide range of issues in this post-pandemic era. These challenges can make it difficult to sort out what is normal preteen and teen behavior, and what behaviors might warrant more concern. This can make parenting seem overwhelming at times.

We have received many calls from parents asking about the behaviors of their older kids and how they should respond to them. Here are some examples of normal behaviors that are part of the developmental process with preteens and teens, and corresponding behaviors that might be unhealthy and problematic.

Normal: Make a lot of noise with goofy singing, noises, and impulsive outbursts that seem to come from nowhere. **Unhealthy:** Make a lot of noise with hurtful name calling, arguing, and outbursts that are clearly intended to hurt others.

Normal: Become very upset sometimes when limits are set over digital media.

Unhealthy: Become extremely defiant, deceptive, or even violent when limits are set over digital media.

Normal: Experiment occasionally with defiance. **Unhealthy:** Are almost always defiant.

Normal: Make poor decisions occasionally.

Unhealthy: Don't seem to understand or care about cause and effect.

Knowing what's within the wide range of "normal" behavior will help us find more humor and enjoyment during this period of our kids' lives. It also helps us recognize when we might need to seek professional help and allows us to respond in ways that are helpful rather than ways that damage our relationship and produce rebellion. Read next week's tip for contrasts of helpful and unhelpful responses to parenting preteen and teen behaviors.

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.