



Panther Post

Thoreau Park Elementary School



Mr. Bickley, Principal

Mr. Keating, Dean of Students

Dec., 2020

At Thoreau Park, we believe it is our mission to increase student achievement and social-emotional health through student-centered instruction, positive family-school partnerships, and providing a safe learning climate.

Principal Update

As we approach winter break and the mid-way mark of the 2020-21 school year, I would like to take a minute to express my appreciation to the Thoreau Park Community and Staff. Everyone's ability to quickly adapt to an ever-changing situation and yet still keep the needs and education of our students at the heart of what we do is outstanding.

While 2020 is coming to an end, we will continue to need to demonstrate that adaptability. I have full confidence that we will continue to provide the learning environment that our students need. Eventually, some sense of normalcy will return and we will be able to apply everything we have learned during the pandemic to make Thoreau Park an ever better place for students.

I hope that all of our Thoreau Park families are able to enjoy a safe holiday season. We miss seeing our students in the building every day, but trust that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and will be welcoming everyone back at some point in 2021.

Ted Bickley, Principal

Annual Emergency Contact Form

This school year, the Parma City School District has transitioned to an all online way of updating student emergency contact information. In years past, parents have been asked to complete the Blue Card each year and return it to school. This year, the district is using an online Refresh form. The form can be [accessed here](#). Parents should have received

a Snapcode in the mail in late summer. If you did not receive a Snapcode and still need to update your child's emergency contact information, please contact Mrs. Pace or Mrs. Klump in the Main Office at 440-885-2351 as soon as possible so we can have up-to-date information for your child(ren).

Distance Learning

While the school district is in distance/remote instruction, please refer to the [Thoreau Park Distance Learning for Families document](#). There are many helpful links contained in the document with answers to many different questions. The building will be open until 7:00pm Monday nights for student materials pickup. Parents only have to come to the school if they receive a message from their child's teacher that there are materials for their child to be picked up. An important reminder for families is that small group intervention groups meet in the afternoon. The time that your child will have small group instruction varies from classroom to classroom. Teachers will update parents each Monday in their weekly communications, or Week at a Glance, of days and times of the small group meetings for the week. Please have your child sign in to those afternoon meetings for extra support in reading and math.

Hybrid Learning

If Cuyahoga County is in Red, beginning the week of Jan. 18, 2021, ALL K-4 students will be in Hybrid Learning. Students will attend school on their cohort days (GREEN on Tuesday & Wednesday/WHITE on Thursday & Friday). The 3 days students are learning at

home, there WILL NOT BE any live Google Meetings unless set up with a teacher ahead of time (possibly with a Title 1 teacher or the building literacy specialist). Students should log into their teacher's Google Classroom on at-home learning days to work on independent assignments. Please contact your child's teacher or the Main Office if you have questions. Please read and review the PCSD Health and Safety Plan [linked here](#).

School Pictures

Ripcho Studios has agreed to reschedule school pictures to a date later in the school year, most likely early Spring. When the new date(s) are finalized, we will let all parents and guardians know.

Parma School of Choice:

Intradistrict Open Enrollment

Parma School of Choice: Intra-district Open Enrollment is an application to choose a school within the Parma City School District for the next school year. The application period is from November 15-January 15 and is ONLY available for students in grades 1-12. Requests are approved based on the date of the application and space available, no fees owed, behavior and attendance considered. Current PCSD students will receive priority status. Parma School of Choice auto-renews each school year until transition, meaning the student ages out of the building. Students who are served on an IEP are considered based on team agreement and final approval by the Director of Office of Exceptional Students. This is contingent on space and appropriate programming to meet student needs. Parma School of Choice may be rescinded at the end of the school year due to behavior and/or attendance issues. Parents will be notified via email of acceptance after February 28. More information can be found at <https://www.parmacityschools.org/Page/8081>.

PTA News

The next PTA meeting will be held via Zoom on December 7, 2020 at 5:30 PM. You can find us on Facebook by searching for Thoreau Park PTA. We share updates, changes, and courtesy reminders there. Stay safe Panthers!

December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all of our Thoreau Park Panthers celebrating a birthday during the month of December.

12-1 Brandon I./3rd grade	12-3 Amanda B./4th grade
12-3 Nicole B./4th grade	12-4 Bailey L./2nd grade
12-4 Tyree S./2nd grade	12-5 Khloe G./4th grade
12-5 Reyce K.2nd grade	12-6 Zayana G./2nd grade
12-11 Hunter B./4th grade	12-11 Hailey W./4th grade
12-11 Harper W./KG	12-11 Jaxston W./KG
12-13 Austin D./1st grade	12-14 Addison K./3rd grade
12-15 Tai'ron J./KG	12-16 Carter F./KG
12-16 Emanuel-Ryan M./3rd grade	12-18 Ian D./ 4th grade
12-18 Mea M./1st grade	12-18 Bryce S./2nd grade
12-19 Carter G./KG	12-19 John H./4th grade
12-20 Thomas G./3rd grade	12-20 Michael H./3rd grade
12-20 Cayden M./3rd grade	12-20 Christopher W./KG
12-22 Miya N./3rd grade	12-23 Jonathan R./3rd grade
12-24 Kenneth L./KG	12-25 Riley M./4th grade
12-25 Matthew P./3rd grade	12-30 Dominic H./2nd grade
12-30 Isiah M./3rd grade	

Thanksgiving Food Drive Update

Thank you staff, families, and students for your generous donations. Our school collected more than 630 boxes, cans, and paper products for the Parma Hunger Center. Our staff raised \$250 for the Hunger Center. The grade-level that had the most donations was...3rd grade. Mr. Bickley and the 3rd grade teachers are finalizing plans for a reward for the boys and girls. More information on this reward will be relayed to 3rd grade students and parents in the near future.

Chevy Trax Raffle



Would you like a chance to win a 2020 Chevy Trax? The Parma City Schools Foundation is raffling off a Chevy Trax SUV in addition to other prizes. The raffle is being held December 10, 2020, at the Board Office. Raffle tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased from Mrs. Pace or Mrs. Klump in the Main Office. Fifty percent (50%) of the ticket sales Thoreau Park makes are given directly back to our school! The Grand Prize is the 2020 Chevy Trax, 2nd Place prize is \$500, and 3rd place prize is \$250. Winner does not need to be present to win their prize. **The last day to purchase tickets will be December 7, 2020.**

Home Liaison Update

Remember if you are in need of food, PCSD provides weekly food distributions on Monday or Wednesday. Sign up through the PCSD website.

Please reach out if you or a family member is struggling with their feelings such as anxiety, depression or just needing extra support. I can be reached at 440-843-3526. The Parma City School District partners with OhioGuidestone and Nancy Lowrie and Associates, LLC. to provide counseling services.

Breathing exercise for the winter months-

Hot Cocoa Breath: Imagine you are holding a mug of hot cocoa with the mug in both your hands. Bringing the mug near your face, take a slow breath in and imagine you are smelling the comforting chocolate aroma. Now slowly, with gentleness, breathe out, as you pretend to blow the steaming hot cocoa to cool it down.

Breathe in as you smell the hot cocoa aroma. And breathe out, as you cool it down.

Remember to Pause, Breathe and Reset.

Embrace All Initiative

Thoreau Park will be participating in the district's Embrace All initiative. This program will assist students and staff in honoring the uniqueness of each individual and embrace diverse backgrounds, values, and points of view to build a strong, inclusive community and to live in a multicultural society. As a school community we will be learning about ways of showing respect and kindness to all who may look, act or think differently.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)

We are proud to announce that Thoreau Park received the Silver award for our Positive Behavior and Intervention Support programs for the 2019-2020 school year. Our students work hard to follow our school's 3 R's Behavior Matrix - Respectful, Responsible, & Ready to Learn - each day whether they are learning in school or learning remotely at home. Our PBIS Committee will continue to refine our school's PBIS plan and appreciate all of the support from our Thoreau Park families.

How can I support my child during remote instruction/distance learning? It is a good idea to set up a routine for your child just as if he/she were coming to school every day in person. Have your child wake up and complete their morning routine, eat a healthy breakfast, and get their area ready for the day of learning. Set aside a space for your child that is setup for learning with as few distractions as possible. Children learn best with structure and routines. Have a desk or table setup with the supplies your child will need throughout the day. Help your child sign in to their Google Classroom at 9:15 each morning. Recognize your child when you see him/her following along with the lesson and meeting or exceeding the teacher's expectations. Click on [this link](#) to read about tips for helping your child during a pandemic. Parents can read [this handout](#) that offers ways to support parents with PBIS at home.

First Quarter Panther Recognition

The PBIS Committee would like to congratulate all the students that earned Academic Achievement, Merit Roll, Honor Roll, and/or Panther Promise awards during the first quarter. Over 215 students received a certificate and free dessert coupon. Certificates and coupons were distributed at a recent Monday materials pickup.

The Academic Achievement award is given to KDG and 1st grade students that earn 3's on their report card and no U's or S-'s. Honor Roll is awarded to 2nd-4th grade students that earn all A's and 3's on their report card and no U's or S-'s. Merit Roll is awarded to 2nd-4th grade students that earn all A's and/or B's and 3's and/or 2's on their report card and no U's or S-'s. All students earning an academic award also needed to have demonstrated being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Learn 80% of the quarter.

The Panther Promise award is given to KDG-4th grade students that demonstrated being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Learn 90% of the quarter.

We will continue to recognize our Panthers for their second quarter successes at the end of the quarter in January, 2021.

Morgan S. - 3rd grade Rm. 201	Devin B. - 3rd grade Rm. 203	Payton M. - PVLA 4th grade
Amelia C. - PVLA 4th grade	Luis O. - 4th grade Rm. 103	Michael V. - 4th grade Rm. 111
Meah V. - 4th grade Rm. 209	DaHwaJah Watkins - 4th grade Rm. 210	

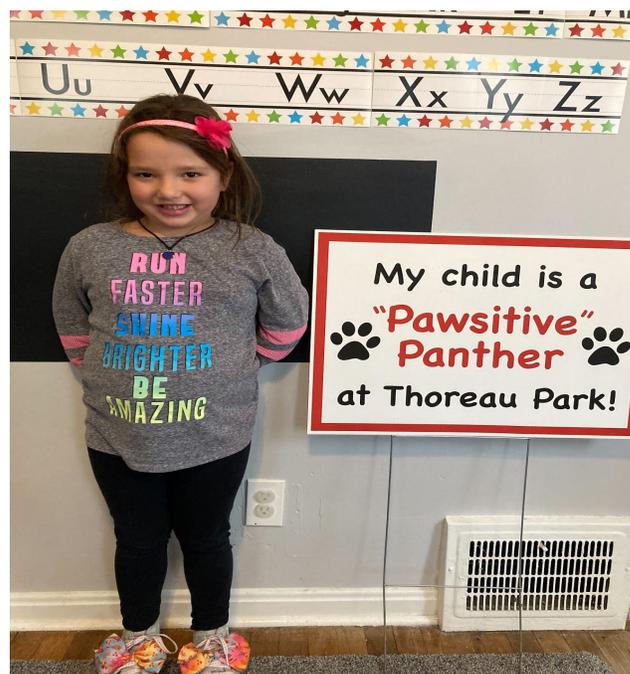
Go Green Lottery!!!

The Go Green Lottery will continue this school year at Thoreau Park Elementary. All students who remain on green (Ready to Learn) and above in our behavior management system known as CLIP IT for 80% of the month have the opportunity to be entered into the lottery for a Pawsitive Panther yard sign. Every month, a name will be drawn for each grade level so we will have 5 winners a month. **Winners for the month of October: Hannah K. - KG; Emery H. - 1st grade; Nolan R. - 2nd grade; Olivia E. - 3rd grade; and Storm K. - 4th grade.** Continue to encourage your child to be READY to LEARN. Remember: **GREEN IS A GREAT PLACE TO BE!**

November Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who were nominated by their teacher as the November Student of the Month. November's trait was being Ready to Learn. Keep working hard Thoreau Park Panthers!

Ashton S. - PVLA KDG	Mason E. - KLA Rm. 113	Hannah K. - KDG Rm. 217
Lillian H. - KDG Rm 218	Aaliyah S. - PVLA 1st grade	Dominc D. - 1st grade Rm. 105
Samantha S. - 1st grade Rm. 108	Mason J. - 1st grade Rm. 109	Bane V. - PVLA 2nd grade
Jagger K. - 2nd grade Rm. 213	Liliana B. - 2nd grade Rm. 214	Emanuel- Ryan M. - PVLA 3rd grade



Congratulations to Hannah K. in Miss Zunt's Kindergarten class for being a Go Green Lottery winner!

PBIS: Bullying and Harassment pamphlet

Parents, please make sure to read over the pamphlet that was sent home in early October with your child and sign and return the attached form to your child's teacher. At Thoreau Park, our staff teaches students that bullying is a pattern of behavior that is repeated over time. Bullying is not permitted at any time. If you have any questions, please call the Main Office and ask to speak to Mr. Bickley or Mr. Keating.

River Valley Paper Recycling Bin

Don't forget to bring all of your paper and cardboard to our recycling bin located in the main parking lot. Our school earns money for each ton of paper collected. Thank you for supporting our school and helping the environment at the same time.

Homework Help

Looking for homework help? Mr. Costa, Parma Branch library's new Homework Mentor, is available to assist students with schoolwork at the library and by phone!

Cuyahoga County Public Library - Parma Branch

Kindergarten – Grade 8

Monday through Thursday

4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

6996 Powers Blvd., Parma

440-885-5362

Upcoming Events

Dec. 23-Jan. 3 - No School - Winter break

Jan. 4 - School resumes

Jan. 15 - No School - End of Second Quarter/Teacher In-Service Day

Jan. 18 - No School - MLK Jr. Day

Jan. 19 - Possible date to begin Hybrid instruction

Feb. 11 - Evening Parent/Teacher conferences

Feb. 15 - No School - Presidents' Day



Need Homework Help?

The Cuyahoga County Public Library - Parma Branch offers homework mentoring Monday through Thursday for Grades K - 8 from 4 – 6:30 PM in person or by phone!

