THE TATTLER

Reuben E Thalberg Elementary School
Mrs. Megan Bennett, Principal

Celebrating Excellent Character
As part of our Asset Building Classroom initiative, each month students will participate in a pep rally to focus the school on character building traits. This month students will focus on Adult Role Models.

DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY
CLASSROOM FOCUS:
Staff and Students will:
⇒ Plan a food drive to help a Bread for Life
⇒ Encourage Parent Volunteers
⇒ Parents and Staff working on CORE projects to help students become more self aware of their responsibilities as a student
⇒ Talk of college and career plans with adults.

JANUARY 2014

Wed. Jan 1st — No School

Wed. Jan 8th - Banking Day - 9:00 a.m.

Mon. Jan 13th — PTO Meeting—6:30 p.m.

Mon. Jan. 20th – No School—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Mon. Jan. 27th — Instrumental Concert - 6:30 p.m.
From the Principal’s Desk:

Dear Parents,

The 2013 year flew by! I cannot believe we are about to embark on a journey into a new year.

I am very proud of the accomplishments of our students within the school last month. The fourth grade choral concert was outstanding. The students have been sharing their CORE projects with their classes. Tech-sperts are throwing a Prezi Party to celebrate their success. Our ABC student body will be publishing monthly newsletters to promote asset building characteristics. Mrs. Diaz has started the West African Drum Group. The Garden Club has created a Winter Wonderland in the garden courtyard. Everywhere you look in the school you see evidence of students taking charge and making the school a better place through their projects and their community actions.

As a school we have been welcoming a number of new students into the building. With each new friend, we have been able to learn and grow as a learning community. It is a true delight to see our students welcome new friends and share their knowledge of the school. The students have helped others quickly adjust to their new surroundings.

We say good-bye to one of our staff members. Nathan “Bo” Perry is leaving Thalberg for his new position at South End Elementary School. Mr. Perry has been our night time custodian for fifteen years and leaves BIG shoes for us to fill. He will be missed!

The year 2014 is a blank page for us to write our story of success and tell the tales. I hope you join us in grabbing a pen to write our history!

Respectfully,
Megan Bennett
January, 2014

Mrs. Megan Bennett, Principal
Reuben E Thalberg Elementary School
“Where Children Soar and Dreams Take Flight”

Start the Day (and the Year) Right!
Make giving your kids a healthy breakfast every day one of your New Year’s resolutions.
If you don’t have much time in the morning or your kids aren’t hungry when they wake up, send them to school for breakfast. Healthy food choices are available every morning in the cafeteria for ALL students. We cannot wait to see them there! Help your kids to make this semester a success - encourage them to eat breakfast!

LUNCH PRICES
School Lunch Program
Student Lunch - $2.50
Milk - 60¢
Snacks - 75¢

REMINDER: BREAKFAST PROGRAM
TIME: Begins at 8:20—8:35 a.m.
FULL PRICE: $1.75 REDUCED PRICE: $.30 (or if already approved free)

Thalberg Instrumental Concert
4th & 5th Grade Instrumental Students
January 27th
6:30 p.m.

PTO CORNER
Next Meeting:
Monday, January 13th
KEEP UP TO THE MINUTE WITH THALBERG!
thalbergminutes@cox.net.
Is it a Cold or the Flu?
Colds and flu are both highly contagious and, in the initial stages, a bad cold and a mild case of the flu might seem alike. However, flu is a serious illness that can have life-threatening complications, unlike colds. Check this table for a comparison of the symptoms for each illness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Cold</th>
<th>Flu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>Rare in adults and older children, but can be as high as 102 F in infants and small children</td>
<td>Usually 102F, but can go up to 104 F and usually lasts 3-4 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>Rare</td>
<td>Sudden onset and can be severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle Ache</td>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>Usual, and often severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tired and Weakness</td>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>Often Extreme, and can last two or more weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Exhaustion</td>
<td>Never</td>
<td>Sudden onset and can be severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runny Nose</td>
<td>Often</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sneezing</td>
<td>Often</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore Throat</td>
<td>Often</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>Mild Hacking Cough</td>
<td>Usual, and can become severe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMINDER:

**Student Absences**
We are heading toward flu and cold season. If your child is absent please call the nurse’s office:
(860) 628-3300.
What’s happening in…

SKATE (Smart Kids At Thalberg Elementary)

SKATE is the program designed by Gina Krar and Mary Beth Morach to celebrate students’ achievement in the areas of mathematics and writing. Students are encouraged to submit a piece of writing and to try a math challenge. The winners each month are unveiled at the ABC Pep Rally.

December’s SKATE program recognized:

Anya C.  Brianna N.  Kallie R.
Jessica P.  Lorelei G.

THIRD GRADE UPDATE:
Grade 3 has been busy reading and writing non-fiction over the last six weeks. We have examined a variety of text features, graphic features and text structures. All the strategies we learned in reading, we apply as authors in our writing. Our Connecticut map projects were fantastic! We saw all the hours and hard work each student put into their project. Each student was very proud of their accomplishments. Mrs. Bennett has come into each of our classrooms and taught a math lesson. The children loved it!!! Thanks Mrs. Bennett.
Thalberg Art Room

In the art room, students are creating artwork that integrates the general education curriculum at each grade level. A bulletin board has been hung that allows students to guide their own learning in art. Students write what they would like to learn about in art on a sticky note and place it on the bulletin board. Thalberg art teachers then take the ideas and develop them into lesson plans that relate the art curriculum. Students have been very excited to have their opinions heard!

Kindergarteners have been learning about various types of colors, such as primary and secondary colors. They are using basic shapes to create different images in their artwork, including self portraits and snowmen. Students also have begun making pinch pot and learning about 3-dimensional forms.

1st graders began the year by revisiting art concepts, such as color and shape. Students have been making artwork that relates to all of the December holidays, like snow globes and snowflakes. They have also been drawing using basic geometric shapes and recognize lines of symmetry. After the break, they will continue working on their paintings of koi fish and Japanese scroll art.

2nd grade classes are currently working on painting cardinals and developing color wheels. Students are also integrating math by discussing geometric and organic shapes. They cut out organic shapes to make a hanging mobile based on the artwork of Henri Matisse.

In 3rd grade, students begin to learn about landscape, perspective and object placement in art. 3rd grade artists are painting winter night skies using various tints of color. They will begin a clay unit in January where they will review 3-dimensional art and form low relief castles.

4th grade artists are creating “snowman triptychs” that involve cropping an image to make a cohesive piece of artwork. They are also learning about the color wheel and various genres of art. In January, they will begin a lesson plan on Indian art that came from one of the post-its on the bulletin board.

5th graders are discussing warm and cool colors. They are using watercolor to paint birch trees using these color schemes. They are also working on Picasso style portraits. Some fifth graders are finishing up a unit on Andy Warhol and pop art. Soon they will start a lesson on geometric and organic shapes where they will use these shapes to sew stuffed monsters.

The Thalberg art teachers are working hard to develop integrative lessons that challenge students to problem solve and think outside of the box. We would like to thank all parent and staff involvement and support!

When I’m in Charge

Space is available in the popular program “When I’m in Charge” sponsored by the Southington Youth Services. The program is being held on Thursday, January 16, 2014 from 5 to 6:45 p.m. at the Southington Youth Services office, 196 North Main Street.

The course is intended for youth who are in 4th, 5th or 6th grade and teaches them how to keep safe when they are left at home on their own. It is taught by Red Cross certified instructor, Terri Benoit.

To register please call Youth Services at 860-276-6281. There is a small fee to attend.

Southington Youth Services
196 North Main Street
Southington, CT 06489  860-276-6281
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1  Jaidin O.
3  Scott S.
   Corey K.
4  Daejah G.
   Jacob D.
6  Christopher P.
8  Kevin F.
   Brooke Z
9  Nicole L.
10 Camden D.
   Claire O.
   Kevin O.
11 Emily B.
12 Makenzie C.
14 Nicole P
   Ryan P.
   Cara S.
16 Ava T.
   Alisa Z
17 Charlotte S.
18 Shivani A.
   Ryan D.
   Lorelei G.
   Jacob H.
   Riley P.
22 Victoria C.
   Ian C.
   Parker F.
23 Gabriella S.
25 Mariam B
   Casey S.
28 Tanina S.
29 Avery L.
30 Madeleine D.
   Julia K.
   Samuel P.
31 Dominic C.

REMINDER:
Students should not bring in cupcakes or food items for birthday celebrations. You are welcome to bring in pencils, erasers and stickers to share with other students. Thank you for your continued support for our students’ health and sensitivity to allergies.
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

In order to plan the housing of students for September, 2014, the number of children that will be enrolled as kindergarten students next September, must be identified as correctly as possible.

To be eligible to enter kindergarten a child must be four years and eight months of age as of September, 2014. Please complete the form below and return it to school as soon as possible.

If you know of a family that has a child who will be eligible for kindergarten, but who has no brothers or sisters at Thalberg School, please write the name and address of that family below. Please return the attached pre-registration form to Thalberg School no later than February 21, 2014.

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

2014- 2015 KINDERGARTEN PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Child  ______________________________________________________________

Last    First    Middle Initial

Date of Birth __________________________   Present Age __________________________

Years - Months

Name of Parent  ______________________________________________________________

Address  ________________________________  Phone Number  ________________

Parents email: ________________________________

NEW KINDERGARTEN PARENTS WITH NO CHILDREN PRESENTLY ATTENDING
THALBERG SCHOOL.

Name of Parent  ______________________________________________________________

Address  ________________________________  Phone Number  ________________