



# In The Center



### Save the Date!

- 11/6/19 and 11/7/19~ Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences; 12:30 dismissal
- 11/7/19~ Picture Retake
- 11/8/19~ JA for a Day
- 11/11/19~ Veterans' Day (NO SCHOOL)
- 11/21/19~ World Drumming Concert
- 11/27/19-11/29/19~Thanksgiving Recess
- 11/25/19~ Susan B. Anthony Programs

## At TCS, We Start with Hello



During the week of October 7, 2019, the Thomaston Center School community partici-

parted in Start With Hello Week, an initiative from Sandy Hook Promise. Start With Hello is a prevention program that teaches children to be more socially inclusive and connected with each other. Start With Hello Week was facilitated by Mrs. Gowell, Mrs. Hustek and the Kindness Academy group.



On Monday, the Kindness Academy group facilitated an assembly to introduce this activity and to begin

our week.

On Tuesday, students participated in activities designed to get students communicating with one another. We also wore pajamas, symbolizing we are getting comfortable saying hello to one another.

Wednesday, was a fun Hey Day! Each homeroom had name tags for students to fill out. At morning meeting teachers discussed greeting others using eye contact, the persons name, and a smile! To help each other smile, students were encouraged to wear wacky clothing and socks. Thursday culminated the week with You-Nique Day. Students were asked to share something about them that makes them unique. Students spoke about cultures, hobbies, pets, sports, and a host of other wonderful topics. Students also were asked to show their unique-

ness through their style and clothing that day.

Overall, the week was a great success as our community became closer and friendlier toward one another.



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## Students attend Charlotte's Web

On October 18, 2019, students and staff of Thomaston Center School visited the Thomaston Opera House to view an afternoon performance of *Charlotte's Web*



*Web*. The students enjoyed the theatrical version of EB White's classic novel of the same name. We also enjoyed seeing some of our students in the performance!



## Health Room News

We are very excited to announce that the local Lion's Club and the Connecticut Lion's Eye Research Foundation will be conducting a free vision screening for our students at Thomaston Center School. Students will be screened, by the Lion's Club in the nurse's office on Thursday, November 7, 2019 and Friday, November 8, 2019. This is the same type of screening that was conducted last year in the Thomaston Public Schools.

Prior to the Lion's Club visits, the school nurse performed a vision screening using the Titmus vision machine. This basic screening tests only a limited part of vision, specifically distance. The Lion's Club vision screening uses a photographic machine that takes a close picture of the eyes, from a distance of 3 feet. It screens for a number of poten-

tial vision disorders, including far and nearsightedness, astigmatism, anisometropia, strabismus, and anisocoria. During the screening, no physical contact is made, nor are any eye drops administered.

Should the screening indicate any abnormality a referral will be sent home by the school nurse recommending a complete eye exam by a licensed eye doctor. Normal findings from the vision screening will be provided to a parent/guardian upon request.

The annual Lion's Club vision screenings help maintain Thomaston Public School's efforts to support the health and wellness of our

children and we are grateful for the Lion's Club service in our community.

The required 6th grade physicals are slowly trickling into the Health Office. Your 6th grader needs to have a completed physical, and updated immunizations, prior to the start of 7th grade. Once they are completed, send the physical forms into the Health Office. It's not too early to make that appointment!

Should you have any questions about the vision screenings or any other health matter, please contact Mrs. Aniki at [daniki@thomastonschools.org](mailto:daniki@thomastonschools.org).

Live. Life. Healthy



## Fifth Grade News

The Connecticut Kid Governor primary election took place October 23. Nineteen students delivered speeches on serious student-generated platforms such as domestic violence, poverty, homelessness, vaping, drugs, and environmental pollution.



The winner of the primary election was Brock Dauber-Katz with a platform about littering and how to

stop it. Shortly after the results were announced, many students stepped up to pitch in to help Brock create a video to be evaluated on the state level.



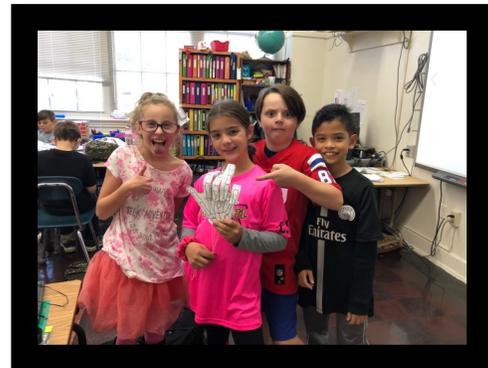
The top candidates will be announced in November and a special statewide election will occur in



November. The inaugural ceremony for our new Connecticut Kid Governor will take place in Hartford in January, 2020.

## FOURTH GRADE HAPPENINGS

In Science, students discovered the mechanism by which their muscles control their bones to move their bodies. They learned that muscles work by pulling on bones at the joints. The muscles do this via strings called tendons. Your child created a paper model of a finger based on their understanding of this process. Later, they created a paper model of a hand as well!



# Global Cardboard Challenge

On October 4, 2019, TCS hosted its first Global Cardboard Challenge Day. The Cardboard Challenge Day encourages students to be creative with ordinary cardboard and tape. The project focuses on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) concepts. In art classes, students

learned about construction ideas and in library-media classes, they learned about the history of the event.



In both of those classes, students had opportunities to brainstorm ideas prior to the actual date.

Cardboard Challenge Day was a wonderful opportunity for students to show creativity and have fun in a hands-on, collaborative manner!



## Reading and Math After School Clubs

Come join Mrs. Nolte for fun with math after school! Mrs. Larson will be having fun in language arts club! This is a free drop in program open to everyone!

**Grades 4 and 5 Math (Tuesdays):**  
10/29, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, and 12/10.

\*Note math club will not meet on Tuesdays 11/12 or 11/26.

**Grade 6 Math (Thursdays):** 10/31, 11/14, 11/21, 12/5, and 12/12.

**Grades 6 Reading (Tuesdays):**

10/29, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, and 12/10.

\*Grade 4 and 5 Language Arts (Thursdays):  
10/31, 11/14, 11/21, 12/5, and 12/12.

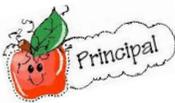
Math and Reading clubs will not meet on Tuesdays 11/12 and

11/26 or Thursday 11/7.

To stay for Math or Reading clubs bring in a note from your parent/guardian indicating whether you'll be picked up at 4:00 at the auditorium exit, or will be riding the late bus.

\*\*\*Students riding the late bus must sign up in the office with their destination address no later than noon each day they wish to stay.

## Principal's Corner



As the autumn leaves tumble from the trees, I am reminded how quickly the seasons change and time goes by. October was an

exciting month as learning opportunities were well underway! Students and staff are enthusiastic and energized about the business of learning. In addition to honing our reading, writing, and mathematics skills, Thomaston Center School students are engaged in wonderful activities, many of which are featured in this newsletter.

We are quickly approaching the second marking period of school. Parent teacher conferences are

scheduled for November 6 and 7. Dismissal will be at 12:30. On November 8, students will participate in the JA for a Day Program. Thomaston School District will celebrate Veterans' Day on Monday, November 11, 2019. There is no school to commemorate the holiday. School will also be closed from November 27 until November 30 to commemorate the Thanksgiving holiday.

This month as I pause to reflect upon the people and events for which I am grateful, the community of Thomaston Center School comes to mind. Our school is a wonderful place where children and adults can learn and grow together. Each day, I have the opportunity to observe students and staff

working collaboratively to achieve academic goals. It is wonderful to witness daily compassionate acts of kindness and I am grateful to be a part of such a caring community.

Thank you for sharing your terrific children with us! I wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving!



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### TCS Celebrates Unity Day



On October 23, 2019, TCS celebrated Unity Day, A day to wear and share ORANGE! Unite to send one large ORANGE message that together we can create a world without bullying by uniting for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Students completed activities in homerooms and reflected on how we can make the world a better place by uniting together. This national event is celebrated by schools and organizations around the country. The TCS Kindness Academy helped to facilitate this fun event.

## Summer Reading is Out of this World!



Congratulations to the students who participated in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge!

This year we had a total of 36 students show their participation in summer reading by completing and returning the reading log. The students who participated in the challenge read a total of 627 books! The Thomaston PTA has provided each participant a \$5.00 gift certificate for a book at the book fair. Keep up the great reading!



## News & Notes



◆ Congratulations to Tyler Veronesi and Addison Patchell. They were recognized at a ceremony on September 25 for being a finalist in the CT Kid Governor Poster Contest. Pictured is Tyler, CT Kid Governor Ella, and Addison.



bers of the Creepy Chorus!!

◆ Thomaston held our own against the Harlem Wizards! On September 27, Thomaston teachers took on a pro-basketball team in a special Thomaston PTA event. Everyone had a terrific time- players and spectators! Thanks to all of the families who supported this event!



◆ On Monday, November 25, 2019 educators from the Susan B. Anthony Project will visit Center School to facilitate lessons. Please refer to the letter that was sent home for

further information.

◆ The last week of October is Red Ribbon Week at the Center School. This is a nationally recognized substance abuse prevention week. Here at the Center School, we provide an atmosphere that supports awareness, education, and on-going initiatives to promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. Each day we will be participating in different events.

◆ JA for a Day will be coming to Center School on November 8, 2019. We are excited to continue the program once again this year!



◆ **Reminder: Changes in your child's dismissal plan can not be made over the phone;** changes must be made in writing. Also, it is important for students to know their dismissal plans as well as their bus number. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

◆ Thank you to all of the volunteers who made our Haunted Hallways a frighteningly fabulous event! We are grateful to the Thomaston PTA for their support of our annual book fair and Haunted Hallways. Extra special thanks to Mr. Stack, Ms. Saranidis, and Mrs. Zitny and mem-