

## 04-25-23 Thurston PTO Newsletter

1 message

**Thurston PTO** <thu\_pto@aaps.k12.mi.us>  
Reply-To: Newsletter.ThurstonPTO@gmail.com  
To: jeremydb@umich.edu

Tue, Apr 25, 2023 at 5:40 PM

# Thurston Elementary PTO

## Heron Happenings

April 25, 2023



### Upcoming Events

**April 24-28:** Learning Differences Awareness Week

**April 28:** Fun Run

**May 2:** No school (Election Day)

**May 5:** International Night, 5:30 - 7:30p.m.

**May 6:** Time, Turtles & Twists (Thurston play), 7:00p.m. at Huron High School

**May 7:** Time, Turtles & Twists (Thurston play), 2:00p.m. at Huron High School

### Mr. Fisher Retiring



"I have a strong mind because I believe in myself and I always do my best." This is a mantra that Thurston herons can recite to you by heart because our much-loved P.E. teacher Mr. John Fisher incorporates it into his classes each day.

At the end of this month, Mr. Fisher will be retiring after more than a decade with us here at Thurston. The PTO would like to help say goodbye, honor him for all of his hard work, and recognize all of the bonds that he formed in our Thurston community with kids and grownups alike.

Please take a moment this week to check out our virtual [Memory Book for Mr. Fisher](#). Parents, students, teachers and staff are all encouraged to leave a note, drawing, artwork, photo, audio or video message for him. You can duplicate and personalize one of the template slides or create your own new slide.

Mr. Fisher's last day at Thurston will be this Friday April 28.

## Disability Awareness Month

This month at Thurston we have been learning about disability, neurodiversity and difference. In this final week of April, we are focusing on Learning Differences. Some of us have specific learning disability areas that can be identified through a Special Education Evaluation at school. These disability areas include: listening comprehension, oral expression, basic reading, reading fluency, reading comprehension, mathematics calculation, mathematics problem solving and written expression. The goal of inclusion at school is to welcome and support learners of various abilities working side-by-side.

As we continue to learn about how others experience the world around us, we encourage families to explore these differences as well.

### Read Alouds Showcasing Learning Differences:



### Support Neurodiverse Adults In Our Community:

Bitty & Beau's is a coffee shop run by people with disabilities. They recently opened a new location in downtown Ann Arbor. Check out their [website](#) to learn more!



## School Fundraiser Update!

This is our final week of the school fundraiser, and we have reached 83% of our goal! We're so close! This is the last chance to register, share and donate! If you haven't already, please register your student(s) [here](#)!

## Show Your Support!



83%

SCHOOL GOAL  
**\$20,000.00**

WE'VE RAISED  
**\$16,635.00**

Our School Has **405** Total Donations

*Donations Accepted Until April 28th, 2023*

*⌚ 3 days left*

Thanks to all of those who have registered, shared and donated to help raise money for our school! You can check out the [leaderboard](#) to see how each classroom is doing.

### Classroom Donations Leaderboard

1	Team Visel	221.53% <i>of goal raised</i>
2	Team Ma	221.39% <i>of goal raised</i>
3	Team Kurth	185.53% <i>of goal raised</i>
4	Team Hilton	139.62% <i>of goal raised</i>
5	Team Mortensen	121.53% <i>of goal raised</i>

### Fun Run Rescheduled to this Friday!



Stay tuned for updates on the Fun Run, which has been rescheduled to this Friday April 28th. **Thanks to all those parents who have volunteered to help, and we hope you can still make it this Friday!** Check our volunteer sign ups below:

- [Setup & Teardown Volunteers](#)
- [Obstacle Monitor & Class Photo Volunteers](#)

**Fun Run Schedule and Class Colors:**

- Pre-K and Young 5s (10:25-10:50am) - **Pink** and **Purple**
- Kindergarten (9:50-10:20am) - **Red**
- First Grade (11:00-11:30am) - **Yellow**
- Second Grade (1:00-1:45pm) - **Green**
- Third Grade (9:05-9:45am) - **Black**
- Fourth Grade (1:50-2:35pm) - **Orange**
- Fifth Grade (2:40-3:25pm) - **Blue**

The Fun Run is a lively, all-school event that takes place just outside of our building on school grounds during the school day. All parents/families are invited and encouraged to come and cheer on their children as they complete an obstacle course. We can't wait to celebrate the success of our big school fundraiser!

### International Night is next Friday!



**International Night 2023!** Come enjoy an evening of music and performances, food, community, and culture brought to you by Thurston families and children.

- Date:** May 5th (rain date May 12th)
- Time:** 5:30-6:00 Performances  
6:00-7:30 Tour the World!
- Place:** Performances in the MPR and gym (enter through front door), country displays outside
- Cost:** FREE thanks Thurston families and the PTO
- Bring:** Reusable water bottles (to help reduce waste)
- Volunteer:** We need parents' help to make it a successful event for the kids, **please consider [signing up](#)**

Questions? Contact [thurstoninternationalnight@gmail.com](mailto:thurstoninternationalnight@gmail.com)

### The Thurston play is next weekend!



# THE THURSTON PLAYERS 47<sup>TH</sup> PRODUCTION



[thurstonplayers.eventbrite.com](http://thurstonplayers.eventbrite.com)

**SATURDAY, MAY 06 @7:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, MAY 07 @2:00 PM**

**HURON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**TICKETS AT DOOR & ONLINE**

**THURSTONPLAYERS.EVENTBRITE.COM**

**\$5 / STUDENTS K-12 \$10 / ADULTS**

**WWW.THURSTONPLAYERS.ORG**

Each year the [Thurston Community Players](http://thurstonplayers.org) produce an original musical production starring Thurston students, parents, staff, alums, and neighbors of all ages. In this year's original musical production, the Thurston community grapples with unprecedented changes. The neighborhood cat, Luigi, narrates flashbacks to past challenges at the school. Can the students, staff, and parents learn from the past and resolve their differences in time to avert disaster? Tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://thurstonplayers.eventbrite.com> or at the door (cash only). Tickets will also be available for purchase at Thurston's International Night on Friday, May 5. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students K-12. There is an additional service fee for online purchases. Children 5 and under are free. Proceeds benefit the Thurston PTO. If you have questions or would like to get involved in next year's production, please contact [ip.thurstonplayers@gmail.com](mailto:ip.thurstonplayers@gmail.com).

**Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser**



Who loves pizza? Thurston is participating in the [Little Casears Pizza Kit Fundraiser](#) this year. **Funds raised from the pizza kit fundraiser will go specifically toward educational assemblies, motivational speakers, team building experiences, and SEL activities for staff and students!** This fundraiser is completely hassle free. There are NO products to handle or deliver and NO money to collect... it's that EASY!

As of today, we have sold 82/500 kits. Amazing work, Thurston Herons! Our group earns \$6 profit on every kit we sell. Big pizza eating days are just around the corner, so make sure you have pizza kits on hand for your celebration this year! Remember that you can also email a [link](#) to your family and friends so they don't miss out and post on your social media pages. Shipping costs are the same for 1 Kit or 2 Kits, so stock up and help us reach our goal!

**The pizza kit fundraiser will close on May 10, 2023!** Thank you for all of your support! We appreciate YOU!

## Thurston Student Directory



Need to contact a Thurston parent or student? The 2022-2023 Thurston student directory is available [here](#). The directory is organized by grade (see tabs) and then alphabetically by class. If you registered prior to the start of school and indicated in InfoSnap that you wanted to be included in the directory, your contact information should be included. If you find a change needs to be made or do not see your information but wish for it to be included, please complete this [form](#).

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**The PTO wants to hear from you!** [Email us](#) , [Visit our Site](#) or [Facebook Page](#)

**Newsletter submissions due by Saturday, 5pm to:** [newsletter.thurstonpto@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.thurstonpto@gmail.com)

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