
JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS TRAINING

Junior Great Books (JGB) is getting underway at TRCS! JGB is a literacy enrichment program for grades K-8. (<http://www.greatbooks.org/programs-for-all-ages/junior.html>)

We have purchased the materials and scheduled the parent volunteer training. Those of you who signed up at the parent meeting are on the volunteer list. If you didn't sign up, but are interested in participating in this exciting program - it's not too late! We still need a few volunteers. Volunteering consists of 1 day of training (Oct. 10 and 1 hour per week in the classroom (not necessarily your child's classroom) reading and leading a discussion.

The training will be held on **Friday, October 10th**, from 9:00-2:30 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on King St.

To add your name to the list and/or confirm your participation, please call or email (preferred) Beth Jacquot, 264-3669, bethjacquot@bellsouth.net.

If you haven't already responded, please do so by September 26th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

In eighth grade, students have begun learning about NC history and geography. This week, students will begin a unit on the history of political parties in NC and the US. We will also be studying our current politics by following the Presidential Campaigns. We have also been working on a review of the basic parts of speech.

In seventh grade, we are wrapping up a project on story-telling. We have studied how story-telling has played a part in history and have listened to several Appalachian tales. Now this class is working on creating original stories that they will be sharing with the younger grades soon! We are also beginning a study of early civilizations in Africa and Asia.

In seventh grade science we have begun studying anatomy. We are beginning with the skeletal system. If you have some bones that you no longer want, we encourage you to give them to a seventh grader so they can bring them in and share them with their classmates. We would also love x-rays, models of the skull, etc., so if you have anything related to the skeleton, let us know!

In eighth grade, we have begun studying Views of the Earth. We are learning about remote sensing, landforms and maps. Students are currently constructing a model of "Otter Knob" from a topographical map. Not familiar with "Otter Knob"? Named after our own school mascot, "Otter Knob" is the small mountain located between 421 and Old 421 just west of TRCS.

Special thanks to all of the parents who so generously donated supplies for the upcoming school year. We appreciate all of the Sharpies, dry erase markers, goggles, Kleenex, gift certificates, and other items. Mrs. Rachel and Mrs. Cronk will work hard this year to be good stewards of the wonderful things you've given to us and will do our best to see that they are used to serve your children well!

The seventh grade will be going to Buffalo Cove for two days and one night in October. The dates for the trip are: Tuesday, October 28th and Wednesday, October 29th.

PLEASE DON'T SHARE THE GERMS!

This is the time of year when illness strikes our families. We have a significant increase of illness throughout the school. As you can imagine, students coming to school ill are "sharing the wealth" and others are becoming ill too. Our quarters are tight here at TRCS and everything spreads very easily. Please consider the potential impact of sending a sick child to school.

I am asking you to review the "Guidelines Regarding Sick Children" section of the Attendance Policy. We need to manage the spread of illness within the school. Yesterday, we had students coming to the office 2 and 3 at a time needing to go home because of illness.

It is certainly disruptive to our daily lives when a child needs to stay home from school due to illness and we have a full day of commitments. However is it any less disruptive to be called from work to take your sick child home anyway? We thank you for taking the time to read the policy and to assess your child's health in this busy time of year.

Finally, please be sure that the contact information on file in the office is correct and that you have emergency contact information that includes someone other than yourself (relative, neighbor, friend) who can be contacted if we cannot reach you. Unfortunately, we have sick children sitting in the office for long periods of time because we cannot reach their parents/guardians. It is distressing to see ill children waiting to be picked up when no one is coming! Also, as the office is the only space for sick students to wait, they are potentially spreading their illness to everyone who comes to or through the office.

Thank you for understanding the seriousness of this issue and for sharing our concern.

A PTO WELCOME TO OLD & NEW!

Well here we are all bright-eyed and ready for the school year ahead!

The PTO would like to welcome all the new families that have joined the school as well as the familiar faces of TRCS!

We have a new set of outstanding volunteers to represent TRCS for 2008/09. Some members are new to the TRCS community and some are veterans of our wonderful school.

- Co-Chairs: Lessa Edwards and John Lee
- Treasurer: Eunice Conway
- Secretary: Jessica Villegas

Come & Take Part!

This school year once again promises to be full of opportunities for parents, students and teachers to come together and enjoy the school community. Many thanks to the parents who came to the very first PTO meeting! The first order of business was to reinvent who we are in the school and the community. We are now the Friends of Two Rivers. More information will follow over the coming weeks and we are looking forward to the usual enthusiastic participation from parents!

Keep In Touch!

If you have any questions, suggestions etc, you are welcome to contact the Friends of Two Rivers directly through individual committee members or by email at TRCSPTO@gmail.com.

READING PATCH CLUB



June Gilch, TRCS Director, is offering a reading incentive program called the Reading Patch Club. The club is open to any student reading books that are at least chapter books. Generally, that means students from grade 3 – 8 but we do have a few younger students participating.

Students need to read books at their independent reading level. The club is not designed to be a competition, but to foster the love of reading and to expose readers to genre they may not be familiar with.

Students read their books, meet with Ms Gilch, and earn sticker for the book. Ms Gilch keeps track of the reading and once a student has read and met with her for ten books, the student earns a ball cap with a Star Reader patch.

Additional patches can be earned by reading five books in a particular genre. Currently students can earn patches in fourteen genres:

- Classics
- Award Winners
- Fiction
- Nonfiction
- Mystery
- Adventure
- Thriller
- Graphic Novel
- Animals
- Fantasy
- Science Fiction
- Travel
- Biography
- Sports

Once students begin accumulating numerous patches, additional participation incentives will be offered. The club is ongoing and open to all students, so it is never too late to join.

DON'T FORGET YOUR BOX TOPS AND INK CARTRIDGES...

This is an easy fund raiser and supports recycling at the same time!

Please turn in box tops to your child's teacher. It's that simple.

For more information, visit the Box Tops for Education web site at www.btfec.com.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD...COMING SOON!

Do you need carpool help, have something to sell/give away/trade, offer piano lesson? Post it here!

Email submissions to trcsnewsletter@gmail.com by 5:00 pm on Mondays.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

~ Margaret Mead (1901 - 1978)