

# THOMPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

## FRIDAY FORECAST



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January 22, 2016

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### **For Scout Foundation:**

In October, 2014, the Cantrell family lost their daughter, Scout Cantrell, to complications from an asthma attack. Scout attended Wasco elementary school, and her older sister, Katie, attended Thompson Middle School.

The Cantrell family and the 'For Scout Foundation', has gifted every elementary and middle school \$ 1,000 to be divided evenly with \$200 for each of the art, music, orchestra, band and music programs, because these classes were especially important to Scout.

The Cantrell family would like to thank the schools for all we do for the students of our community. Scout was a proud student, and they hope this gift can help these important teachers purchase some extra supplies for the students to love these classes as much as Scout did. Thompson Middle School would like to thank Felicity Cantrell (Scout's mother and the Director of the 'For Scout Foundation'), for their generous gift. We hope to continue to honor Scout through our Fine Arts programs. Please see Mrs. Cantrell's attached letter.



### **Second Quarter Assembly/Honor Roll:**

Our second quarter assembly and honor roll recognition will be held on January 29<sup>th</sup>, at 2:15 pm. Parents are welcome to attend. Please enter through the Gym door – door # 7.



### **Hoops For Heart:**

The TMS Physical Education/Health department will be hosting a Hoops For Heart event on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:00 in the gym. The cost is \$5, which enters each student into three shooting contests. All proceeds will go to the American Heart Association. For more information, please contact your student's P.E. or Health teacher.



### **Barnes and Noble "My Favorite Teacher"**

It's time for your school's students to nominate their favorite teacher to be the Barnes & Noble Teacher of the Year!

**The deadline is March 1, 2016!**

The My Favorite Teacher program provides middle and high school students with the opportunity to tell their communities how much they appreciate their teachers by writing essays, poems or thank-you letters that share how their teacher has influenced their life and why they appreciate and admire their teacher.

Participating schools collect the essays and submit them to the Geneva Barnes & Noble store for consideration. Entries will be judged on the compelling nature of the teacher's qualities, the sincerity of the student's appreciation and the quality of expression and writing.

The local winning teacher will be recognized at an event at the Geneva Barnes & Noble at 102 Commons Drive, Geneva, IL during our April Educator Appreciation Week. They will receive a special award acknowledging their achievement and additional recognition and praise from their community. The student who wrote the winning essays or poems will receive a certificate of recognition and will be honored at the Geneva Commons store during a ceremony for the winning teacher.

The winning teacher from each store will be entered into the regional contest. Each regional winner will receive a \$500 Barnes & Noble Gift Card. From the pool of regional winners, Barnes & Noble will name one teacher the Barnes & Noble National Teacher of the Year. The winning teacher will receive \$5,000 and the title of "My Favorite Teacher." The winner will be recognized at a special community celebration at their local Barnes & Noble store. The winning teacher's school will receive \$5,000.

Only middle and high school students and active teachers employed in elementary, middle or high schools in the United States are eligible to win. The contest rules can be found at:

[www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher](http://www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher) <<http://www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher>> <<<http://www.bn.com/myfavoriteteacher>>>.





## **TMS on Twitter and Facebook:**

TMS posts often to Twitter and Facebook. Follow us on Twitter @ThompsonD303 or on Facebook - search for Thompson Middle School St. Charles.



## **Second Step Update:**

*Second Step* is back in 2016! Students have continued work with our social-emotional program this month. 6th grade is learning about the action steps involved in effective problem-solving. 7th grade is discussing the empathy and communication needed when working in groups. 8<sup>th</sup> grade is working on avoiding substance use through positive self-commitment.

For more information on these lessons, or to access follow-up activities for home, please visit: [www.secondstep.org](http://www.secondstep.org). Thompson's activation key is: SSP7 476Q WQAA. Additionally, a flowchart describing the *Second Step* action steps used for problem-solving is attached. This is a great resource for helping our middle school students work through challenging situations!



## **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Middle School Culinary Competition for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders:**

The 8th annual Top Chef cooking contest is happening soon! If you are a 7th or 8th grade student who loves to cook and compete, don't miss out on this year's contest being held on Sat. March 5. Students from Thompson, Haines and Wredling will come together to showcase their culinary talents and find out who the Top Chef for 2016 will be. The Registration deadline is February 12<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be found outside the main office, attached to this newsletter, or with Mrs. Watts in room 101.



## **Future Freshman Athletic and Activity Information Night:**

All incoming freshman and their parents are invited to the Future Freshman Athletic and Activity Information Night on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the North High School Auditorium. Please enter through Door # 12. You will have the opportunity to meet the Athletic Director, Assistant Principal for Student Life, SCN Athletic Coaches and the Activity Advisors. For more details, and a schedule, please see the attached information.



## **Student Email:**

Beginning January 19, 2016, all middle school students will have an active email account protected under the D303 Domain. This is a District resource that our current high school students are accessing. We are pleased to add this feature to the growing technology opportunities offered at the middle school level to enhance our instruction and student collaboration. All students will receive instruction regarding this District email prior to its use. The Google presentation used for this instruction can be found on the LRC homepage of each middle school.

With the addition of student email, Gaggle, a safety management system will be implemented. It applies not only to a student's D303 email but any work done in their D303 Google Drive account. It is a 24/7 real-time monitoring system that will detect and report issues such as inappropriate language, online bullying, and communications that threaten student health, safety or well-being.

Students will access their email using the same login they use for their Google Drive account:

- StudentID#@students.d303.org
- District student created password

The protection of the D303 Domain means that emails can only be sent / received from one D303 account to another, so students will only be using this account for school related purposes, i.e. communication and collaboration with teachers and fellow students.

We look forward to integrating this tool into our instruction. Please feel free to direct any questions you may have to your building's LRC Director.



**DO YOU NEED SPORTS SCHEDULES? GO TO:** <http://thompson.d303.org>; Athletics and Clubs; Thompson Athletics. **Please check the sports schedules as schedules may have been revised.**



**Friday Forecast Attachments:**

- Mrs. Cantrell's For Scout Foundation letter
- Second Step-Action Steps
- Culinary Competition Forms
- Future Freshman Athletic/Activity Night agenda and schedule

**Looking Ahead:**

- April 9 13th Annual Jazz Cafe - 6:30-9:00 pm - TMS Gym
- April 26 Incoming 6th Grade Parent Night (corrected date)
- April 27 Bell-Graham 5th Graders visit TMS 9:00 am - 10:15 am
- April 28 Richmond 5th Graders visit TMS 9:00 am - 10:15 am
- April 29 Wasco 5th Graders visit TMS 9:00 am - 10:15 am
- May 9 Chalk, Walk, Talk - Rain dates: May 10th and May 11th
- May 27 Last day of school - *if no Emergency Days are used*



**Calendar for January – March 2016**

Jan. 27	Coffee with the Principal 9:00 am – 10:30 am
Jan. 29	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Assembly in the Gym, 2:15 pm – 3:10 pm
Feb. 5	Hoops For Heart 3:30-5:00 – TMS Gym
Feb. 10	Future Freshman Athletic/Activity Night @ NHS – 7:00 pm
Feb. 11	Vocal Ease @ North HS Jazz Concert – 7:00 pm
Feb. 15	President’s Day Holiday- SCHOOL CLOSED
Feb. 17	PTO Meeting 9:00 am – 10:00 am – Conference RM B
Feb. 19	String Faculty Recital @ East HS – 7:00 pm
Mar. 4	Teacher Institute Day – NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE
Mar. 4	Annual Fiddle Fest –EHS @ 7:00 pm
Mar. 10	<b>Move your clock AHEAD 1 hour at 2:00 am</b>
Mar. 18	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
Mar. 25	School Improvement Day – NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE
Mar. 28-April 1	Spring Break

