

# TIGER TALES



December Issue

Volume 34, Issue 3

## Letter from our President

Dear Matthew Thornton Families,

During this season of thankfulness and giving, we would like to say **Thank You** to our Matthew Thornton families. Thank you for always being so quick to contribute generously when we have the chance to give back to our teachers, our school, and through our community outreach!

Thank you to those of you who gave toward the Staff Appreciation Luncheon on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Conference week is an especially busy week for teachers and thanks to many of you, our teachers were able to enjoy a delicious lunch at the end of it all. A huge thank you to all who contributed and helped out for this luncheon!

The Stockings for Soldiers Outreach was a huge success again this year. All the items collected are now in the hands of the wonderful team at Operation Care for Troops in Nashua. They will be packing and sending them to the troops very soon. Thank you for all of your troop list donations and the thoughtful letters of encouragement. They were very appreciative of all the donations!

Like us on Facebook: [Matthew Thornton PTA](#)

Make sure to choose to receive notifications on our posts.



Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.....for ski club!

**Ski Club Starts next month!**

[Ski Club Flyer](#)

[2020 Ski Club Bus permission slip](#)



Our Adopt-A-Family collection is continuing and the school is overflowing with all the incredible donations. We will be collecting items until 3:00pm on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Any families who would like to help with transporting the gifts to St. Mark's Church are welcome to join us deliver all the donations on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. A huge thank you to Krista Dembkoski for all your hard work and organization of our Community Outreach program!

We will be having our annual Winter Wonderland on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 8am-12pm. This is a very special family event that we hope to see many of you at! Our school is transformed into a Winter Wonderland where families can visit our Secret Shop in the gym, personalize an ornament, buy some cookies, enjoy a Pancake Breakfast in the cafeteria, and have your photo taken with Santa. Our wonderful chorus will be performing at 9:30am in the cafeteria as well. A special thank you to Julie Gallagher, Lisa Burns, and Stacey Gilcreast who volunteered the extra hours to make this such a wonderful event for Matthew Thornton students and families.

Please note: There will not be a PTA meeting in December. Our next meeting will be held on **January 9<sup>th</sup>** from 6-7pm in the MT library, with pizza and childcare provided. Please join us as we discuss future events.

President  
Jen Rich

Vice President  
Laura McElroy

**WE WISH YOU A HAPPY  
AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY  
SEASON!**



## Principal's Corner:

Dear MT Families!

What a wonderful and busy first trimester we've had. We've gotten to enjoy fun fall events (thanks to the PTA and our generous volunteers) and get into a wonderful learning groove at MT with a more timely bus dismissal! Teachers enjoyed meeting with families during conferences, and we love having families in our building to showcase the magic that happens here. We know we ask a lot of our families in terms of donations, especially during the holidays, and you always step up. Thanks to you, we are helping families in need with canned goods and holiday needs, and there were many items collected for Stockings for Soldiers. We also collected over 700 mini hand sanitizers for patients undergoing chemotherapy. The community uses and truly appreciates what we collectively can give from MT. The MT staff also posted their blessings for students to see as we made our way to Thanksgiving Break. We have so many more good things ahead as we make our way to Holiday Break as well. Enjoy the vacation and time with your families.

Your lucky principal,  
Amity Small



# Join us for Matthew Thornton's Annual Winter Wonderland!



**When:** Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019



**Time:** 8 AM - 12 PM

**Where:** Matthew Thornton Cafeteria and Gymnasium

- Pancake Breakfast (Pancakes, sausage, muffins, juice, milk, and coffee) - \$4.00 each
  - Personalized Ornament - \$3.00 each
  - Picture with Santa - \$5.00

Visit our festive hallways, listen to the Matthew Thornton Chorus sing Christmas carols, and enjoy a delicious breakfast with your family!

## **ALSO - Don't miss out on the Secret Shop!**

Our festive shop allows your child to secretly shop for Christmas gifts (items priced \$0.25 to \$10.00) for the entire family and have them wrapped just in time for the Holidays!

**Please sign up to volunteer to help make this event successful at the link below:**

Wonderland: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4ca9a92fa2ff2-matthew>

Secret Shop: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0544a5a62aa31-mtsholiday4>

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Gallagher:

[Julie.Gallagher@hotmail.com](mailto:Julie.Gallagher@hotmail.com)







## Secret Shop

Chaired by Lisa Burns

**DATE: Saturday December 7th**

**PLACE: Matthew Thornton Gymnasium**

**TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Every year students eagerly await Matthew Thornton's Secret Shop. The kids love to shop in a safe, festive environment for holiday gifts for their families and friends. The gifts are priced from \$0.25 to \$10.00 with most gifts under \$5.00. All profits from the Secret Shop are used by the MTPTA toward supporting our school, students, and community. Please set aside the date to join us at the Secret Shop!

We need your help! Volunteers are needed to assist with the set-up, shopping with students, cashiers, and wrapping at the Secret Shop. If you, or anyone you know, can lend a hand and help support the MTPTA, please volunteer on our signup genius or contact us directly. High School and middle school students are always a big help and are more than welcome! We look forward to seeing you there!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0544a5a62aa31-mtsholiday4>

[esburns@comcast.net](mailto:esburns@comcast.net)



## Books and Beyond

Chaired by Lisa Burns

Books and Beyond reading incentive program is off and running. We have over 50% of all students participating in the program so far. Students have read over 3,345 hours! A few students have already earned gold medals. Grade 4 students have read almost twice the number of hours than any of the other grades. Keep reading and logging hours. POP! POP! POP!

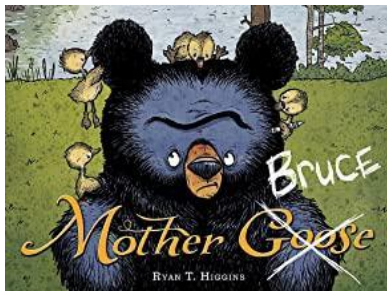
Children earn prizes after reading for a total of 5 hours, 15 hours, 25 hours, and 35 hours. For every 5 hours of reading after that, they earn another entry in the end of the year raffle, which has some great prizes.

Happy Holidays from the Reading Department and all of the Books and Beyond Volunteers! We hope this holiday season brings you many great opportunities to enjoy family and friends, and some quiet moments to curl up with a good book!

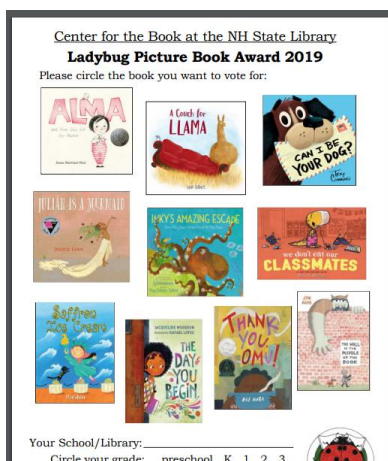
Our next log sheet pick-ups are **Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup>** and **Wednesday January 8<sup>th</sup>**. Additional log sheets are available [here](#) and on the MTS PTA Facebook page.

# News from the Matthew Thornton Library

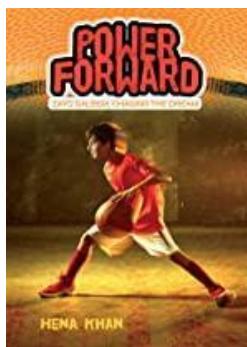
It's been a busy few months in the library!



First grade has been reading books by Ryan T. Higgins, author and illustrator of **Mother Bruce** and other titles starring this grumpy bear.



Second and third grades are getting ready to vote on their favorite Ladybug book. We have been reading one selection each week. Ask your student which book they plan to vote for!



Fourth grade has been learning about the different genres of fiction: fantasy, science fiction, and mystery, to name a few! Fourth and Fifth grades are reading **Power Forward**, by Hena Khan. It's about a Pakistani-American boy who wants to someday play in the NBA.

As the year winds down, please help your student remember their overdue books. One trick is to pack books in the backpack the night before a student's library day. This helps during the morning rush.

Happy Holidays and happy reading!

Mrs. Pisinski  
Library Media Specialist



# PAWS Behavioral Expectations Program

Chaired by Kristina Mahn

The PAWS program at Matthew Thornton is a program to maintain and support positive school behaviors. If your student arrives home with “PAWS” stickers, it indicates that they were observed demonstrating a positive behavior in areas such as the hallway, cafeteria, classroom, library, etc.

## Winning classes announced at the beginning of November were:

1<sup>st</sup> grade Mrs. Kearney  
2<sup>nd</sup> grade Mrs. Laroche and Mrs. Rheault  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade Mrs. Nault  
4<sup>th</sup> grade Mrs. Slozak  
5<sup>th</sup> grade Mrs. Lesieur

During the month of **November**, individual classes continued to earn stickers as they showed positive PAWS behaviors. The classes who received the most PAWS stickers at each grade level will receive a pajama day!

Additionally, “PAWS” stickers are given in the cafeteria to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade tables who demonstrate appropriate cafeteria behavior. When a table receives fifteen stickers, that class receives an extra fifteen-minute recess. Other special awards will be given as tables accumulate more cafeteria stickers. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes receive golden spatulas as they demonstrate PAWS behavior. When they receive 3 golden spatulas, they earn open seating in the cafeteria. They have already earned this reward multiple times!

Be on the lookout for future PAWS information and please continue to reinforce PAWS with your children at home.



## PAWS:

**P**ositive Attitude, **A**ct Responsibly, **W**ork and Play Safely, **S**how Respect

# Join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hour of Code Family Night!

**FREE ADMISSION**

Matthew Thornton School

Wednesday, December 11

6:00 – 7:30

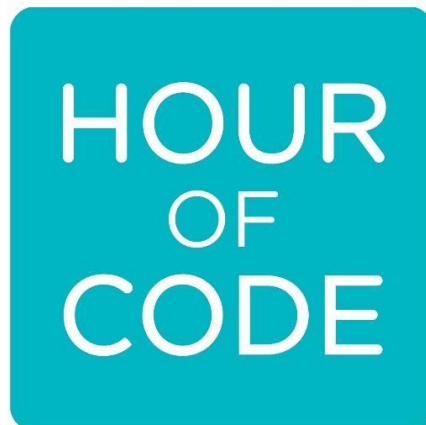
You and your learner will pair up with a provided laptop to complete coding puzzles from the [code.org](http://code.org) website.

You will be part of a global movement led by Code.org in celebration of Computer Science Education Week (12/9 – 12/15)

Our goal is to give every student the opportunity to explore coding in an engaging and meaningful way.

**We hope to see you there!**

**Families Welcome**





# December Calendar

<b>December 1</b>	Ski Club Sign-Up
<b>December 4</b>	Books and Beyond Collection Date
<b>December 5</b>	Popcorn Sale during lunches
<b>December 5</b>	Make A Wish Assemblies
<b>December 6</b>	Friday Dress Day: Favorite Snowman Outfit
<b>December 6</b>	Adopt-A-Family Collection Due
<b>December 7</b>	Winter Wonderland / Secret Shop
<b>December 11</b>	Night of Code in Cafe 6-7:30 in Cafe
<b>December 12</b>	MT Music Concert 9am-gym
<b>December 12</b>	MT Music Concert @7pm at LMS
<b>December 13</b>	Friday Dress Day: PAWS / School Color Outfit
<b>December 19</b>	Pop Stars perform in Cafe from 2:15-2:45
<b>December 20</b>	Friday Dress Day: Ugly Winter Sweater and Santa visits MT
<b>December 23- January 1</b>	Holiday Break!

Tiger Tales is a monthly publication of the Matthew Thornton PTA and is sent out to parents and guardians of every student.

To advertise in the next Tiger Tales, there is a \$15 monthly charge. If you're interested in advertising in next month's or every upcoming issue for the scholastic year (discounted price!), please contact me at my [email](#).

Jenn Brooks, Editor, Tiger Tales