

TIGER TALES

February 2021



Volume 35, Issue 5

Letter from the President:

Dear Matthew Thornton Families,

February is a fairly quiet month for the PTA. We do have one event coming up that we are excited to share, though! We are looking forward to our Small and Tall Event on Feb. 12th! We are excited to help plan a night for families to be together and spend time making pizzas and crafts, and maybe even some dancing, too! We would love to see any photos you take of the night, so feel free to send those in. A huge thank you goes out to Susan Fletcher for coming up with this spin on our Small and Tall Dance, and for putting together a creative night for us!!

Looking ahead to the spring, we will be having PTA board elections at the end of this year. If you have any interest in becoming more involved in helping to continue the many traditions we have at Matthew Thornton School, I would be happy to provide you with more information. Should you wish to be involved by chairing an event or activity for next year, please feel free to contact me as well. We are always looking for new parents to get involved, as some active parents will be moving on to the middle school with their children. We can't do what we do without the support of our amazing families, so thank you in advance for any volunteering you have done in the past and are willing to do!

**THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR
SUPPORT!**

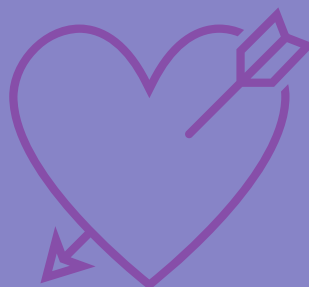


Below are a list of open positions that we are happy to go over with you if you see an interest:

Secretary
Treasurer
Fundraising
Ski Club
Books & Beyond
Book Fair
Small & Tall Dance
Turn Off the Screens Week
Art to Remember
Yearbook
Teacher Appreciation

Our next virtual PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 11th at 6pm. We hope to see you there!

Jen Rich
President



Principal's Corner:

Dear MT Families:

It was so nice to welcome back our in-person learners this month. The building is re-energized! Our remote learners continue to impress us with their learning, and we love to see pictures of them working and enjoying school. We are making our way to the 100th Day of School this month, and we are so proud of what has been accomplished so far this year. As we head toward spring, we will figure out ways to include all of our learners in spring and transition activities. Stay warm!

Sincerely,

Amity Small, your proud Principal

Remote Learners

MT remote learners have been busy! They have been working hard, learning, and growing. During February we have some celebrations to look forward to, including Valentine's Day and the 100th Day of School!

Kelly Juster

Remote Teacher



Matthew Thornton Elementary School PTA Presents:



Small & Tall: Family Fun at Home Night

We invite all Matthew Thornton Smalls and their favorite Talls to participate in a Family Fun at Home Night.

12-inch pizza-making kits and wood sign craft kits are available to order in the hopes that we all can spend an evening celebrating our learners and the people who love them. Feel free to put on your fancy dress, cool threads, or whatever makes you feel comfortable and get ready to have some fun.

All kits must be pre-ordered and pre-paid by February 9th - email order to fletcherse@comcast.net

(Cash, Check or Venmo: @Susan-Fletcher-23)

See flyer below for sign design and color)

There will be a curbside pick-up at Matthew Thornton on February 12th between 4pm and 6pm.



Student Name	Teacher Name

Pizza Kit	# Wanted	Price	Total
Cheese		6.00	
Pepperoni		8.00	

Sign Kit 1 kit, \$12 for each additional kit)	(\$20 for	Paint Color	# Wanted	Price	Total
You are so loved					
Wishin' I was Fishin'					
Stay Wild					
You are my sunshine					
I was born to sparkle					
Girl: a giggle with glitter on it					
Goal (Soccer)					
Every boy should have a puppy					
Forever a Mermaid					
Believe in Unicorns					
Beach Bound					
Touchdown					
Baseballs, Games, Cleats and Gloves					
This princess wears cleats					
Superhero in Training					
Life is smores fun when Camping					

Please take pictures and send to Mr. McCarthy (wmccarthy@londonderry.org) if you would like to have your family included in a Small & Tall Slideshow.

Click to view: [Sign Kit Choices](#)





Reflections

Chaired by: Deb D'Amore

The judging for Reflections has finished and all of the winning artwork has been submitted to the New Hampshire State PTA for judging! Thank you to this year's virtual judges for giving their time to help. Without further ado, here are your 2021 Reflections winners from Matthew Thornton!

Primary Grade Division for **Visual Arts** (Pre-K through 2nd Grade)

- 1st place - Avery Ackernecht, 2nd grade
- 2nd place - Eliana D'Amore, 2nd grade

Intermediate Grade Division for **Visual Arts** (3rd-5th Grades)

- 1st place - Madeline Prado, 3rd grade
- 2nd place - Allison Dinovo, 5th grade
- 3rd place - Quinn Porter, 3rd grade

Primary Grade Division for **Literature** (Pre-K through 2nd Grade)

- 1st place - Colby Bonnell, 1st grade

Intermediate Grade Division for **Dance Choreography** (3rd-5th Grades)

- 1st place, Gabriella Craigie, 4th grade*

*Gabriella is homeschooling this year but had attended MT pre-Covid. The PTA still sponsored her for the Reflections program so she could still enter.

We should hear about the state's judging by the end of February/beginning of March. The state-wide art show will happen virtually in March, and once the date is released, the information will be sent out.

Thank you to all of the Matthew Thornton staff for helping to continue to spread the word about this wonderful art program. Because of your help, we were still able to hold this program virtually and get many submissions.





Friendly Reminders from the Nurses Office

NURSES OFFICE RECOMMENDATIONS

If your child loves to play in the snow at school, please can you keep a spare set of clothing in their backpack? Even when they wear snow pants they sometimes still get wet.



Please continue to use the symptom tracker provided by the District Office each morning before you send your child to school. If they do not feel well, or have any symptoms however mild, please keep them home to monitor. Any student who is sent home or stays home with Covid-19 symptoms will need either a negative Covid test, a clearance note from the physician or if you choose not to test they will need to be out for 10 days. They can return with permission from the nurse's office and be asymptomatic for 24 hours.

Many thanks for helping keep our school safe.

Kristen Hughes, Sarah Brown, & Marilyn Sullivan





Choose Love Formula (Courage + Gratitude + Forgiveness + Compassion-in-Action = **Choosing Love**).

Welcome 2021! The new year offers more hope than ever and yet the day to day reality is that there are the on-going challenges and hardships ahead. My thoughts have centered on the importance of resilience this month, how can we teach it and model it to those around us. One researcher explains that “resilience works like a muscle we can build through effort and repetition, and we want to keep our muscles strong and flexible, so we can think of ways to solve a problem.” She also explains that at the core, “resilience is the belief that while you can’t control everything in your life, there are many aspects you can control, including your attitude.”

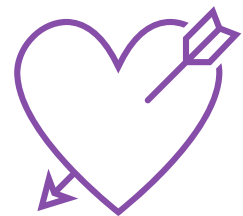
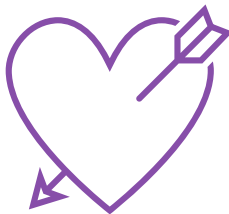
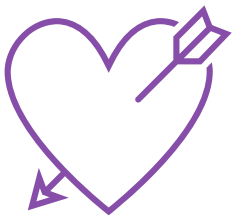
The Choose Love program challenges each of us to daily choose a positive thought over an angry thought as we focus on gratitude, forgiveness, and compassion. At home, I know that parents have been supporting their children with problem-solving, listening to those difficult and tired feelings, helping to set brave goals, and finding new and creative outlets for safely getting together with friends and pursuing different interests when necessary. Our resilience muscles are fatigued! Each morning, Mr. McCarthy reminds of us of powerful message of resilience that I wanted to share with you. “You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think, and loved more than you know.” Please know how much we appreciate your support and know how grateful we are for all our MT families. Matthew Thornton Strong!

By Nancy DeLew



February Calendar

February 1-5	National School Counseling Week
February 3	Books and Beyond Collection Date
February 5	Friday Dress Day: Favorite Comfy Outfit
February 11	PTA Meeting from 6-7—virtual
February 12	Friday Dress Day: Red, Heart, or Pink for Love
February 17	100th Day (per our 1st grade trackers to 100)
February 17	6th grade LMS transition virtual meeting at 6pm
February 19	Friday Dress Day: Favorite Vacation Shirt
February 20	Hoodie-Hoo Day at 12pm--chase away winter!
February 22 -February 26	Winter 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