

# PAW PRINTS

December 1, 2008

[www.northandoverpublicschools.com/thomson](http://www.northandoverpublicschools.com/thomson)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – NAEC Presents “Mr. & Mrs. Fish”  
Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fun Pass Coupon Book Order Due  
Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, Flourishes Gifts & Home Décor 20% Back  
Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – CRAZY HAIR DAY  
Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Food Drive Ends  
Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – COAT DRIVE

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## FROM MR. GILLIGAN...

**THOMSON STUDENT COUNCIL:** The Student Council is having their ANNUAL COAT DRIVE till the end of December. Please bring in any coats you are no longer in need of so we can donate them. Also, we are having a CRAZY HAIR DAY on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Have your student do something CRAZY with their hair.

**NORTH ANDOVER ENRICHMENT COUNCIL:** K-2 students at Thomson School will learn about seacoast creatures on habitats on Tuesday, December 2nd. The "Mr. and Mrs. Fish" program, sponsored by the North Andover Schools Enrichment Council, will give students a first hand look at the sea creatures and seaweed found on the sandy beaches and in the tidal pools along the coast of Massachusetts. Students will learn about the eating habits and characteristics of clams, starfish, crabs, seagulls, snails, mussels, barnacles, and sea urchins; gain insight into such concepts as molting, regeneration, filter feeding, and eating by osmosis; and experience how tide pool life is designed to withstand a variety of seasonal weather changes, including storms. For more information contact Sharon Beninato at 978-682-9933 or visit [www.mrandmrsfish.com](http://www.mrandmrsfish.com).

## PTO UPDATES:

**CORRECTION!!!!** So sorry! We would like to thank Zachary Wolfgang for helping Dimitri Brachos sell water to all those thirsty vendors at the Holiday Fair.

**REMINDER: PLEASE BE SURE TO RETURN YOUR ORDER FORMS BY WED, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>. - GREAT GIFT IDEA-LOOK IN YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK FOR MORE INFO TODAY!** If you are looking for fun things to do with your children on weekends, school vacations and during summer break, this is a great opportunity. Given the tough economic climate, who couldn't use some valuable discounts at the places you love to visit. The Fun Pass is a coupon book with coupons **worth over \$1,000 to over 100 attractions** located in New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts and Vermont. In most cases, a child 12 and under gets in free with a paying adult. The Thomson School is offering the Fun Pass to our families at a great rate. **The book costs only \$25, and easily pays for itself with a visit to Story Land or one of the many ski resorts.** Best of all, Thomson will keep \$5 for every book sold. The Fun Pass is a great gift at the holidays for Yankee swaps, or friends or relatives with children. **Please return the order form in the brochure with payment to your child's teacher by Wednesday, December 3rd.** Checks should be made

payable to the Thomson PTO. Books will be sent home mid December, just in time for gift giving! If you have any questions, please call Sally Finnimore @ 978-686-0791 or email [finnimore@verizon.net](mailto:finnimore@verizon.net).

**Save the Date!** On Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, Flourishes Gifts & Home Décor, (1015 Osgood Street) will donate 20% of every sale that is purchased on that day to the Thomson School. Flourishes have a unique selection of gifts for your home, baby and much more. Watch your child's backpack for more information.

**Thomson School 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Food Drive:** This year, we will be donating food to the People's Pantry at the Unitarian Church in North Andover, MA. Please consider donating some items to the food pantry. It's simple: your children can bring items in their backpacks and deposit them in the box provided in each classroom. Last year, the kids really enjoyed seeing the boxes fill up! Here's what the People's Pantry needs most:

Rice! (small bags or boxes)  
Canned beans (pinto, garbanzo, kidney, black and others)  
Canned soups  
Jams and jellies  
Coffee and tea  
Hershey's chocolate syrup

Please bring your food items by Friday, December 19. If you have any questions, please call Kelly Ferguson at: (978) 683-3955.

**Father/Daughter Dance Ticket Sales:** The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Father/Daughter dance will be on January 24<sup>th</sup> from 7-10 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Father/Daughter dance will be on February 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-9:30. Tickets will be on sale for both dances on December 13<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 at the Middle School cafeteria. Please enter the cafeteria through the side door of the building. If you are facing the Middle School, the door is on the left side of the building. Do not go through the main entrance. Tickets are \$25.00 per couple. There will be a second ticket sale date on January 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Burzlaff @ [laurie.burzlaff@verizon.net](mailto:laurie.burzlaff@verizon.net) or 978-852-2829.

Do you have a question about the PTO agenda or what was covered at the last meeting? Do you have a topic you would like to discuss at our next meeting? If so, please email Laurie Burzlaff @ [laurie.burzlaff@verizon.net](mailto:laurie.burzlaff@verizon.net) or Sherrie Cashman @ [sherriecash@verizon.net](mailto:sherriecash@verizon.net). We value your input and strongly encourage all parents to contact any PTO board member with questions or concerns.

Did you know you can help raise money for Thomson School every time you shop at Target? Go to [www.target.com/tcoe](http://www.target.com/tcoe) and enroll Thomson as your school of choice.

**Attention High School Musical Lovers!!** The school that purchases the most tickets to NSMT's presentation of High School Musical 2: The Stage Show will receive a visit from the professional actors from the HSM 2: The Stage Show cast along with the NSMT Performance Troupe. The performance troupe and cast will come to the winning school for a Question & Answer session about their acting careers and teach the students the "What Time Is It?" dance from Disney's High School Musical 2...so don't delay, purchase your tickets today! Remember.... We can do this...Because we're all in this together!! **Tickets for High School Musical 2: The Stage Show** make a great holiday gift, especially with proceeds (\$10 for every ticket sold) coming back to the Thomson School.... mention it to your friends and family.... don't forget to use our special code when ordering tickets. That code again is FTES1. Please contact Sherrie Cashman at [sherriecash@verizon.net](mailto:sherriecash@verizon.net) with any questions.

**Attention 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Families:** Thank you to all that have submitted pictures for the DVD we're putting together for 5<sup>th</sup> grade night and for the "Who's that Baby Contest?".

It's not too late for those who haven't sent them in yet. Please send pictures of your 5<sup>th</sup> grader in grades 1 through 5 (individual or in school activities) to Doreen Albrecht c/o Robert Albrecht 5D. Send the baby picture of your 5<sup>th</sup> grader with name on the back to Ellen Mary Carr c/o Ruairi O'Cearuil 5D. Pictures can be photos or on a cd. Please submit them by December 31st.

### **Sunshine Math Superstars!**

Congratulations to: Katherine A., Amaan A., Caitlin B., Hannah C., Anthony D., James Di., Tyler D., James Do., Carly F., Ponte-A G., Haley G., Jillian H., Leila J., Katherine K., Jake L., Madison L., Daniel O., Mateo O., Nicole O., Caroline P., Hannah P., William Reed., Matthew S., Kylee T., Nathalia T., Kaira V., Kaleigh W., **for passing the 25 Stars Milestone!** Daniel A., Robert A., **for passing the 50 Stars Milestone!**

A big thank you to Michael Reed who has made the Sunshine Math program available to us online this year!

A couple of reminders: Make sure students first and last name is on the corrected worksheet you send back along with the total number of stars at the top or email the total amount of stars along with students name to [doreenla@comcast.net](mailto:doreenla@comcast.net).

Keep up the great work superstars!