Thank you, voters!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the voters for passing our Capital Projects Levy for the next four years and our transportation levy for the next two years. We are committed to keeping the tax rates steady and using the dollars to emphasize safety, remodel our existing facilities without a bond, and expand opportunities for our students for the next four years.

Recruiting High School Students! We are full! That is a statement that we have worked towards for five years. Our enrollment is now between 240-250 students. Out-of-district applicants are being added to the waiting list; one exception is for incoming 8th-12th grade. We are expanding our extra-curricular activities for our secondary students to retain and attract more students. I went to a small high school and got involved in ASB and athletics. There was more opportunity to participate at my small school than at a larger school. Every person mattered to the clubs and teams. If your child is entering the 8th-12th grade and looking for a place with better options, we would like you to consider Thorp.

Andrew M. Perkins, Superintendent

Spring is full of activities for the Thorp FFA Chapter. Members have been busy preparing for State Competitions, tending to their Flower Baskets, and performing community service.

Over Spring Break, four members assisted the Thorp Town Ditch Association during the annual cleaning of the irrigation ditch, which supplies the irrigation water for most of the Thorp community. They mucked out debris, silt, and moss. This ensures that the proper water flow can be maintained and managed during the 2023 irrigation season.

Thorp FFA members assisted at the annual Third Grade Ag Appreciation Day on April 12th. They led groups, and presented information on hay production, small animals, and farm equipment. Thorp 3rd graders enjoyed learning about local agriculture at each of the stations!

Thorp FFA has also been busy preparing for State Competitions. On April 20th, a team went to the State Poultry Evaluation Career Development Event in Moses Lake. Students judged and evaluated egg quality, bone-in and boneless chicken products, participated in poultry identification and presented oral reasons on their class placings. Students came away with a greater understanding of proper judging and presentation skills, as well as how to judge and identify poultry products.

Our Horse Evaluation team competed against 32 teams from throughout Washington at the State Horse Evaluation on April 26th. Students judged both riding and halter classes, took a general equine identification exam, and gave oral reasons on placings for both classes. Students were also able to learn from a Kittitas County Equine Veterinarian about the vet profession, what it’s like working with equine, and the industry outlook.

Thorp FFA traveled to State Livestock Judging in Spokane on May 3rd, where our team judged and evaluated classes of sheep, swine, cattle, and goats. They gave oral reasons, completed a general livestock identification exam, and competed against 45 teams from Washington.

Thorp FFA will finish their competition year at the 93rd State FFA Convention, May 11th-13th in the Tri-Cities. Students will participate in Quiz Bowl, Milk and Dairy Quality Evaluation, and Farm Business Management. FFA members are eagerly awaiting this trip and are looking forward to meeting and competing with other FFA members from Washington.

Looking ahead, five Thorp FFA Members will be representing Thorp at this year’s Kittitas County Fair, showing sheep, swine, and a mini steer. Please support our youth and the hard work they have already put into their livestock projects. Look for Thorp FFA at the Kittitas County Fair over Labor Day Weekend!

Students put on our annual auction, raising over $9,000 for ASB, FBLA, and FFA Programs. These funds help ensure that every student has the opportunity to participate in regional and state competitions without having to worry about cost.
TECH TIP:
PROTECTING YOUR INFORMATION

Have you received an email that seems like it’s from Microsoft, PayPal, FedEx, Apple, or other major companies that had grammar mistakes, threats, or were regarding services you do not have? You are not alone.

Phishing is an email or other message from someone posing as a legitimate institution to lure persons into providing sensitive data like a password, bank/credit cards, or other personally identifiable info.

Phishing is the most common form of cyber-crime with an estimated 3.4 billion spam emails sent a day. 48% of all emails are spam or phishing. If you feel like something is off with an email DO NOT CLICK or download anything contained in the email, instead look for the indications of a phishing attempt:

1. Verify the senders’ email address. If they claim to be PayPal, the email should be an @paypal.com email address and not a publicly available email.

2. The email domain “@_____” is misspelled. Example: a legitimate email from Microsoft may be noreply@microsoft.com, but noreply@micosft.com is not legitimate.

3. The email has grammar or misspelled words. A professional organization wouldn’t have major errors in an email.

4. The email creates a sense of urgency. Example: someone may be asking for an invoice to be paid IMMEDIATELY in a way that you normally wouldn’t or includes threats.

5. The email includes suspicious attachments or links. You can hover your mouse over links to show the full web address on-screen (typically in the bottom left of the web browser). If there is ever an attachment in an email that you are not expecting, BE SKEPTICAL!

6. The email is regarding a service or product you don’t use.

If you think it looks like a phishing email but are not sure you can always call the sender to confirm the contents of the email. Do not call the numbers provided in the email. Always call numbers posted on their legitimate webpage. Trust your gut, if it feels off... it probably is.

Garrett Rhodes, IT Coordinator

ADMINISTRATION

Andrew M. Perkins  Superintendent/Principal  (509) 964-7103  perkinsa@thorschools.org
Mel Blair  Assistant Principal/SPED Director  (509) 964-7139  blairm@thorschools.org
Laura Jones  Student Services Coordinator  (509) 964-7104  jonesla@thorschools.org
Brenda McKee  Business/HR Manager  (509) 964-7101  mckeеб@thorschools.org
Joel Solem  Facilities Manager  (509) 964-7121  solemje@thorschools.org
Terrie Matherson  Food Services Manager  (509) 964-7110  maphersont@thorschools.org
Karma Seubert  Transportation Manager  (509) 964-7155  seubertk@thorschools.org
Garrett Rhodes  IT Coordinator  (509) 964-7132  rhodesg@thorschools.org
Katelyn Steimer  Office Coordinator/Attendance  (509) 964-7100  steinerk@thorschools.org
Nikki Pollok  Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent  (509) 964-7102  pollockn@thorschools.org
Rachel Henderson  Nurse  (509) 964-7142  nurse@thorschools.org
Erica Libenow  Nurse  (509) 964-7142  nurse@thorschools.org

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A CHILD FIND SCREENING?
The purpose of a Child Find Screening is to identify issues that may affect your child’s learning, growth, and development and to help parents identify their child’s strengths and weaknesses. Potential outcomes of a screening include recommendations for the family to implement in the home, a recommendation for a comprehensive evaluation through the school district, or a referral to a community agency for support.

509-964-2107
We need cooperation in order to resolve conflicts, too! We all experience conflict in life. Whether we are frustrated with a friend, or in an argument with a family member, we need tools to help us navigate conflict successfully. When you are trying to resolve conflict, sometimes it is good to look at it like it is a tree of choices. The parts of the tree of choices are:

1. The Roots of the Tree
   - Identify if the problem is big or small
   - Big problems require help from an adult, especially if someone being hurt
   - Small problems can be solved on your own

2. The Heart of the Tree
   - Name the emotions you are feeling

3. The Branches of the Tree
   - Move it out - Step away from the problem
   - Talk it out - Talk through the issue or connect with a friend/trusted adult
   - Breathe it out - Practice some strategies that help us calm our emotions before responding

FAMILY COOPERATION ACTIVITIES
by Character Strong

1. How does your family work together to reach a shared goal? Talk about this and write your strategies down on a note card. Post it on your fridge or a place that everyone can see.

2. Plan a time where everyone can work together to accomplish a shared goal. Some examples are cleaning up the space you live in, making homemade pizzas, or cooking a favorite family dish. Everyone should have a task and when the task is complete, discuss and celebrate how each person's part was important to the end result.

2023-2024 ENROLLMENT

At Thorp, we develop personal relationships with students fostered in a caring environment. We concentrate on keeping the student, not the system, at the center of learning. We have nationally and regionally recognized highly qualified teachers.

School hours are 8:30 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 8:30 am to 1:30 pm on Friday. We have limited openings in Preschool through 12th grade. Please contact the office for availability, enrollment questions or to join our waitlist at 509-964-2107.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
- Student Registration Form - Available in Office and at www.thorpschools.org
- Certificate of Immunization Status
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Proof of residence
- Choice Transfer if out-of-district

SPECIAL EDUCATION
We are at capacity in our SPED Department and are not accepting applications for out-of-district students who have special needs. If you have any questions and would like to speak to our SPED Director, we can arrange an on-site consultation. Call 509-964-2107 to schedule.

KINDERGARTEN
Students must be 5 years of age before September 1, 2023 to attend our all-day Kindergarten Program. For additional information about our eligibility policy, visit www.thorpschools.org/3000 and click on 3110 Procedure.

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN
Students must be 4 years of age before September 1, 2023 to attend our all-day Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Program. TK is an opportunity for students to receive high quality early learning experiences in preparation for kindergarten.

PRESCHOOL
Students must be 3 years old before September 1, 2023 to attend our Preschool program. Our program fee is $250 per month. Our preschool runs Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Students eat lunch on campus and may pack a lunch or participate in the school lunch program. Students may ride the bus to school. Parents/Guardians provide transportation home.

COUNSELOR CORNER

Spring at Thorp is busy! Students are getting back into the garden and everyone has the opportunity to participate in field trips to help enhance and expand their learning. Check out all of our end of year activities on page 7.

It is also time to assess our students’ progress. Juniors and Seniors completed SATs earlier this month. State testing will be conducted in both elementary and secondary this month.

DIBLES - Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills
May 8-12 TK-5th grades

SBAC - Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
May 16-19 3rd-12th grades: ELA (no 9th grade)
May 23-26 3rd-12th grades: Math (no 9th grade)

WCAS - Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science
May 30-31 5th, 8th, and 11th grades

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   - Small problems can be solved on your own

2. The Heart of the Tree
   - Name the emotions you are feeling

3. The Branches of the Tree
   Make a choice to:
   - Move it out - Step away from the problem
   - Talk it out - Talk through the issue or connect with a friend/trusted adult
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2. Plan a time where everyone can work together to accomplish a shared goal. Some examples are cleaning up the space you live in, making homemade pizzas, or cooking a favorite family dish. Everyone should have a task and when the task is complete, discuss and celebrate how each person’s part was important to the end result.
During their Outdoor Education lessons, our 3rd - 5th grade students sent our younger students on a fun scavenger hunt. They painted rocks and worked in teams to hide them around the garden. Using their writing skills they carefully described their rocks and gave details of how to find it.

Kindergarten - 2nd grade students used their reading skills to follow the directions to find the rocks. The older students had a great time designing this activity and the younger ones were excited to go on a scavenger hunt!

Our first year offering an all-day Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program here at Thorp has been incredibly successful! TK is a program for children, not yet age five, who do not have access to high-quality early learning experiences prior to kindergarten.

We utilize rigorous play-based curriculum that offers a rich, diverse set of experiences in a learning environment that is developmentally appropriate and addresses the whole child. Our students have access to transportation, specialists (Art, PE, and Music), recess, lunch in the school cafeteria, outdoor education, and all aspects of the school day available to regular kindergarten students.

This spring, students have enjoyed getting out into the garden, meeting baby animals, and reading with the 8th graders.

We are excited to continue this program next year along with our half-day Preschool Program. Children who will be 4 years old before September 1, 2023 qualify for TK. Children aged 3-4 before September 1, 2023 qualify for our half-day Preschool.

If you have an eligible student, have questions, or would like to meet teachers in person to learn more about our program, please call the office at 509-964-2107.
Our school library is going through a major renewal and we are excited to share this new update with you! We are ordering new and exciting books across a variety of genres and at all reading levels. The library will also be getting some fun rugs and cozy seating. Very soon, our Thorp School community will have a wonderful space to come and explore new worlds through reading. Please mark your calendars, we invite you to come and experience the new library on June 6th, at our Library Renovation Open House.

In early April, Mrs. Willette and Mrs. Hoff took their classes on a field trip to extend their classroom learning. Students had been engaging in two novel studies, “Children of the Gold Rush” and “Aurore of the Yukon.” These books helped to broaden their understanding of indigenous Pacific Northwest Coast peoples and this important event in our history.

They had a great experience on their visit to the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in downtown Seattle. Students were able to contextualize their learning through the various artifacts, primary documents, and activities they explored. To top it off, they even got sworn in as Junior Rangers!

Afterwards, students enjoyed climbing and swinging at the awesome park in Seattle Center before heading back home.

Fifth grade students have been studying ecosystems and organisms. Their recent trip to Camp Seymour in Gig Harbor offered them the opportunity to get hands-on experience researching and studying ocean life up close!

Back at school, they were able to actually dissect razor clams and make statements about how clams survive. They then had to support their statements, or claims, with evidence. Some examples of their claims and evidence are: “Clams need air to live and grow. I know this because I saw that they had lungs,” and “Clams need food to live and grow. I know this because I saw that they had poop.” Mrs. Babik said that students were extremely mature, responsible, and had so much fun exploring!

Our multi-age class with 3rd through 5th grade students recently learned about May Day, a festival holiday originating in Europe. After they learned about how different countries in Europe celebrate the holiday, students had the opportunity to write about their favorite one. You can find these writing projects on the bulletin board outside their classroom. Finally, they created May Day Baskets by tie dying coffee filters and secretly delivered them around the school. What a fun way to welcome the warm weather!
Spring is here and learning is in full swing here! This is the time of year that students make the most academic and social learning improvements. With summer right around the corner, it can be challenging to keep students focused on learning. Here are some ways you can help keep school a priority for your child:

- Make attendance your number one priority. Let your child know that unless they are sick, they must attend school (and be on time.) Make an effort to schedule appointments after school hours.
- Show you care. Talk about school activities and projects. Make an effort to attend as many school events as you can.
- Remain positive. Try to set a positive example for your child, even when your own day has been challenging. If you show a positive attitude about your work, your child may feel better about their own.

We have welcomed several new families into our school this year and our waiting list for next fall is growing. I believe prospective and current families know that our kids are loved, nurtured, supported, and encouraged to be the best version of themselves. They know that somebody believes in them!

As we continue our focus on social emotional learning standards, we have a system in place to support our students in being successful with problem-solving and regulating their emotions. In the classroom, teachers work on lesson from our Character Strong, Zones of Regulation, and Social Thinking curriculums. Our counselor, Mrs. Jones, teaches weekly lessons to the P-5th grade students using Second Step lessons. We also bring in a mental health counselor from Comprehensive Mental Health several hours each week to support the mental and social emotional well-being of our students.

High standards and expectations for academic performance and responsible citizenship are pillars of our school philosophy. We remind students that they are responsible for their words, actions, and effort. While the end of spring brings the excitement of summer, please remind them that it is important for them to finish strong academically and socially.

We are here to serve our children and our families. Please contact your child’s teacher, the office staff, or myself if you want to set up a meeting to discuss any issues that arise. THANK YOU for being our partners in this important work helping your child enjoy learning and preparing them for a bright future!

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me and know that my door is always open.

*Mel Blair, Assistant Principal/Special Education Director*
UPCOMING EVENTS

May 9  4th & 5th Grade Salmon Release Trip
May 11-13  FFA State Conference, Spokane
May 11  MS Art Field Trip
May 11  Art Show, open through May 26
May 11  Elementary Concert, 6 pm
May 12  MS/HS Art Field Trip
May 15  K & 2nd Grade Art Field Trip
May 16  K-2 & 1st Grade Art Field Trip
May 16  4th Grade Field Trip, Outdoor Ed
May 17  3-5 & 3rd Grade Art Field Trip
May 18  4th & 5th Grade Art Field Trip
May 19  MS Field Trip, CWU Science Fair
May 20  HS Prom
May 22- June 1  Swimming Lessons, 1st & 2nd grade
May 23  School Board Meeting, 6 pm
May 25  Silverwood Science Day. Secondary Depart 5 am, Return 8 pm
May 29  Memorial Day - Office Closed, No School
May 31  Junior/Senior Banquet, 6 pm
June 1  Secondary Concert, 6:30 pm
June 2  Secondary Assembly, 1:30 pm
June 2  Elementary ROAR Assembly, 10 am
June 2  Senior Field Trip
June 2  Library Renovation Open House, 3pm - 7pm
June 2  TK Open House, 6 pm
June 6  K-2 Field Trip
June 6  Title & ELL Open House Night, 6 pm
June 7  3-5 Field Trip, Outdoor Ed
June 9  Graduation, 6 pm
June 10  MORP, 8th-11th grade Dance, 8 pm
June 12  Skating Party, K-5
June 13  Secondary Breakfast

September 2023

4  Labor Day - No School
5-6  District Staff Mandatory Days
7  First Day: Grades 1-12
11  First Day: Preschool, TK, and Kindergarten
October 2023
8  End of 1st Quarter
10  Veterans Day Observed - No School
15  Conference - Noon Release
16  Conference - Noon Release
17  Conference - Noon Release
22  Noon Release - Staff & Students
23-24  Thanksgiving - No School
November 2023
15  Noon Release - Staff & Students
18-29  Winter Break - No School
January 2024
1  New Year’s Day – No School
15  MLK Day - No School
31  End of 2nd Quarter
February 2024
19  Presidents Day - No School
March 2024
13  Conference - Noon Release
14  Conference - Noon Release
15  Conference - Noon Release
18-22  Spring Break - No School
April 2024
11  End of 3rd Quarter
May 2024
27  Memorial Day - No School
June 2024
7  Graduation
14  Last Day of School - 10 am Release
19  Juneteenth
HOURS  Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm
     Friday: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm
Secondary Quarters
11/08/23  1st Quarter Ends  45 Days
01/13/24  2nd Quarter Ends  45 Days
04/11/24  3rd Quarter Ends  45 Days
06/14/24  4th Quarter Ends  45 Days

DRAFT 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR
MAY 23, 2023 AT 6:00 PM

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT
The Thorp School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator, Civil Rights Coordinator, Andrew M. Perkins, Superintendent, (509) 964-7103, PO Box 150, 10831 N Thorp Hwy, Thorp, WA 98946, blairm@thorpschools.org.
Class of 2023

Harper Cardenas-Fields
Caitlin Johnson
Allyssa Kolman
Gemma Mosiman
Remington Warne
Rosa Urena

THORP SCHOOL DISTRICT