

# PFA Gazette

Thompson Middle School

## Principal's Message

Mr. Patrick Houston

Spring 2007

Editor: Suzanne Rauso

Thanks for all of your support with our district budget being passed by a wide majority of those who voted. This is, in my opinion, just a huge victory for all of our students in Middletown Township and you should know that it passed in almost every voting district.

For Thompson specifically, it now means an additional cross-country coach for our cross-country teams and most importantly an additional staff member to improve our student/teacher ration in academic classes.

I remain convinced that communities are known by their schools and as a resident of the community I could not be any more proud of this recent vote on the school budget.

We have been very, very busy at Thompson with just so many events taking place including but not limited to our recent band and chorus competition at Great Adventure, grade level trips to see the Blue Claws baseball team, new parent tour visits by our current fifth grade students while school was in session and grade level assemblies on tolerance and respect.

By the time you read this our eighth grade students will have already

had their dinner dance (always at Thompson from 6-8:30 PM) and their pool party at the Middletown Pool Club. All of these events are indicators of successful middle level education and although we have been very busy I wouldn't want it any other way. We have even made arrangements for our eighth grade students, attending one of our great public high schools to meet their ninth grade guidance counselor right here at Thompson.

Please check out all of the other information in our PFA Gazette including next year's school calendar and a final notice on our commencement program to be held at Brookdale on **Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> @ exactly 7:30 PM**. This information has everything you need to know!

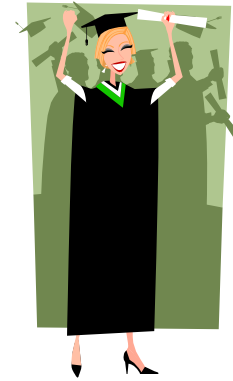
- The last week of school will be early dismissal days and that means (again) that schools will be dismissed at approximately 12:30 PM on June 11-12-13 and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The last day of school for students will be Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Lunch will be served.
- Transportation for regularly transported students will be provided.

Finally, the success of schools is based on the

confidence that the parents whose children attend the schools have in the school. I wish to thank all of the parents who helped out at Thompson with so many of the activities and events and it includes, but is not limited to the various committees that helped with the school dances, book fair, terrific team prizes, school trips, high honor roll breakfasts, eighth grade events and Staff Appreciation week.

We will also greatly miss our two chairpersons of Granny's Attic, Sharon Hayes and Tricia Woods and the hundreds of volunteers who work on keeping this a community-wide event. I would also like to thank our PFA Gazette editor of perhaps one of the best school-to-home newspapers around, Suzanne Rauso. Thanks for all of your efforts and patience especially with me in getting to you my own contributions.

Our PFA continues to support all of us at Thompson and I want to say thanks to you for putting up with me. We have been fortunate in having a great executive board led by Co-Presidents, Dana Johnson & Christine Weil, assisted by Dianne Thompson, Ann Marie Toto, Sue



Ciesmelewski and Patty Watters. Dianne and Ann Marie have worked with me for many years and they will be moving on at the end of this year.

Have a great safe summer. Make sure you and your family makes the time to take that family vacation that you often think about. I have been just so fortunate in working at Thompson Middle School...a school that is synonymous with success!

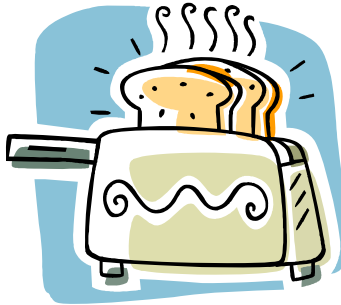
Kindest personal regards,

Patrick C. Houston

To: All the Thompson Parent Volunteers of the Teachers Appreciation Committee

We sincerely appreciate the generosity of all the parents who donated items during our annual Teacher's Appreciation Celebration.

You enabled us to provide the faculty and staff with a wonderful luncheon and breakfast. A special thank you to the entire faculty for providing an extraordinary learning environment to all our children.



We also thank you for instilling a strong educational foundation for all their future endeavors! We sincerely appreciate all your efforts and applaud you.

Barbara Falvo

Sue Scaduto

Allison Wall

(Paraprofessionals)

## Student Council News

## Mike Melando

Each year Thompson's Student Council Executive Board officers are voted into office for one-year term. It is always interesting and exciting to see how each new crop of officers will approach their duties. This year was an exceptionally rewarding one. Our executive team took on the responsibilities of running the many Student Council functions with particular gusto. Each seasonal competition, charitable event, and school dance was made a success. Thank you to this year's officers:

Scott Meeker, Kyle Bunge, Patrice Marcolla, Michael Wheaton, Tyler Kirk, Holly Menna, Nick Mariniello, Alexa Siminsky, and Jerry Lunanova.

As we close out the year and look forward, Student Council would like to remind all 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders that, after the summer, all Executive Board offices will be vacant for the 2007-2008 school year. All students interested in Student Council are encouraged to check out the position descriptions at the main office bulletin

board and pick up an officer application.

**This year's Student Council Officers did an outstanding job!**

## Notes from the PFA Presidents Christy Weil and Dana Johnson

Well, another successful school year with lots accomplished by our organization. Thank you to all who participated by chairing events, helping at any, providing goodies for events, and donating time and energy to making Thompson Middle school a wonderful place for our children to grow. The late year events are underway and the eighth grade events are shaping up to provide the kids with memories to cherish. Teachers' Appreciation Week was certainly enjoyed and appreciated by the entire staff. The PFA provided a festive catered luncheon on Wednesday, sweet treats on

Thursday, and on Friday a lovely breakfast with all delicious items donated by our supportive families. Don't forget to look for our summer mailing which will provide a calendar of PFA and school meetings and events, an envelope for your PFA dues, and volunteer sheet. We ask that you help in any way you can. The more help that we can enlist the smaller the jobs for all!! We wish everyone a safe summer filled with fun and sun. Congratulations to our graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Good luck in all your endeavors in you high school years. And welcome to all our incoming 6<sup>th</sup>

graders and their families. We would like to say a special Thank you to Dianne Thompson and Ann Marie Toto, our Vice President and our Treasurer for several years. Their dedication to the PFA has been exemplary and you will surely missed by us all.



## Substance Awareness Coordinator Rosemary Richards

This has been a productive and busy spring. The peer leaders and the Rebel Club, which is the anti-smoking club, did a cross-age teaching lesson for the fourth grade students at Nutswamp School. They had several hands-on props that helped drive the message home about the dangers of smoking. The students were shown a tar jar that contained the equivalent of a year's worth of tar that would be deposited into the lungs of a smoker who smoked 10 cigarettes per day. They were also shown a model of a cancerous mouth and lung. It was quite effective. The Thompson students were the happy recipients of many kind words of praise from the teachers who witnessed their lesson. The students here at Thompson are now

benefiting from these models as our health and physical education staff are incorporating them into their lessons.

I have been in classrooms doing presentations about the effects of overdosing on the drug that is called alcohol. It is important that our young people understand that although alcohol is a legal drug and socially acceptable for moderate use among adults it is possible to overdose on it with disastrous and sometimes fatal consequences. We are discussing the concept of young people drinking to get drunk. This actually means deliberately overdosing on alcohol. Once we have made that connection, I hope they find it sobering!! They understand that it would be crazy to set out to deliberately over-

to help them understand that it is equally crazy to deliberately set out to overdose on alcohol. Parents, please reinforce these concepts. Young people have a very distorted and or non-existent concept of quantity of alcohol. **The mature human body** can safely metabolize one ounce of alcohol per hour. Young people do not know that unless we teach them and they are not drinking legally, moderately or carefully. Knowledge is power.

As always I appreciate the support for the student assistance program here at Thompson. Please call me if you have anything that you wish to discuss. My extension is 8774.

**Young people do not know that they are overdosing on alcohol.**

### From The Thompson Media Center ...

The media center would like to send a giant THANK YOU to all of our wonderful parent volunteers this year. Your time and dedication have made the media center a truly organized and festive facility for all of our students! The spring book fair was also a great success. Thank you Joanne Lockwood for making it run so smoothly! We were able to offer exciting new books to the students and we obtained dozens of new paperbacks for immediate circulation. The remaining proceeds will combined with the fall Parent Faculty Association grant for even more new books. Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful summer filled with fantastic literary adventures! Here are a few ideas for some family reading activities:

- Create a family reading night. Choose one night a week where everyone drops everything

to spend an hour reading.

- Listen to books on cassette or CD while you are traveling. Many excellent middle school titles and children's classics are available at the Public Library. These books are quite entertaining for a variety of ages. (Really - I've even gotten my husband, three-year-old daughter and elderly dog to listen happily as I've previewed books in the car.)
- Have your children read poems or short stories aloud. Encourage the readers to be dramatic!
- Read a book as a family - then see the film of that book. Compare and contrast the mediums. Most children's classics as well as many new works are available on video at the library.

Enjoy!

*Ms. Rachel Raymond, Media Specialist*

# Language Arts Department      Carl Gentry, Coordinator

As the school year comes to a close, the Language Arts Department is continuing to present the students with a rigorous, comprehensive curriculum in articulation with the New Jersey State Core Curriculum Content Standards. Students are involved in many exciting and challenging culminating activities along with integrated reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical viewing during the fourth marking period. One notable feature of the curriculum is the wide array of books to which students have exposure. In addition to the core novels at each grade level, which are:

**Grade Six** - *Tuck Everlasting*, *The House of Dies Drear*, and *The Book of Three*

**Grade Seven** - *Where the Red Fern Grows*, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, and *The Giver*

**Grade Eight** - *The Pearl*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and *Farewell to Manzanar*),

the students read many supplemental novels, some of which are author study books. In the Thompson Enrichment Program (G&T), students read books that relate to the various themes in the curriculum. For example, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade enrichment classes are reading or have read various novels related to the theme of mystery with titles such as *The Westing Game*, *The Undertaker's Gone Bananas*, *Ten Great Mysteries* by Edgar Allan Poe, and several

other authentic titles written in the mystery genre. In addition to this, teachers in the language arts department have "built" D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) libraries in their classrooms through the generosity of the P.F.A. and free books obtained through the Scholastic Book Clubs, donations, etc. The department would also like to thank the school district for obtaining grant money in order to further supplement our classroom libraries with a plethora of authentic adolescent literature. Finally, students will read exciting books over the summer in the mandatory summer reading program. When students return in September, they will be asked to write in response their reading. Teachers will distribute the summer reading lists in early June. Thompson students have numerous opportunities to become immersed in reading!

Parents also play an integral role in the development of their child's literacy skills. Many parents inquire about what they can do in order for their children to develop their reading skills and become life-long readers. The following are some suggestions to encourage your middle-school reader to read recreationally:

- Parents can show their child that reading is fun by reading the same book as their child. Spend time together discussing the book.
- Encourage your child to read newspaper articles and magazine articles and discuss current events or sports with them.
- Visit the Public Library and local bookstores frequently with your child to find books that interest both of you.

**Students have access to a wide array of books in the fourth marking period and have mandatory reading in the summer.**

Our department wishes to congratulate Ms. Eileen Prybys, one of our seventh-grade language arts teachers, on the birth of her baby girl, Virginia Eileen Foulks, who was born in April.

In conclusion, the Language Arts Department would like to thank the P.F.A. for a fantastic Teacher Appreciation Week. The luncheon and breakfast were both

truly enjoyable affairs. We deeply appreciated all your time and effort in making Teacher Appreciation Week so special at Thompson. Thank you for all that you do.

Have a safe, restful, and pleasurable summer!



Read and enjoy your summer!

## Special Education Department News May 2007

by Lynn Godfrey, Department Coordinator

As I gather my thoughts for this the final PFA Gazette article of 2006-2007 school year I feel we should celebrate the achievement of our students as they progress through our education program. To continue this progress it is vital to maintain a level of interest in reading and math during the summer vacation even though our students' attention shifts from school books to the beach. Schools can provide a foundation, but parental help is necessary to ensure a continued quality education.

One way parents can help is by providing various reading experiences and materials. Set aside leisure reading time, and read the same book as your child. Then spend time together discussing the book. Encourage your child to read newspapers and magazine articles, and discuss articles that contain current events and sports. Visit the public library and local bookstores frequently with your children to find interesting books. In addition, use notes and messages whenever you can; this could include lists for family chores. Look for ways to link mathematical learning to daily activities. Encourage your child to

figure out the amounts for halving or doubling a recipe, figuring a restaurant tip, cost of sale items after a discount, and selecting the best buy in a supermarket item. On family car excursions have your child calculate the number of miles of the trip, how long it will take to get to your



destination, and the miles you get per gallon of gas. To review perimeter have your child measure all outside edges of a shape with a yardstick, ruler or tape measure and then add all sides together. Next, have them find the area of the same object (length times width). These activities can be done in your backyard garden flowerbeds, walkways, or pool. Have your child keep track of the temperature or rainfall during the week, and then find the average for the week (add all numbers then divide by how many numbers you added together). The possibilities are endless.

It is hard to believe that the end

of the school year is upon us. It has been a productive year. Much of our success comes from the sincere efforts of our paraprofessionals: Deborah Bao, Carol Belke, Florence Chares, Carolyn Halleran, Diane Lippi, Joanne Mahon, Elizabeth Marino, Irene Mullan, Maureen Parks, Fran Rizzo, Linda Scheurer, Mary Valan, Allison Wall, and Linda Waylett. The paraprofessionals in many cases are our students' first line of defense. They often work one-on-one to meet immediate needs that make education possible.

We would also like to extend a thank you to our P.F.A. for wonderful breakfast and delicious luncheon during Teacher Appreciation Week. We appreciate all the effort that was put into making the week special.

Speaking for all of our department, I want to wish our graduating class the best on the completion of their studies, and many joyful times at all our graduation festivities. We hope that your high school years will be filled with much success and happiness.

## Guidance News from Mr. Jim Anderson

As the school year winds down the guidance counselors have been working hard with students and teachers to close out the year on a good note. Currently the counselors are working on student placements for next year's classes. However, as of this writing, we are still awaiting the results of the NJASK and GEPA tests. These results are another determining factor of class placement.

Mrs. Mason has been working on many things with our 8<sup>th</sup> graders going on to the high schools. The high school guidance counselors will be meeting with their future counselees on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Mason also will be having the 5<sup>th</sup> grade orientation program at Thompson on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Things to look forward to:

Students will find out their 2007-08 homerooms in Mr. Houston's summer mailing (usually arrives mid to late August). All students receive their schedules in homeroom on the first day of school.

Back to School Night – Thursday, September 20, 2007 at 7:30 PM. Finally, best wishes to our Thompson graduates in high school and beyond. Also we look forward to seeing our returning Thompsonites come September.

## Field Trips and Student Activities Mrs. Toni Marie DeGennaro

The year is almost at an end and so are all of this year's school events!! This year the Sixth Graders went to Medieval Times in Lyndhurst, NJ on Friday, April 27, 2007. This live show recreated a medieval tournament of skill and sports, featuring valiant knights and powerful stallions. This trip also included a "hands-on" medieval feast and a beautiful falcon flying over our seats.

The Seventh Graders began a new tradition this year. They went to see the Lakewood Blue Claws vs. Hagerstown in Lakewood, NJ on Wednesday, May 23, 2007. The class had their own picnic area with a view overlooking first base. The students definitely brought their appetites for the All - You - Can - Eat (BBQ chicken, ribs, Hot Dogs, Burgers and more). Because the Blue Claws trip in the past has been an 8th grade trip, this year the 8th graders also went on Thursday, May 10th, 2007.

On Thursday, May 31st, the PFA sponsored the annual 8th grade dinner dance. I would like to thank Mrs. Antonaros and all the other parents who volunteered their time and creativity to make this a memorable night. I would also like to thank Aleo's in Lincroft for an amazing assortment of food, D.J Johnny for doing the music for us every

year, Mr. Johnny Ski for his generous donation of soda for our 8th graders, and Ann's Rental for the tables.

Additionally, the Eighth Graders went on their annual end-of-the-year trip to Middletown Swim and Tennis Club, in Middletown, NJ. This was a great day filled with fun in the sun and lots of enjoyment. The students were able to swim, play softball, soccer, basketball, volleyball, tennis and much more. Our very own DJ Johnny donated his time and music for the day. Thank you to Gary Wittmer for making our 8th grade t-shirts. Congratulations to our very own Jimmy Gibson. We have your sketch of our school mascot, the lion, as the background of our shirt with all of the 8th graders' signatures. Joyce's in Lincroft provided subs and pizza. I would also like to thank Dairy Queen on Route 35 near Whole Foods for donating 300 ice cream sandwiches for our 8th graders. I would also like to thank the PFA for helping with Mrs. McGovern and all the other parents who helped at the pool club that day. It was a great way for the 8th graders to end their time here at Thompson.



School trips to Medieval Times, a Blue Claws game, and the Swim Club were fun!

I would also like to thank the P.F.A. for its contributions to help defray the cost of the dinner dance, the Swim Club trip, and the 8th grade t-shirts. Without their generosity, the cost to the students would have been considerably higher.

Words cannot express my appreciation to my 15 wonderful 8th Grade Student Activity Members. Without their help after school everyday, the school trips, pep rally, and other activities would not have been as successful as they were. Please know that your time and efforts did not go unnoticed and I am proud of your devotion to this program.

Alison Bonfiglio  
Emily Deeves  
Caitlin Rogers  
Christina Kurica  
Konstandina Tampasis  
P.J. Benson  
Zach Ayers  
Paige Passafaro  
Brian McAtee  
John Brucato  
Francis Garvey  
Dylan Breger  
Megan Foran  
Rob Casale  
Monique Cappuzzo

**Middletown Township Public Schools  
Thompson Middle School**

Karen Bilbao  
Interim Superintendent of Schools  
(732) 706-6002

Patrick C. Houston  
Principal  
(732) 671-2212

www.middletownk12.org  
**June 2007**

***Final Graduation Notice***

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please review thoroughly the following information as it pertains to graduation at Brookdale Community College gymnasium on June 13<sup>th</sup> at exactly 7:30 PM.

The ceremony will be approximately one hour.

- Graduates must be present in the lobby by 7:00 PM. No later!
- Robes will be distributed on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and invitations on Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Robes should be taken out of the plastic bag and hung-up.
- The gymnasium is air-conditioned.
  - The best way to get there is to take route 520 West to Phalanx Road (traffic light). Take Phalanx to the Brookdale entrance and follow signs to parking lots #6 & 7.
  - If you need to drop off an elderly or physically challenged person you should use parking lot #7. Follow signs for authorized vehicles only. You may not park there but you may drop off there. This will enable floor seating.
  - When parents and/or guests enter the lobby may I ask you to take your seat immediately as this will be the staging area for the graduates. No photo taking in the lobby before the program...once the ceremony is over you may take any pictures that you wish!
  - We want this exercise to be a traditional, conservative one and please cooperate. Please refrain from applauding until all the graduates' names are called.
  - Once we begin the procession (at exactly 7:30 PM) guests will not be permitted to sit until all graduates are seated.
  - Eighth grade students must attend all rehearsals (no exceptions, please).

Finally, please know we will do everything we can to make this a very joyous and memorable occasion for all involved.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Patrick C. Houston

Principal

# World Languages Department, Ellen Finkelstein, Coordinator

*Félicitations! ¡Felicitaciones!* Congratulations to all our students for a very successful year. All of the students here at Thompson can now communicate in either French or Spanish. Since every one of our students is enrolled in a World Languages course, learning a second language has become an integral part of every child's education.

As the year draws to a close, the World Languages department would like to extend our best wishes to our graduates, who will continue their study of French or Spanish in high school or will take on a new language challenge next year. We look forward to working with our current sixth and seventh graders again next year. In September, if you have any concerns about your child's placement, please feel free to call his or her Spanish or French teacher.

Final exams are being administered in early June, during the last few full days of school. Exams are given in full year language courses only. There are no final exams for sixth graders or for students in our half-year programs. The final exam schedule is as follows:

## **French 1 and 2**

Tuesday, June 5

Wednesday, June 6

Thursday, June 7

## **Spanish 1 and Spanish 2**

Monday, June 4

Tuesday, June 5

Wednesday, June 6

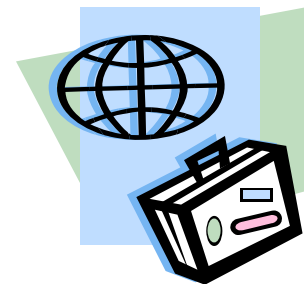
Thursday, June 7

As summer vacation time fast approaches, I would like to en-

courage all of our students to try to use their world language skills while they are away from school, even if it's just an occasional word or phrase. If you travel to a place where Spanish or French is spoken, please encourage your son or daughter to put their language knowledge to use. They should be able to order something to eat or drink, ask how much something costs or find out the directions to a destination, for example.

Have a happy and safe summer!

*Bonnes vacances! ¡Buenas vacaciones!*



Use your French or Spanish on vacation, even if it is only a word or phrase.

## Congratulations to the Thompson Chorus Mrs. Lynn Williams

The High Note Music Competition on Friday, May 18, was a huge success. The 250 voiced Mixed Choir, (first soprano, second soprano, baritone) received a rating of Superior with very high scores. The Thompson Singers, a select group of 40 unchanged voices, also received a Superior rating. The choral groups are scored on a scale of 1-100, with categories such as, blend, diction, balance, intonation, interpretation, tone, technique, and

rhythmic accuracy. The judges also chose to write comments on the score sheets, and Byron James said, "This is a very well trained and disciplined group." and from Dorian Perrault, "Superior performance, awesome!" The students were thrilled to hear their scores and the comments by the judges.



Congratulations!

I would like to thank all of the students who came to the 7:30 rehearsals. This year we had over 90% of the students voluntarily come to more than the required amount of practices. Students needed to come to 3 out of 4 mornings, yet most came to 4 of the 4. Teachers inspire students, but this year, their dedication inspired me. Well done, Thompson!

## Social Studies Department – by Kevin Graham, Department Coordinator

Well, another school year is coming to an end. On behalf of the entire Social Studies Department, I would like to congratulate our eighth graders, and their parents, on the occasion of their graduation. Good luck in high school!

Summer vacation is a great time for rest and relaxation. It is also a good opportunity to prepare for the upcoming 2007-2008 school year. With that in mind, may I offer some ideas for your consideration?

Take some time for an honest evaluation of this past school year; the pros and the cons. This is a good way to think of how the pros

can be accentuated and continued next year and why the cons occurred and how they might be minimized or eliminated next year. A little bit of forethought can go a long way.

Encourage your child to read over the summer. Urge them to look at a newspaper every day. It is a great habit to form as they approach adulthood.

Plan to take some time to become familiar with the school district's website – [www.middletonk12.org](http://www.middletonk12.org). It is full of information about a wide variety of important school related topics. It is also a terrific way to stay in con-

tact with your child's teachers next year through e-mail.

But most importantly, rest up and enjoy this invaluable opportunity to spend time with family, friends – and yourself. September will be here soon enough so make every day of summer count. So long for now.



Urge your child to read a newspaper every day.

## Science Updates from Mrs. Jessorun, Department Chair

Mrs. VanFechtman's classes:

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade science will be completing the year with the Astronomy book. We will be researching the planets and as well as investigating the universe.



Astronomy is a seventh-grade science activity.

investigating the geologic column and plate tectonics. We recently completed a clean-up of the school grounds.

Mr. Newfeld's classes are working on the biology units. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about animals and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are study-

ing weather and climate. He wishes them continued success in the following years. The science department said a sad good-bye to Mr. Arthur who was Mr. Newfield's student teacher. We all wish him well in his teaching career and know he will be a wonderful teacher.

Miss Hughes 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes are finishing the Microorganism book and beginning their studies of Forces. They will be designing and constructing bridges and roller coasters as well as doing many labs that involve mathematics. Her 7<sup>th</sup> graders have finished their study of cells and heredity.

In eighth grade Mrs. Jessorun's classes have completed their study of sound and light and are doing research on environmental problems and solutions.

Mrs. Reznick has her classes working on lab and lots of hands-on activities. They are now starting the

book on chemistry.

Mr. Jacobes' classes:

The eighth grade classes have been investigating the properties of sound and light using loooong metal springs (a class favorite) and other devices and demonstrations. We are hoping to end up the year and then have a little bit of time left over which we will use to investigate catapults and more water-powered rockets.

The seventh-grade class has recently started learning about cells, photosynthesis and genetics. We recently completed a lab on photosynthesis and then had the opportunity to recreate the lab experiment on the Internet. The students enjoyed the mix of technology and hands-on work while learning about photosynthesis, the scientific method and scientific models.

## Thompson Baseball 2007

The season began with 80 participants during tryouts, which were eventually cut down to 24 to make up the team of 2007 here at Thompson. Coach Dooley was looking to have a good year with the returning players from last year and the new crew that stepped in. His expectations were high, but in the first game of the season suffered a tough loss to Holmdel in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup>, with temperatures in the 40's. The boys bounced back from the loss and answered with a 3 game win streak, before losing a 1-0 game to Matawan.

Late in the season the team was looking to 3-peat as shore champions, but fell short after losing to Thorne and Bayshore. The Lions finished with a record of 10 - 5. The team was strong up the middle occupied by Mike Gannon and Chris Falvo who turned 4 double plays during the year. Our pitching was strong with our two starters Andrew Suarez (2 - 2) and Ricky Lovato (3 - 1), while Jake Fay stepped into a nice role relieving, catching duties were split by Rob Marcickiewicz and Tom Yamaguchi, and the outfield was played by a Taylor Delepine, Mike Sullivan, and multiple players filled in. Will Siegfried split time between first base and outfield. The rest of the team who rounded out the roster included:

Christian Egeberg (3B/P), Chris Rosaperez (3B), Doug Farrell (P/OF), Tyler Triska (P/OF), Matt Olton (1B), Stephan Poggioli (OF), Danny Sweeney (OF), Joe Simone (C/3B), James McDonough (SS), Marcus Santo (OF), Brian Healy (OF), Alex Cleary (P/3B), Ryan Hogan (P/2B), Mike McDavitt (1B).

I want to thank all the parents, students, and faculty who made up our fan base. I also would like to thank Mike Arcate with helping out and keeping an outstanding scorebook. Finally many thanks, to my volunteer assistant, Coach Gerritsen who played a key role to our infielders' production. Good luck to all the 8<sup>th</sup> graders who will continue to improve their game and I am looking forward to the returning 7<sup>th</sup> graders to help us regain our title.

Thanks,  
Coach Dooley

### Season Results:

Holmdel: 3 - 4 L	Thorne: 10- 4 W
Hazlet: 11-9 W	Neptune B: 19-1 W
Matawan: 0-1 L	Bayshore: 2-1 W
Neptune A: 11- 1 W	Holmdel: 6 - 3 W
Long Branch: 20 - 6 W	Long Branch: 14 -1 W
Thorne: 9 - 12 L	Hazlet: 4-1 W
Bayshore: 5-6 L	Matawan: 1 - 5 L
Neptune A: 12- 1 W	



## Thompson Softball 2007

This year the Girls Softball team finished the season in first place and won the Middle School Shore Conference League with an undefeated record of 14–0. Team Captains were Dana Shea as our pitcher, Jackie Bates as our 2nd baseman, and Kristen Shea as our outfielder and catcher. Ms. Vaccarella said the following about the team captains, “I was very proud how they motivated and held control of the team at every practice and made it fun too!”

The girls battled their way to the top defeating their rivals, Thorne. However, the second time around really proved our strength as a team, forcing Thorne into defensive mistakes and allowing us to win by a score of 7-0. With the help of two strong pitchers, Thompson’s defense was solid. Starting 8th grade pitcher, Dana Shea, had 5 wins, 3 of them being shutouts, and Allison Nolan, a 7th grader, had 5 wins, totaling about 80 strikeouts. Both pitched consistently excellent all season. The girls fought real hard this season and battled to earn their undefeated record going into extra innings for 3 out of their 14 games.



The girls all played fantastic as a team. All season, they were determined to work, have fun and play hard. I was extremely impressed by the team’s great sportsmanship, attitude, determination, talent and their ability to play beyond my expectations. The captains, Jackie Bates, Dana Shea, and Kristen Shea were also selected to play in our upcoming “All-Stars” game at the end of the season. My eighth graders will be greatly missed. Thanks you to all those who supported our 2007 season. See you next year!

### 2007 THOMPSON GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM

COACH: Ms. Vaccarella

TEAM MANAGER: Ally Bonfiglio

8<sup>th</sup> Graders:

Megan Patterson

Kerri Kinsella

Annamarie Vuono

Dana Shea

Kristen Shea

Megan Gray

Allie Murature

Ana Lanfranchi

Kelly Haspel

Jackie Bates

Sam Ciesmelewski

Andrea Martino

Sam Slattery

7<sup>th</sup> Graders:

Danielle Bardell

Patrice Marcola

Abby Tava

Lauren Hymanson

Hope Nilson

Allison Nolan

Jill Troiano

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**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SCHOOL CALENDAR 2007/2008**

Monday	September 3, 2007	Schools Closed-Labor Day
Tuesday	September 4, 2007	Professional Day/First Day for Staff
Wednesday	September 5, 2007	Professional Day for Staff
Thursday	September 6, 2007	First Day for Students
Thursday	September 13, 2007	Schools Closed-Holiday
Monday	October 22, 2007	Schools Closed-Professional Day for Staff
Tuesday	November 6, 2007	Schools Closed-Election Day
Thursday	November 8, 2007	Schools Closed-NJEA Convention
Friday	November 9, 2007	Schools Closed-NJEA Convention
Monday	November 12, 2007	Schools Closed-Veterans Day
Wednesday	November 21, 2007	Early Dismissal-Thanksgiving Day Recess
Thursday	November 22, 2007	Schools Closed-Thanksgiving Day
Friday	November 23, 2007	Schools Closed-Thanksgiving Day Recess
Friday	December 21, 2007	Schools Close at End of Day-Winter Recess
Wednesday	January 2, 2008	Schools Reopen
Monday	January 21, 2008	Schools Closed-Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
Tuesday	February 5, 2008	Schools Closed-Primary Election Day / Professional Day for Staff
Monday	February 18, 2008	Schools Closed-Presidents' Day
Thursday	March 20, 2008	Schools Close at End of Day-Spring Recess
Monday	March 31, 2008	Schools Reopen
Monday	May 26, 2008	Schools Closed-Memorial Day
Friday	June 20, 2008	Last Day for Students
Monday	June 23, 2008	Last Day for Teachers

NOTE: Two (2) emergency days are included. Additional emergency closing days will be rescheduled by the Board of Education to reach a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days for students. Any changes to the school calendar(s) will be at the discretion of the Board of Education. The list of religious holidays will be forwarded when received from the State Department of Education.

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Should staff absent themselves from scheduled day(s) for State holiday(s), they will make up the day(s) as assigned by the Administration, during the winter or spring breaks.

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