

## Turkey Hill School Gobbler Newsletter September 1, 2023

*Welcome Turkey Hill Parents! You can expect to receive the "Gobbler Newsletter" eblast every Friday with updates from the school and our PTO. We apologize in advance - this week is a long one! They won't usually be this long.*

### **School News:**

**Fire Drill:** We had our first fire drill this morning. It was announced before hand so students were aware it was coming. They did a fantastic job and we were done in less than 10 minutes.

**Power School Permissions Reminder:** In PowerSchool you will see many tabs in the left-hand navigation menu. Please visit the PowerSchool Registration tab and update any information that you see inaccurate on that form. Also, please remember to **read and check off all the Policy Permissions and Agreements**. In order to use school technology, parents must acknowledge this on PowerSchool. If permission is not granted, students will not be allowed to use district technology. Also, please visit the Alert Solutions Tab to update your contact preferences.

**Lunch and Online Payments:** Our Food Services Staff is committed to providing wholesome, nutritious meals that students will enjoy. Information regarding the Free and Reduced Lunch program and a downloadable application as well as Lunch menus will be posted on our website at [www.oess.org](http://www.oess.org). **If your household qualifies for free or reduced meals based on posted income guidelines, please complete an application.**

*Orange Public School meals will no longer be free beginning with the 2023-24 school year. However, those students who are qualified for "Reduced" lunch will continue to have free lunch (i.e. \$.40 "Reduced" charge will be paid by the State of CT instead of the student's household).*

Families can load money into their child's Power School account for the purchase of lunch, milk and snack by logging into RevTrack at <https://orange.revtrak.net/tek9.asp> Please email [techsupport@orange-ed.org](mailto:techsupport@orange-ed.org) if you have any log in issues. Of course, you may send in cash or a check (made out to: Orange Food Services) in an envelope labeled with your child's name for us to add to the account. Due to rising costs of food and supplies it has been necessary to increase the price of lunch to **\$3.15 per day. If a child chooses to purchase a milk only the price has remained the same - \$.60** Please contact Christine Koch at [ckoch@orange-ed.org](mailto:ckoch@orange-ed.org) with any questions.

**Fundraiser for Smilow:** On September 9, Ms. Malafronte will be riding 25 miles in the Closer to Free Bike Ride to benefit Smilow Cancer Hospital. She rides in honor of her brother, her dad, and so many others who have battled this horrible disease. As a final push to hit her goal of being the top fundraiser in this year's ride for Smilow, THS will be sponsoring a Hat Day on Friday September 8th. Students and staff can bring in a donation of any amount, and wear their favorite hat to school for the day. All proceeds will go directly to research and patient care at Smilow. If you prefer to make a tax deductible donation online, email Mrs. Malafronte ([gmalafronte@orange-ed.org](mailto:gmalafronte@orange-ed.org)) and she will send you the link to her personal fundraising page. Thank you so much for your support!

**Celebrating Your Child's Birthday Reminder:** Parents can send in non-food goody bags for each student in the class or they can arrange to read a story to the class either in person or through Google Meet. Please contact your child's teacher as it gets closer to their birthday.

**Beginning of Year Assessments:** Students in all grades will be taking a few informal assessments over the coming weeks to gauge their current levels of performance and help teachers plan for instruction in reading, writing, and mathematics.

**Virtual Backpack:** Please click the link to see all flyers in the virtual backpack.  
School: <https://www.oess.org/our-schools/turkey-hill/virtual-backpack/school-news>  
PTO: <https://sites.google.com/view/turkey-hill-school-pto/>  
Community: <https://www.oess.org/our-schools/turkey-hill/virtual-backpack/new-page>

## **PTO Events**

**Welcome and Key PTO Dates & Deadlines:** A huge welcome to all our new families and welcome back to all our THS returning families! PTO has already been hard at work planning the year's activity calendar, and are so excited to bring back so many of our Turkey Titan traditions, as well as introducing a few new events and volunteer opportunities this year.

These are the key dates and deadlines coming up you don't want to miss.

- THS Fun Run registration is now OPEN! Register here: [mybooster.com](https://mybooster.com)
- Drama Club registration deadline 9/3 - register here: <https://ths-drama-club-2023-2024.cheddarup.com>
- Join the PTO by 9/30 to get your FREE school directory! <https://bit.ly/member2324>
- Room parent lottery - return form by 9/8: <https://bit.ly/throomparent2324>
- Library volunteers - sign up by 9/8: <https://bit.ly/thlibraryvolunteer23-24>
- 5th Annual THS Shirt Designs due 9/8: <https://bit.ly/thsshirtcontest2324>
- PTO Committee volunteers - sign up to volunteer for any of our event or activity committees here: <https://bit.ly/committees2324>

Questions? See below for more details on each...

**THS Fun Run: Registration is now OPEN! Register here: [mybooster.com](https://mybooster.com)**

The THS Fun Run is BACK! And this year with a fun upgrade - it's an obstacle course! Our goal for this year is to raise \$17,000 to continue to contribute to our long-term goal of building an outdoor classroom, as well as contributing to the general PTO budget, which serves all THS students.

More details to come as we approach kick-off. For now, key dates to remember:  
Registration is open NOW! Register at [mybooster.com](https://mybooster.com)  
Kickoff Day - September 18th  
Event Day - September 28th

**LAST CALL! Drama Club Registration: Deadline 9/3, rehearsals begin 9/5 - register here: <https://ths-drama-club-2023-2024.cheddarup.com>**

Turkey Hill School Drama Club for the 2023-2024 school year will proudly present *Willy Wonka Jr!* under the direction of Kelsey Sullivan. This will be her third year teaching fifth grade at Turkey Hill. Ms. Sullivan has been participating in arts programs from a very young age, most recently directing and choreographing for Amity Creative Theater and Center Stage Theater in Shelton. We are excited to get started! To register, see full rehearsal schedule, show times and more:

<https://ths-drama-club-2023-2024.cheddarup.com>

Questions? Please contact Drama Club Director (and 5th grade THS teacher) Kelsey Sullivan via email at [ksullivan@orange-ed.org](mailto:ksullivan@orange-ed.org).

**THS PTO Membership: Join the PTO by 9/30 to get your FREE school directory!**

<https://bit.ly/member2324>

All families are invited to join the THS PTO. Help us reach our goal of 100% family membership. Membership dues are \$20 per family, and are one of the largest sources of funding for the PTO. Each year, the PTO budget funds social events, like last week's family picnic, student enrichment activities, like author visits, Art Goes to School, and the Turkey Titan Printing Press, provides curriculum enhancement stipends to every teacher at THS, covers field trip buses for all students, and more!

PTO by-laws and our insurance require that all volunteers for PTO programs (board members, room parents, library volunteers, AGTS, event and activity committees) be registered members of the PTO. Questions? Please contact Missy Verdura, THS PTO Treasurer, at [treasurerthspto@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerthspto@gmail.com). If you are in need of financial assistance for PTO dues, please contact our principal, Denise Arterbery at [darterbery@orange-ed.org](mailto:darterbery@orange-ed.org) or 203-891-8040. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

**Room Parents: Room parent lottery - print and return form by 9/8:**

<https://bit.ly/thsroomparent2324>

Each year, 2 room parents per classroom are needed to take on the tasks of serving as liaisons between your child's teacher and parents, serve as a contact between the PTO and parents, coordinating class parties, and working with the classroom teachers on special events held throughout the year. If you are interested, please complete the form above and **return no later than Friday, September 8th to the THS main office, Attn: Room Parent Volunteer.**

Questions? Please contact Andrea DeCrosta, THS PTO Vice President and Room Parent Coordinator, at [ajdecrosta@aol.com](mailto:ajdecrosta@aol.com).

**Library Volunteers: Library volunteers - sign up by 9/8 click here for more information:**

<https://bit.ly/thslibraryvolunteer23-24>

Volunteers are an essential part of our library and your children's education. You are invited and encouraged to assist during your child's library period. No experience needed. Training is provided. Please note your child(ren)'s library time when signing up to volunteer for your child's class. **To be a library volunteer, please register no later than Friday, September 8th at <https://bit.ly/thslibraryvolunteer23-24>.**

Questions? Please contact Meghan Rabuse, THS PTO Co-President and Library Volunteer Coordinator, at [turkeyhillpto@gmail.com](mailto:turkeyhillpto@gmail.com).

**PTO Committee Volunteers:** PTO Committee volunteers - sign up to volunteer for any of our event or activity committees here: <https://bit.ly/committees2324>

If you aren't able to volunteer as a room parent or for the library, we have loads of other options for families that fit all different schedules - be it an evening or weekend social event, a one day event like Field Day or Junior Achievement. When it comes time to start planning these events and activities, the people who have signed up here are the ones we reach out to. Sign up for as many or as few opportunities as you would like. All we do is only possible through YOUR help!

**Scholastic Book Fair:** We will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair during the Open House on Tuesday, September 5th. The fair will be open from 6:15-8:15 PM. Stop by before your teacher's session to shop their classroom wish-list or pick up a book to leave on your child's desk!

**Turkey Titan School Store:** Beginning on September 13th, the School Store will open each Wednesday during lunch. The store allows students to independently shop for school supplies and THS gear while practicing valuable math and monetary skills! Any schedule changes will be posted in the Gobbler.

**Monthly PTO Meeting:** All families are invited to attend our first General Meeting, Tuesday, 9/12 at 8PM via Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/aoz-cepx-ffu>

**5th Annual THS Shirt Contest:** Designs due by 9/8: <https://bit.ly/thsshirtcontest2324>

Your School. Your Shirt! Each year, the PTO hosts a design contest for the official THS Shirt. All THS students are invited to submit a design to be featured on this year's THS spirit wear. Please be sure to follow the required design guidelines to be considered. All designs must be turned in to the office by Friday, September 8th. The PTO and Principal Arterbery will narrow submissions to 4 selections to be voted on by the entire school and the winning design will be the 2023 THS Shirt!

**Yearbook Photos:** Submit photos to be considered for inclusion in the yearbook here: [2023/2024 Yearbook Photo Album](#). Email [turkeyhillyearbook2324@gmail.com](mailto:turkeyhillyearbook2324@gmail.com) with questions. Photos should be of school events and ideally include more than one student.

**Stay in Touch!** Want to stay up to date on ALL that is happening at THS?

- Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/turkeyhillschool](https://facebook.com/turkeyhillschool)
- Get Remind texts: <https://www.remind.com/join/thsppto2324>
- Sync our THS PTO calendar to your own: <https://bit.ly/THSPTOCalendar>
- Find links to all the latest on our website: <https://bit.ly/thsppto>
- We welcome your questions and feedback! Email us anytime at [turkeyhillpto@gmail.com](mailto:turkeyhillpto@gmail.com)

### **Calendar**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4	5	6	7	8

No School - Labor Day	Grades 2-6 Open House @ 7pm. Book Fair Opens at 6:15pm			Library Volunteer and Room Parent Volunteer Forms Due Shirt Designs Due  Wear your THS Spirit Wear
11	12 <a href="#">General PTO Meeting 8pm (Virtual - click here for link)</a>	13 School Store Opens	14	15  Wear your THS Spirit Wear

**Turkey Hill School Contact Information**

School Phone: 203-891-8040	Dr. Denise Arterbery (Principal): <a href="mailto:darterbery@orange-ed.org">darterbery@orange-ed.org</a>
School Fax: 203-891-8043	Kristen Lyons (Administrative Assistant): <a href="mailto:klyons@orange-ed.org">klyons@orange-ed.org</a>
Website: <a href="#">Click Here</a>	Kathleen Malone (Nurse): <a href="mailto:kmalone@orange-ed.org">kmalone@orange-ed.org</a>