1. Thoreau’s Music Department will begin its annual fundraiser on October 12th!
   - Yummy pies will be sold from between $15-$18 each, and they are delicious!
   - Delivery is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14th, so they can be enjoyed over the Thanksgiving holiday.
   - Pies come frozen; all you need to do is bake them!

2. The following dates have been established for students and parents interested in applying for admission into Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology:
   - Saturday, October 13th – Open House at Thomas Jefferson from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
   - Monday October 15th – Part 1 of online application due
   - Friday October 19th – Part 2 of the online application due
   - Saturday, December 1st – Thomas Jefferson admissions test

3. For any questions or more information please email Tim Buckley at tcbuckley@fcps.edu or to apply to TJ go to the following link: http://www.tjhsst.edu/abouttj/admissions/apply_freshman_winter_class_of_2017_application_info.html

4. Please mark your calendars!
   - Thursday, October 18th, Thoreau will be closing 3-hours early.
   - This is only for Thoreau and is for staff development opportunities.

5. We will begin registering personally owned devices on Monday, October 15.
   - Please visit Thoreau’s website or the Thoreau Activities Blackboard site for more information on the process.
   - Any device that isn’t registered is subject to confiscation.

6. PTA Reflections Program encourages students to participate in the arts. Students can submit entries, related to this year’s theme, in 6 arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts. Entries will be judged, and top entries will continue to the next level(s) of judging (county, district, state, national). The theme for 2012-13 is “The Magic of a Moment...” You will find more information on the Thoreau website under the “Parents” section, as well as on the Thoreau PTA website. Please have your student read the rules before they start their entry! Email reflections@thoreaupta.org to contact Reflections Chair, Reshma Eggleston, with any questions and to request an entry form. Entries are due on Oct. 19th.

7. The Third Annual Education Summit to Give Parents Skills in Helping their Students Succeed in School will be Saturday, October 20, at Woodson High School from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The purpose of this summit is to learn more about the deep connection between parent involvement and student success, and the steps parents can take to make sure their child succeeds. National expert and Harvard professor Dr. Ronald Ferguson will keynote the event and share his latest research on parent involvement. Following the keynote presentation, three breakout sessions will give attendees practical skills to use at home including how parents can motivate students, structuring a home for school success, and family involvement strategies for busy parents. Twenty table exhibits will feature FCPS resources and services, including career academies, school counseling, the College Success program, and advanced academics. To register for this free event, please complete this survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/edsummit12.

8. This Fall Theater Sports show is coming!
   - Have you ever seen the popular Drew Carey show “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” Then you have basically seen TheaterSports! It’s competitive improvisation, where students compete against each other in teams – with no scripts, acting out wacky stories and challenges with settings, props and variables suggested by the audience!
   - Rehearsals run M/W/Th (late bus days) through October/early November, with performances on Friday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m.
   - Tickets will be $5 per person and can be purchased at the door. Come see Thoreau students clowning around onstage – it’s a great time and appropriate for the entire family! Stay tuned for more information....

9. Picture Day is coming!!! Monday, October 29th – 8th Grade and Tuesday, October 30th – 7th Grade

10. Credit Exam for World Languages
    - The 2012 Credit Exam for World Languages will be administered on November 7, 8, and 13. Twenty-three languages will be included: American Sign Language (new this year), Amharic, Arabic (Bengali), Bangla, Chinese/Mandarin, Farsi/Persian, French, German, Hindi, Italian (new this year), Japanese, Korean, Nepali, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog/Pilipino, Tamil (new this year), Telugu, Twi, Urdu, and Vietnamese.
    - School counselors will register students at their individual schools. Registration opens on Monday, September 24, 2012, at 8 a.m. and closes on Monday, October 22, 2012, at 4 p.m. Late registrations will not be accepted. Middle and high school Directors of Student Services are being sent specific information on this process. Credit exam information can be accessed at: http://www.fcps.edu/is/worldlanguages/creditexam/index.shtml.
    - Contact: Christina Oh at 571-423-4602 or csoh@fcps.edu

11. Fairfax County Youth Survey
    - Each school year all Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) eighth, tenth, and twelfth-grade students participate in the Fairfax Youth Survey. The Fairfax County School Board has worked with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2001 to administer this survey in order to determine the needs and to assess the effectiveness of prevention and intervention programs offered in schools and communities. The survey will be given to high school students during English class and to middle school students during math class.
• The survey will be administered November 13, 14, 15, or 16, 2012. A copy of the actual survey, as well as the survey fact sheet, will be available to parents and guardians or community members online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/youthsurvey and in the school counseling office of your child’s school beginning October 8, 2012. If you do not wish for your child to take part in the survey, please complete an opt-out form and return it to your child’s school counseling office no later than November 7, 2012. The opt-out form can be found at HERE or on the Thoreau website.

12. Advanced Academic Programs Information – Information regarding screening for and eligibility in Advanced Academic Programs (AAP) in 2012-13 can be found at www.fcps.edu/is/aap. This site provides detailed information regarding the Continuum of Advanced Academic Services offered at FCPS, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page, and Parent Information Packet.

13. The PTA is sponsoring a special event in November for families to connect with one another and enjoy an evening of fun together.
   - Music - Games - Prizes - Dinner!!!
   - The annual seventh -grade family dinner catered by Skorpios Charcoal Grill will be held Wednesday, November 14th, from 6:00pm to 9:00 pm.
   - Contact Amy Currin or Beth Heider at 77thgradedinner@ThoreauPTA.org if you can help behind the scenes.

14. Girls on the Run - We hope to participate in the GOTR program this Spring, 2013. To participate, we need 2 assistant coaches. What are the minimum requirements to be a GOTR assistant coach?
   - Coach 1-2 practices a week. Practices are Mon and Wed 3:00-4:00 at Thoreau. The program runs for 10 weeks from March to mid-May. The final event is a 5K run @ George Mason University at which the coaches either run with team members or help coordinate our team participation in the event.
   - Must be CPR certified. GOTR will recommend a program and will pay for the certification.
   - Must take a 1 hour online class and pass the exam. This 1 hour class describes the format and materials for the GOTR practices.
If you are interested in becoming a GOTR assistant coach, please contact Janice Ware @ jx3ware@yahoo.com.

15. Reminder: Please label your student’s belongings (coats, lunch boxes, etc.)
   - Our lost and found is now located in the cafeteria
   - Please remind your student to check the lost and found if he/she is missing items.

PTA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS OFFERED AFTER SCHOOL AT THOREAU MIDDLE SCHOOL!!!

Wednesday October 17
Thursday October 25
You can earn 1 hour of community service toward your civic service requirements by joining us after school.
On Wednesday October 17 we will be decorating and assembling snack/activity bags to be given to children receiving services at INOVA Hospital and staying at the Ronald McDonald House.
*We will discuss opportunities within the community to work and receive community service hours
*We will decorate posters for the upcoming Landscape Day at Thoreau to be placed throughout the school
On Wednesday October 25 join us after school to prepare for our School Wide Post-Halloween Candy Collection. Collection boxes will be decorated and placed by the Main Office
The candy is donated and distributed at Food for Others
Other opportunities: Saturday, October 20th from 9am to 12pm – Help us clean up the school grounds!!!! Please bring gloves, shovels and/or rakes! Meet in front of the building. All students must be accompanied by a parent. (Hot chocolate and donuts provided)

Giant Food Bonus Bucks and Safeway Club Card are excellent ways for parents to support Thoreau Middle School.
• You can register for Giant A+ Bonus Bucks by logging into Giant. Thoreau’s code is 02131. You can also call 877-275-2758 to register your card by phone.
• You can register for the Safeway Club Card program by logging into Safeway escrip. Thoreau’s code is 2145172.
• You can also register for these programs at the service desk of either store. Make sure you designate Henry David Thoreau Middle School in Vienna, VA. You must renew your registration even if you participated in previous years.

Picture Days are October 29 (8thgrade) and October 30 (7th grade). If you would like to help collect forms and organize PE classes for their portraits sign up HERE.

For a complete list of Thoreau events and activities, please visit our calendar on our website: click here:

****Flyer Attached****
THOREAU 7th GRADE FAMILY DINNER

A PTA-SPONSORED FAMILY EVENT

Wednesday, November 14, 2012
6:30 - 8:30 pm
THOREAU CAFETERIA

Registration Deadline: Friday, November 9, 2012

Dinner from Skorpios will be roasted chicken, choice of rice pilaf or roasted potatoes, Greek salad, pita bread, beverage and dessert.

Great food! -- Music and Games for kids! -- Social time for parents!

All children, including Thoreau students, must have adult supervision.

PRICES:
Adults & Thoreau Students: $10.00
Children (Under the age of 11): $ 7.00

Questions?
Barb Heider barbheider@hotmail.com or Amy Currin 703-242-6419 amy@currin.org

Tickets will NOT be sent home - please pick them up at the door!

***************************************************************************
THOREAU 7th GRADE DINNER REGISTRATION FORM

Student Name: ____________________________________________________________
Phone Number: ___________________________ email: __________________________
Email Address: __________________________________________________________

Total # of Adults and Thoreau Students: ___ @ $10.00 = $________
Total # of Children Under the Age of 11: ___ @ $ 7.00 = $________
TOTAL: $________

Names of Family Members Attending: _________________________________________

Three different and easy ways to pay!
1. Return form and payment to school office -- checks payable to Thoreau PTA
2. e-mail reservation to amy@currin.org & pay online www.pay4schoolstuffonline.com
3. Mail form and check to: Amy Currin  203 McHenry St. SE Vienna, VA 22180