



February is Black History Month. This month-long observance in the US and Canada is a chance to celebrate Black achievement and give visibility to the people and organizations creating change. February was chosen for the week-long observance as it coincides with the birthdates of both former US President Abraham Lincoln and social reformer Frederick Douglass. Both men played a significant role in helping to end slavery.

Initially, Black History Month was a way of teaching students and young **people about African Americans' contributions.** Such stories had been largely forgotten and were a neglected **part of the national narrative. Now, it's seen as a celebration of those who've impacted not just the country, but the world with their activism and achievements.** In the US, the month-long spotlight during February is an opportunity for people to engage with Black histories and highlight Black leaders and accomplishments.

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

- 3 HALF DAY—11:40 RELEASE
- 8 PTO Meeting @ 4:00 (Library)
- 10 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 10 Family Game Night 6:00-7:30
- 17 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 20 Presidents Day—NO SCHOOL
- 21 Mid Winter Break—NO SCHOOL
- 24 ACT Day 1:55 Release

MARCH

- 3 ACT Day 1:55 release
- 3 Class Photos
- 4 Kids Closet Clothing Giveaway
12pm-3pm @ MTS Gym
- 8 3rd-5th to OJP
- 10 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 17 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 24 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 3/27-31 Spring Book Fair
- 3/28-31 Spring Conferences—1/2
Days 11:40 Release

APRIL

- 3-7 Spring Break—NO SCHOOL
- 14 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 21 ACT Day 1:55 Release
- 24 1st and 2nd to OJP
- 28 ACT Day 1:55 Release

Inclement Weather Plan

Any changes to the normal schedule because of an inclement weather/emergency delay or closure will be broadcast to families in the district using the School Messenger mass notification system (robocall) and SMS text message. Emergency messages will also be posted to the district website, school websites, district FB page, Twitter, and our emergency phone line at 360-709-7999. The district also belongs to a state-wide reporting network that parents can subscribe to for alerts (Flashalert). For information, visit the district website under District/Emergency Communications.

For two hour late start - No Pre School, No AM New Market Session and No Out of District Transportation. Please check for the latest information on our Web site at www.tumwater.k12.wa.us.

During inclement weather, the district will try to keep bus routes as near to normal as possible. Please check the district transportation website at <https://www.tumwater.k12.wa.us/Page/745> to view MTS snow routes. If your street is not listed, buses will operate NORMALLY.

Inter-District & Inter-Zone Transfers

Transfer Request Timeline:

Starting February 1st Grades 1-12

1. Full-Time Staff: New and Renewal Intra-District and Non-Resident Requests (per RCW 28A.225.225)
2. Intra-District: Renewal Transfer Requests for any student attending a TSD school outside of their TSD resident school, including TVA
3. Intra-District: New Requests
4. Non-Resident: Renewal Requests
5. Non-Resident: New Requests

March 1st-Kindergarten

Intra-District and Non-Resident: New Requests (Kindergarten)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses **2** days a month..

They will miss **20 DAYS** a year.

They will miss **30 HOURS** of math over the school year.

They will miss **60 HOURS** of reading & writing over the school year.

They will miss over **1 YEAR** of school by graduation.

When a student misses **4** days a month..

They will miss **40 DAYS** a year.

They will miss **60 HOURS** of math over the school year.

They will miss **120 HOURS** of reading & writing over the school year.

They will miss over **2 YEARS** of school by graduation.

Olympia Junior Programs

March 8th—**3rd through 5th graders will see “In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson”:** This play is based on the novel that was inspired by the author’s own memories of immigrating to the United States from China. The protagonist in our play, Shirley Temple Wong, and her family move from China to the United States in 1947, the year Jackie Robinson was breaking records and racial barriers in baseball. Told through humor and a rich multi-media staging, the play celebrates the bravery and sacrifice of those who bring new perspectives to our country.

April 24th—**1st and 2nd graders will see “Owen and Mzee The Musical”:** The inspiring true story of two great friends, a baby hippo named Owen and a 130-yr-old giant tortoise named Mzee. When Owen was stranded after a tsunami, villagers in Kenya worked tirelessly to rescue him. Then, to everyone’s amazement, the orphan hippo and the elderly tortoise adopted each other. Now they are inseparable, swimming, eating, and playing together. Adorable photos e-mailed from friend to friend quickly made them worldwide celebrities. Here is a joyous reminder that in times of trouble, friendship is stronger than the differences that too often pull us apart.

Did You Clean Out Closets Over Break?

Did you clean out all of your closets over the break? Kids Closet Clothing Bank is accepting new and gently used clothing to prepare for a free give-away in March. Just bring your items to the school and drop them off in the designated bin in the front entryway.

Please Check the Lost and Found

Our lost and found is overflowing with so many nice items. Please stop by and check to see if any of them belong to your student. Spring Conferences will be 3/28-3/31 and this would be a great time to check the Lost and Found. Any items left over will be donated during Spring Break.

IMPORTANT PICK UP/DROP OFF REMINDERS

- It is very important that you call the office and let us know when you are changing your student's end of day transportation. Teachers can only send students to their default transportation unless they get a note from the office.
- Morning drop off time is from 8:30 to 8:40. There is no supervision before 8:30 AM so please do not drop your students off before that time. They will be waiting outside unsupervised until the bell rings.
- School starts at 8:40. Students arriving after 8:40 will be marked tardy. Tardies will accumulate and count towards your student's attendance. Please make sure your student arrives by 8:40 every day to avoid disruption to their learning, and the classroom environment.
- As you are coming in from the street, please be mindful of pedestrians and other cars. Please pull off to the side whenever possible so that cars can go around. Safety first! Be patient with other drivers.
- When you reach the circle for parent pick up/drop off please pull all the way forward so that we can fit as many cars in the parking lot as possible. The line needs to move quickly and efficiently so that cars are not sitting on the street for too long.



Friday After-School Art Classes!

Michael T. Simmons Elementary Grade K-2 = 2:10-3:10p February 10th-June 9th (Fridays)
17 Total Classes Grade 3-5 = 3:25-4:25p

Art for Kids School acquaints students with various materials, to develop skills, thereby enhancing their self-esteem in regard to their creativity (in a technique-based, sequential-learning program, similar to piano lessons). Students will have an opportunity to explore their creativity through a variety of materials including pen & ink, watercolors, acrylics, oil & soft pastels, & clay. Drawing, painting, & sculpting techniques are incorporated in these classes taught by professional, degreed artists. These are ongoing classes, open to new & returning students; projects are not repeated.

\$253.50 in full or in 4 installments of \$63.25, + \$5 registration. *All supplies are included!*

To enroll your student & see our full schedule, visit www.ArtForKidsSchool.com. Please note a commitment is required for the entire semester. Complete the online registration form & submit payment to secure a space. Registration is available online only. For other questions/info, or scholarship inquiries, please contact us at (360) 335-3330 or at info.ArtForKidsSchool@gmail.com.

Classes are small & fill quickly. Reserve your space today!



Turnwater School District is not a sponsor of this event & assumes no responsibility for it.

CONGRATULATIONS

CHARACTER TRAIT MONTHLY AWARD WINNERS—HONESTY

The students below consistently demonstrated our character trait of the month, honesty, throughout the month of December and were honored at our awards assembly. Great job, Wolf Pups!



CONGRATULATIONS

CHARACTER TRAIT MONTHLY AWARD WINNERS—TRUST/INTEGRITY

The students below consistently demonstrated our character traits of the month, trust and integrity, throughout the month of January and were honored at our awards assembly. Great job, Wolf Pups!





Join us for

G₂ **A**₁ **M**₃ **E**₁

N₁ **i**₁ **G**₂ **H**₄ **T**₁

Friday February 10th
6:00 - 7:30pm

MTS ELEMENTARY
1205 S. 2ND AVE SW
TUMWATER, WA 98512

PLEASE BRING A GAME
TO PLAY WITH FRIENDS
AT THIS PTO EVENT

Snacks. Friends. Fun!

COMMUNITY
FREE
CHEST
PARKING

10

*Old Navy**Hollister**Under Armour**Gymboree**Aeropostale**Nike**Cat&Jack**Reebok*



American Eagle**Carters**Adidas**Ann Taylor** GAP**Levi**The Children's Place** and More!

Kids Closet Clothing Bank Give-Away

When: Saturday March 4, 2023 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Where: Michael T Simmons Elementary Gym
1205 2nd Avenue SW Tumwater

Who: Any Tumwater School District area infant, child & teen in need of clothing.

There is no income verification.

***** PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BAGS *****

"Committed to assisting families with clothing needs through school & community involvement"

If you, or a family you know, are in need of clothing, please come.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS WHO HAVE MADE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!



*Donations of infant, child & teen clothes in good condition can be made at any Tumwater School District School or the District Office (Special Services).
Financial contributions can be made to the Tumwater School District Student Assistance Fund.
If you have any questions, please contact Alisa Grimm 360-789-9080. Volunteers are always needed!