



Thompson K-8 International Academy

An International Baccalaureate World School



Mrs. P. Lightsey, Principal

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Creating a peaceful learning environment where the only expectation is excellence...

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August 17, 2016

Dear New Parents or Guardians of the Thompson K-8 School Community:

Welcome to the home of the Tigers! This year your child has the privilege of attending an International Baccalaureate World School, under the leadership of Mrs. Lightsey and Mr. Czapski. Along with our dynamic team of faculty members, we are excited to continue ensuring that our students can achieve their highest potential.

The **first day** of school for students is **September 6, 2016**. Students should not arrive to school before 8:30 A.M. The **first bell** will ring at **8:40 A.M.**, and the tardy/late bell will ring at 8:45 A.M. **Dismissal** is at **4:00 P.M.**; we will not honor early pick-ups after 3:30 P.M. On the first day of school, all K-5 students will assemble in the cafeteria, and all 6th–8th grade students will assemble in the gym. Teachers will then escort students to class. Please be respectful of all routines and procedures. On Friday, 8/26/16, Open Packet forms will be available on our school web page. **We will host a New Families' Open House on August 31, 2016 from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. in the cafe. Please join us for an opportunity to chat, take a tour, complete your child's opening packet and enjoy some ice cream.**

Thompson's mission is to continue to build a culture of achievement, parent involvement, and international awareness. We sponsor a host of activities for students to experience, that not only increase knowledge and academic achievement, they also support character development and fun.

For the upcoming school year, we need volunteers to support our many activities. Research shows that a critical part of a child's development is conscious parent involvement. So, please volunteer--and remember, it is not what you say, but what you do! Below is a preview of 2016-2017 activities planned with a comprehensive list to follow soon. Please contact the main office with your volunteering preference or if you have any ideas that can support and improve the best kept secret in Southfield Public Schools.

Back-to-School Picnic 9/9/16	Costume Celebration 10/28/16	Muffins with Mom 5/17
Open House 9/15/16	Open Gym (Nov.-Apr. on Tues.)	Year-Round Recycling Program
Washington D.C. Parent Meeting 9/21/16	Grandparents' Celebration 11/22/16	National Spelling Bee (Spring)
Doughnuts with Dad 9/29/16	Battle of the Books (Nov.-March)	8 th Grade Promotion 6/13/17
Movie Night 10/1/16		
Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences 10/12-13/16	Book Fair (Week of Nov. 16th)	Thompson's Got Talent 6/17

During the summer, students experience learning losses when they do not engage in conversations and activities to improve their thinking, reading and writing skills. We have a few more weeks remaining before the first day of school. So, please encourage your child to do the following every day to maintain his/her current knowledge, gain new knowledge and prepare for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.

1. Read or be read to for 20-30 minutes a day.
2. Work on Southfield Public Schools' summer academic packets available online:
<http://www.southfieldk12.org/departments/division-of-instruction/summer-2016-reading--mathematics-packets/>

Finally, please take a moment to become familiar with the **Southfield Public Schools web page**, <http://www.southfieldk12.org>. We look forward to meeting you and to sharing a great school year!

Sincerely,


Mrs. Lightsey, Principal