

# THORNAPPLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

David Lyon, Principal

6932 Bridgewater SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 PH 616.493.8920 FAX 616.493.8929



Forest Hills Public Schools  
**Daniel Behm, Superintendent**  
6590 Cascade Rd. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI, 49546  
Phone: 1.616.493.8800  
[www.fhps.net](http://www.fhps.net)

Hello Thornapple Families,

I hope your child's school year is off to a great start and that you are hearing about their day each evening at home. Thank you for all you do to prepare them and care for them so that they are ready to learn each day.

This year, Thornapple Elementary will continue its emphasis on nutritious food in the classroom by defining the practices that we believe are best for all students. Special events will still include food but the emphasis will be on health and nutrition. We work very closely with the PTO in the planning and preparation of classroom parties. Hopefully, you have received guidance from your child's teacher about birthday celebrations and snack time. While an increase in student allergies plays a part in the need for guidelines and vigilance, we also feel that building good eating habits is part of our commitment to our school families. Below are the guidelines we will use at Thornapple for considering food in the classroom.

1. Special events such as classroom parties will be celebrated with nutritious snacks or nonedible alternatives, your child's teacher will have suggestions for celebrating birthdays that do not include food. Pre-packaged foods should list all ingredients on the labels. **NO HOMEMADE TREATS.**
2. No food treats for birthdays. A book for the classroom, extra recess, a board game for indoor recess, goodie bags, or having a parent come in as a guest reader are ways to celebrate without food.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this request,

David Lyon  
Thornapple Principal