



Service Learning Opportunities

Second Nine Weeks

***HOTC ...** Judy's Heroes Christmas care packages for our troops as well as Holidays for Heroes are opportunities to send Christmas Cheer to our troops. See the HOTC website for details. **SAVE THE DATE** for Family Volunteer Day on November 5th! Please visit the website to sign up for this event as well as updates on service and donation opportunities.

Handsonthomascounty.org

***Thomas County Humane Society ...** Students will be allowed to donate treats and distribute them to the animals, following a volunteer training session. The session dates and times are published on their website on the events page. (Thomasvillehumane.org) The training session is required before the students can volunteer. Feel free to donate a bag of dog food for 3 hours of credit. They use Hill Science Diet food. It can be purchased from the Tractor Supply Company. Treat boxes/bags will equal one half hour each. They can be turned in to Mrs. Studdard or donated directly to the Humane Society. Please take a service learning form with you as you train or volunteer. The staff there will be happy to sign the forms.

***MERIT League of Good Neighbors ...** MERIT students may volunteer to clean/ mow the lawn or complete outside chores of a person who may find it difficult to complete chores on their own. Hopefully, MERIT students can identify needs within their own neighborhoods. They are encouraged to wear their MERIT team t-shirts while working! Please have the neighbor in need sign the SL volunteer form.

***Treehouse ... The Giving Tree Project .** The holiday season can be a tough time both emotionally and financially for many families including the families we serve. Some children will even have to spend the holidays away from their home or in foster care. For those children who may frequently have to move from place to place, a colorful duffle bag monogrammed just for them can make these times a little less heartbreaking. This project allows volunteers from the community to "adopt" a child's Wish List so the child will have gifts to open during Christmas. Not only does this help the child feel loved and cared for during the holiday season, it also contributes greatly to their overall journey to healing. (1 Family = 6 hours)

<http://treehousethomasville.org/>

Ronald MacDonald House ... Students can donate a quart zip lock bag full of soda can tabs. **Each bag is equal to 1 hour.** Students may turn them into their homeroom teachers or Mrs. Studdard.

Hands and Hearts for Horses ... Volunteers assist with many aspects of horse care, from grooming and tacking horses for lessons to bringing in and turning out horses before and after rides. For volunteers who don't mind going above and beyond, there are always stalls to be mucked, water buckets to be filled, and horses to be bathed! Please visit the website to get started with the application process. info@handsandheartsforhorses.com

Salvation Army ... Our MERIT students sign up with their team teachers to RING THE BELL during the holidays beginning on This is a wonderful opportunity for students to wear their Santa hats and showcase their musical talents, if they choose. Look on team reminds for more information about the dates!

Thomas County Food Bank Drive ... The First United Methodist Church helps to provide a quart sized bag pre-packed with TRAVEL size: 1 bar soap, 1 toothpaste, 1 shampoo, 1 deodorant and 1 toothbrush. **The deadline to turn in the bags will be November 17th!** (1 hour per bag)

Thomas County Middle School Canned Food Drive ... Students can bring in 10 cans for 1 hour to their homeroom teacher when the food drive begins in November.

MERIT Christmas Project: Each year the 8th graders sponsor a Christmas Project as part of their "Senior" Christmas Ornament Celebration Event. This year they are sponsoring the Coolidge Community Center and filling Christmas bags with toys for the children of Coolidge. See items below! They can be turned into HR teachers BEFORE THANKSGIVING BREAK!

- 5th grade ... Hot Wheels (5 = 1 hour), Barbies (1 = 1 hour)
- 6th grade ... Pop-its (2 = 1 hour), Fidgets (3 = 1 hour), and Play-doh (5 = 1 hour)
- 7th grade ... Coloring Books with Crayons (3 sets = 1 hour) and Small stuffed animals (2 = 1 hour)
- 8th grade ... Card Games (1 = 1 hour), Puzzles (2 = 1 hour), Bubbles (5 = 1 hour)

