

NATIONAL THANK YOU LETTER DAY & MONTH

INFO & RESOURCE GUIDE

for Teachers, Parents, Schools & Organizations

National Thank You Letter Day & Month is a month-long celebration dedicated to teaching and practicing gratitude through the simple yet profound act of writing thank you letters, and helping to promote the four central ideas of a thank you letter: **Gratitude & Civility, Kindness & Manners**

Created by award-winning author, **Carew Papritz**, it teaches and encourages children—and people of all ages—to bring back the time-honored art of writing a thank you letter.

For teachers and parents, this initiative aims to improve mental health, foster empathy, and strengthen community bonds through this humble act of giving to others through a letter of thanks.

NTYLM also supports literacy skills by enhancing students' writing abilities, including grammar, spelling, and punctuation while also helping to develop structured thinking and effective communication.

QUICK INFO & FACTS:

- **WHAT IS IT?** National Thank You Letter Month is a month-long celebration focused on writing thank you letters to practice gratitude and enhance literacy skills. National Thank You Letter Day is celebrated during this time on November 14th.
- **WHEN IS IT?** Throughout the month of November—the month of “ThanksGiving” with National Thank You Letter Day on Nov. 14
- **WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?** Students, teachers, parents, caregivers, and community members
- **WHERE CAN IT TAKE PLACE?** Activities can occur anywhere—schools, homes, and local communities
- **WHY PARTICIPATE?** To improve mental health, foster empathy, strengthen community bonds, and support literacy skills through the act of writing thank you letters
- **HOW TO PARTICIPATE?** Participation is completely free and can be done from anywhere, at any time. That’s the beauty of writing a thank you letter!

PARTICIPATION IDEAS & RESOURCES:

FOR TEACHERS:

Lesson Plans:

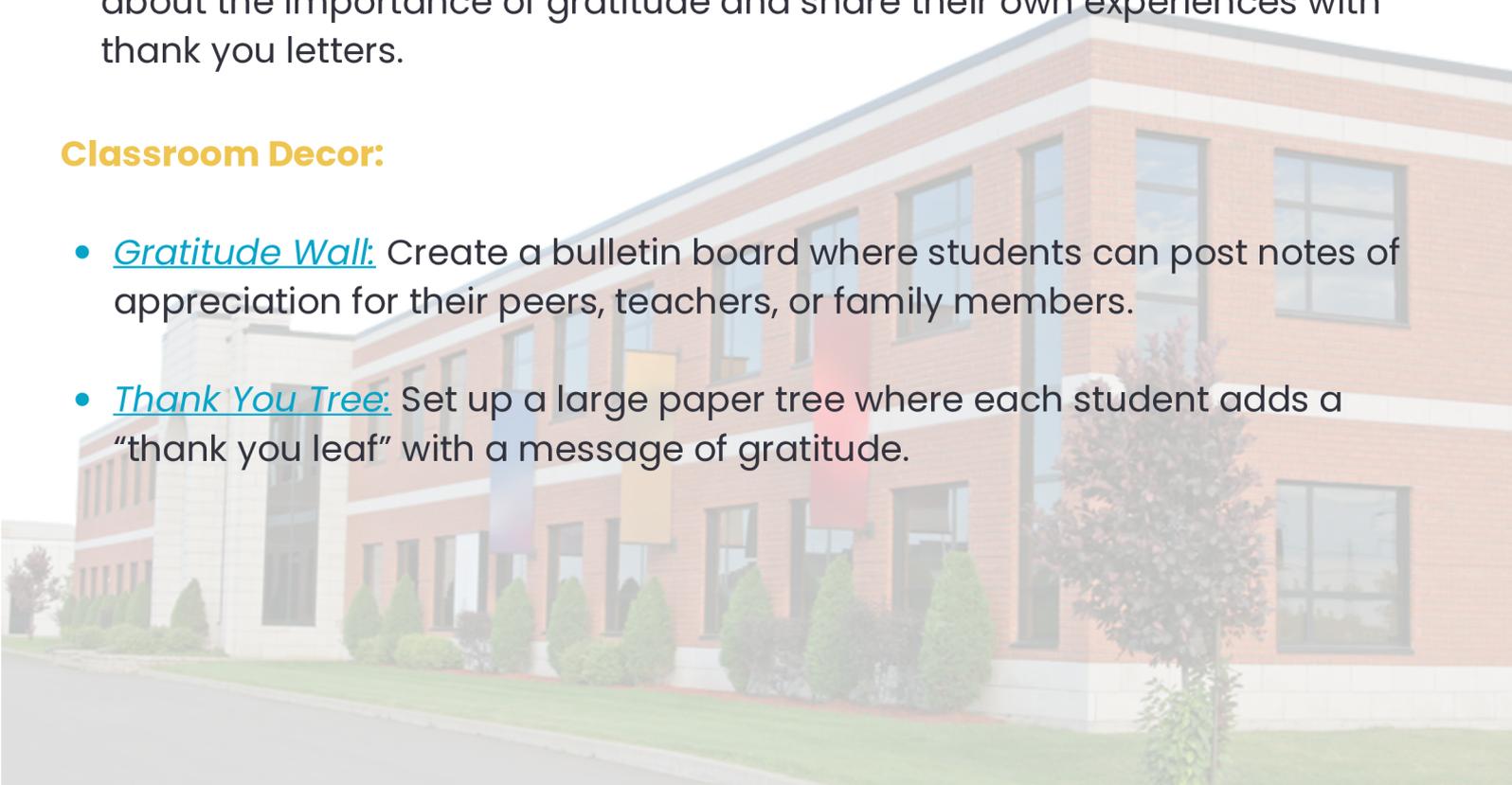
- [Gratitude and Empathy](#): Integrate lessons on the psychological and emotional benefits of gratitude. Discuss how expressing thanks can improve mental well-being and build stronger relationships.
- [Writing Skills](#): Use letter-writing as an opportunity to teach grammar, structure, and expression. Focus on crafting heartfelt messages with proper formatting.

Classroom Activities:

- [Gratitude Journals](#): Have students keep a gratitude journal throughout the month. Encourage them to write about things they are thankful for and to reflect on their positive experiences.
- [Thank You Letter Writing](#): Organize writing workshops where students compose thank you letters to people who have made a positive impact on their lives. Provide examples and templates to guide them.
- [Guest Speakers](#): Invite local community members or professionals to speak about the importance of gratitude and share their own experiences with thank you letters.

Classroom Decor:

- [Gratitude Wall](#): Create a bulletin board where students can post notes of appreciation for their peers, teachers, or family members.
- [Thank You Tree](#): Set up a large paper tree where each student adds a “thank you leaf” with a message of gratitude.



FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

Home Activities:

- [Family Thank You Notes](#): Encourage family members to write thank you letters to each other, friends, and community helpers. Make it a fun and meaningful family activity.
- [Gratitude Rituals](#): Establish a daily or weekly ritual where each family member shares something they are thankful for.

Resources:

- [Letter Writing Kits](#): Provide kids with stationery, envelopes, and stamps. Create a kit that includes prompts to help them get started.
- [Printable Templates](#): Offer downloadable templates for thank you letters, including tips on how to write a meaningful note.

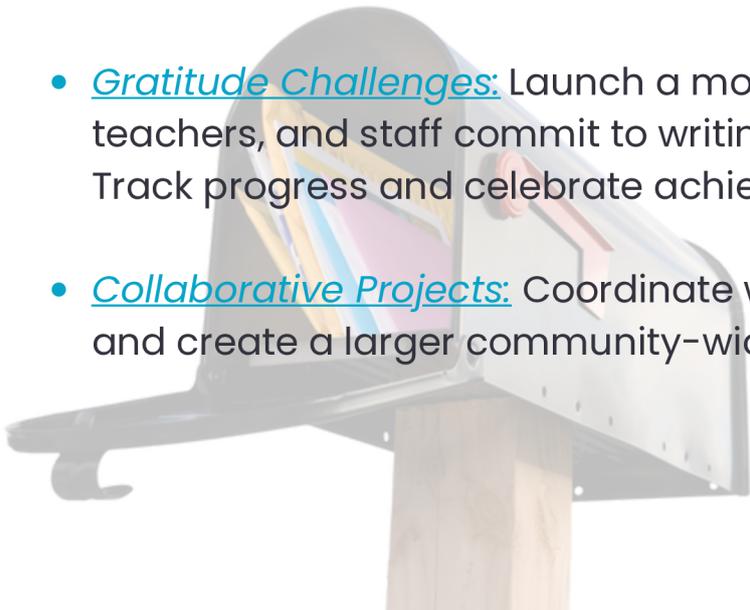
Community Involvement:

- [Local Events](#): Participate in or organize local events where families can come together to write thank you letters. Partner with local businesses or community organizations to spread the message.

FOR SCHOOLS:

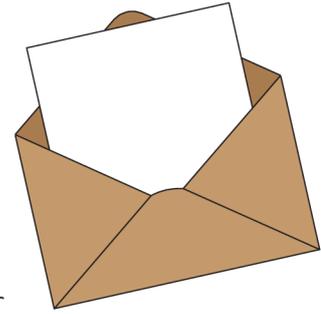
School-Wide Initiatives:

- [Gratitude Challenges](#): Launch a month-long challenge where students, teachers, and staff commit to writing a certain number of thank you letters. Track progress and celebrate achievements.
- [Collaborative Projects](#): Coordinate with other schools to exchange letters and create a larger community-wide impact.



Parent-Teacher Collaboration:

- [Workshops and Seminars](#): Host workshops for parents and teachers to discuss the importance of gratitude and share strategies for encouraging letter writing.
- [Resource Sharing](#): Provide parents with resources and tips on how to support their children's participation in National Thank You Letter Month.



FOR STUDENTS:

Letter Writing Tips:

Show how easy and simple it is to write a thank you letter.

Explain why handwriting the letter makes it even more personal, more genuine, more moving. Though it may take a bit longer, it always means the world to the person receiving it-such is the power of a handwritten letter.

- [Start with a Greeting](#): Use a warm and personal greeting, such as "Dear [Name],"
- [Express Gratitude](#): Clearly state what you are thankful for and why it matters to you.
- [Share Specifics](#): Mention specific actions or qualities that you appreciate.
- [Close with Kindness](#): End with a heartfelt closing, like "Sincerely," or "With gratitude," followed by your name.

Creative Ideas:

- [Artistic Letters](#): Decorate your thank you letters with drawings or stickers to make them extra special.
- [Digital Thank You Notes](#): Use digital platforms to send thank you notes to friends and family who may be far away.



FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS:

Spread the Word:



- [Social Media](#): Share your participation in National Thank You Letter Day & Month on social media using hashtags **#ThankYouLetterMonth** and **#ThankYouLetterDay**
- [Community Boards](#): Post about National Thank You Letter Month on community boards or newsletters to encourage others to join.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Gratitude Journal Printables: [HERE](#)

Educational Videos and Webinars:

- [Carew & Kelly Clarkson Discuss NTYLM](#)

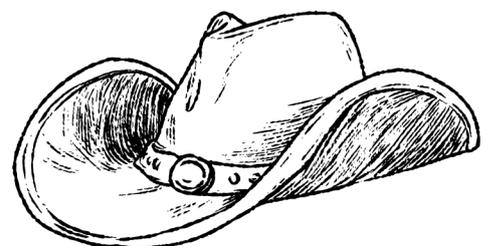
Book Recommendations:

- ***The Legacy Letters*** by Carew Papritz
- ***The Thank You Book*** by Mo Willems
- ***What If... the World Was Full of Gratitude?*** by Jennifer Adams
- ***Smile*** by Raina Telgemeier

ABOUT THE AUTHOR CAREW PAPRITZ:

National Thank You Letter Day & Month was created by Carew Papritz, the award-winning author of the bestselling book ***The Legacy Letters***, a powerful and inspirational read that explores life lessons and the importance of appreciation. He promotes the love of reading and childhood literacy through his "**CarewTube**" channel with his "I Love to Read" and "First-Ever Book Signing" series.

Carew conceived of creating the **World's Largest Handwritten Thank You Letter** while helping to teach a cursive writing course at his local elementary school. His dream came true when, with the help of students from Continental Elementary School in Green Valley, Arizona, they rolled out the giant letter—the size of a high school basketball gym—and collectively signed it on November 14, 2018—the start of National Thank You Letter Day!



The next year they created the **World's Largest Envelope and Stamp** and sent the letter through the United States Postal Service to a sister school in the nearby town of Sahuarita. As a result, Carew and the students received a **Guinness World Record** and were featured on the nationally renowned TV series, **The Kelly Clarkson Show**.

Discover more about Carew Papritz and The Legacy Letters at TheLegacyLetters.com

Join the Celebration:

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