

Earl Beatty News

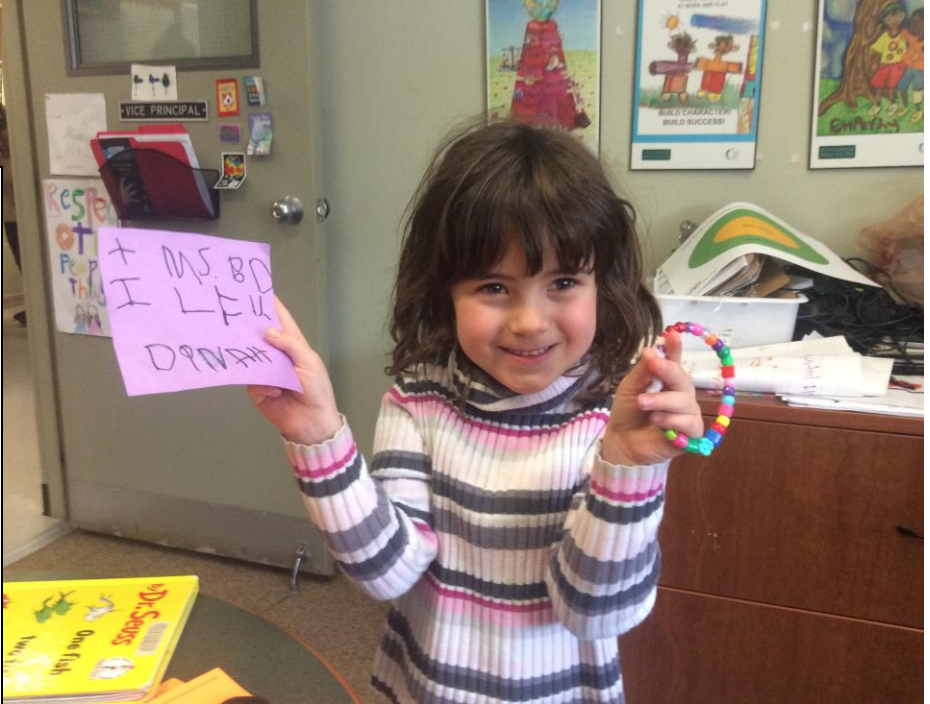
Issue 1 April 13, 2017

Learning Together!

A New Approach
to Thinking -
A Journey Forward



Integrative thinking creates a resolution where two opposing thoughts, recommendations or ideas are used to make something superior. It is taking the best of both and creating something great. It is encompassing the elements of well-being such as our environment, relationships, emotions, school and work, spirituality, creativity and physical health into all that we do. Teachers will be using integrative models to support student learning in our journey forward.



Dinah in Ms. David's and Ms. Ioannou's JK/SK class brings Mr. Budd a Belonging Bracelet.

A Sense of Belonging

A drawing from a student playing with her friends, led to the curiosity and inquiry of students' uniqueness and similarities in Classroom 4. "We wanted children to take pride in who they are and to respect each other's uniqueness", said Ms. David.

Students were asked, "What does it mean to belong?" "It means we are nice and alive", says Aithen. Matthew says, "Going to play with everyone." "Sharing all my toys with everyone", added Reese.

Taking self-exploration further, the class read 'Happy in Our Skin' by Fran Manushkin. Using people's abilities, ethnicities and body tones, the book shares the story of the importance of diversity and feeling a sense of belonging while celebrating each other's uniqueness.

Using their drawing skills, students showed their facial features, looking at small details -- freckles and birthmarks, using paint, crayons, and markers in a array of soft pastels and vibrant colour. Oliver said, "Everyone has birthdays on different days." "I have glasses and my friends don't", added Rowan. "We don't always have the same feelings at the same time", said Sharon. Ms. David added, "Students realized each face was unique, but they also saw the similarities".

What makes us unique?" was asked to the students in Classroom 4. "We have skin", said Isabelle. Reese added, "The blood in our bodies" and "Bellybuttons!" said Henry.

Through role-playing different scenarios about conflict resolution the students were able to further the sense of belonging by managing their problems as they happened. Today, there is a problem solving area in the classroom where children can go to talk about their problems to resolve issues with a classmate which strengthens the sense of belonging.

Belonging is a part of learning, however this was the first time it was an intentional exercise on students' self-discovery', added Ms. David. Some students didn't feel a sense of belonging but now they do. Students realized that they didn't need the same things to feel a sense of belonging. Now, they ask, 'what do you need?', which shows both a development in empathy and awareness." Student use the phrase "What can I do to make you feel you belong?" encouraged students to make belonging bracelets which were distributed across the school and among friends and family. A sense of belonging is important said Matthew, "Help people". "When you work together you belong", said Isabelle. "Belonging means you have a family and friends", said Oliver. "It's where you live and play", added Dinah.



Teamwork and Trust Our Kindergarten Team



We are so fortunate to have so many amazing educators at Earl Beatty. Our Kindergarten Team, comprised of three JK/SK English classes, and two SK French Immersion classes, provide many opportunities for students to explore learning. Students have been focusing on the theme of 'Belonging' over the past number of months, with students identifying what makes them feel like a part of a community, and what conditions can be created to help others feel included too. Thank you to Ms. David and Ms. Ioannou in Room 4, Ms. Copley and Ms. Burnett in Room 5, Mr. Shipton and Ms. Usman in Room 9, Mme. Pinto and Mme. Campbell in Room 2 and Mme. Peters and Mme. Ramyed in Room 16, for providing a safe and nurturing environment, varied and amazing programming experiences and always being sensitive to the needs of their students.

Congratulations to the Rainbow Alliance for their commitment and leadership. Students and advisors, Mr. Nore and Mr. Reyes are getting ready for Earl Beatty's third annual Pride celebration in June.

Anything is Possible

Earl Beatty Rainbow Alliance

Four years ago Earl Beatty Rainbow Alliance (EBRA) was born through the leadership of a dozen students from grades 6 to 8 and two staff. EBRA is believed to be the first gay straight alliance (GSA) in a K-8 school across the Toronto District School Board (TDSB).

Our sense of belonging shines as bright as a rainbow.

In 2014, the Day of Pink offered a pink wall on the main floor of the school, depicting hundreds of messages from students, staff, parents, along with the Director of Education. "People wrote messages like, I stand up for GSAs, or I stand up against racism. We had hundreds of these images on the wall, mounted on pink paper", said Mr. Nore. "It was an incredible achievement for us to receive the TDSB Director's GSA Award for our first Pink Day", he added.

The Alliance's 2015 campaign was the Friendship Bench from Kill it with Kindness Canada. It has a permanent location outside the office both as a place to be still or a reminder of the example we set for ourselves in belonging.

Decorating classroom doors with messages of inclusion last year complimented the rainbow of colour at this year's Day of Pink. On April 12, our Day of Pink had students in a ray of red, blue, green, orange and pink t-shirts with a singular message:

"A place where we are all accepted without judgment where we are all treated with respect, dignity and love".

We are committed to a safe and caring school. Earl Beatty is a place to belong.

Clubs & Events



Congratulations to our Swim Team for the amazing efforts and results. Seven students reached the regional finals and represented the school in amazing fashion. Many thanks to our lifeguards Neil and Julien for coaching the team, as well as Ms. Brown for her active involvement with the training and supervision during the swim meets.

Mr. Drew's and Mr. Briggs' classes have been putting in a great effort in practicing for their upcoming performance, the *We Are One Jazz Project*, taking place at the Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts on Wednesday, April 19th. They are part of a number of schools participating in the event and have been practice with vocal coaches for a number of months to prepare for the performance. We wish the students all the best as they head on stage. Thanks to Mr. Drewn and Mr. Briggs for supporting this significant project.



Council Update

Students

Student Council and Mme. Loubier's class have been doing an amazing job of leading the Recess Revival activities outside during recess times. Playing such games as Elephant Ball, students across the grade levels have been activity participating in fun activities and providing feedback that the organized games have provided fun opportunities to play as a part of a group. Thanks again to all our amazing leaders!

Parents

Next Council meeting will be on Tuesday April 18th at 6:30 pm in the library. Included in the agenda is a presentation by Lynne Martens, Nutrition Liaison Officer for the TDSB, who will be presenting on the nutrition program beginning in September. Come join us!

In the News

Please mark your calendars as we host the following workshops:

- April 18 – EBSAC Meeting
- April 21 – Talent Show
- April 25, 7:00 - 9:00 – Ward 16 monthly meeting at Earl Beatty
- May 11 – EBSAC meeting (including Raffle Hard for Our Yard draw!)

Sports - A Love of the Game

Earl Beatty was proud to host the Division 3 Basketball Tournament on March 29th "It was a day of working together. Students came together to play basketball", said Grade 6 player, Cat. George Webster, G. A. Brown and Whitney students witnessed the warmth of our hospitality and strength of our team spirit. "It was a good mix of competitive and development. It was enjoyable day for all of us", she added.

The annual tournament brought together over 60 participants from the 4 participating schools. "I liked the teamwork everyone displayed in the basketball tournament. It was fun to work together and have fun as a team", said Cat.

A poster was created by the grade 5s and 6s to promote the tournament. Earl Beatty had a mixed grade 5 and 6 team that included both boys and girls. "I don't play a lot of basketball, but I learned a lot at the tournament. I had a good time and I think we played perfectly as a team", added Noah. "I think that it was fun because we got to play with all our friends, but when we were playing I felt a bond with everyone. It was fun, but very hard! The other teams were good." added Dane and Aden.

Players shared their love of basketball and competition while having fun!

"It was a great tournament! Great work by the schools who participated in this year's tournament and congratulations to our teams!", said Mr. Rumball. "Not only do we have team spirit, we have a great gym and we can look forward to hosting again next year." he added.

Challenge of the Week

Mr. Rumball coached the Junior Basketball Team. He had 15 players on the team. If he can play 5 players at a time, and the game is 36 minutes long, how much time should each player average in a game?



- Please email or send your answers to Mr. Budd – david.budd@tdsb.on.ca



Source: Danforth Business Association Annual Spring Parade, 1925, showing Percy Waters florist display. Percy Waters is still on the Danforth west of Monarch Park Avenue. They have been selling flowers in the neighbourhood since 1911.

Library Corner

There are so many activities that run through our library. Media Literacy is a regular subject that utilizes the technology in the library and provides students with a well-resourced learning environment.

The library is open during afternoon recess to allow students the opportunity to read and relax in a calm and caring environment. We are happy to provide this supervised space to support the diversity of needs throughout our student body.

Now & Then

“In June of 1925, Dr. Goldring (first principal of Earl Beatty) invited staff to a picnic at Monarch Park to which Mrs. Goldring brought all the food, and we had a pleasant time together.

In the Spring of 1927 a school concert was held in the auditorium of Danforth Technical School. No school buses were available in those days; we had to walk over for rehearsal the afternoon prior to the concert, and then back again. Could it have been a long walk, the excitement or the mingling of classes together? Who Knows? But when the concern hour arrived several of our best singers in the Junior First had succumbed to the Mumps!

In 1927 overcrowding caused part time classes to started. Miss Crecine and I shared a classroom. She taught from 8:30 am to 12:30 noon and I from 1:00 pm to 5 pm. At this time plans for the central section of the school were begun.

In 1928, immediately following the Easter vacation a Hobby Show was held. It was Dr. Goldring’s idea to have the children make whatever they pleased in the holidays and bring it to be shown. Parents and friends were invited and it was well patronized. Many children participated and a great variety of articles were on display. Perhaps the only sad note was the fact that the cakes, cookies and other goodies on display on the tables were too great a temptation to the passerby. At the finish of the Show, most of these were missing quantities.”

Source: Excerpts by Ada Tennison Smith, History & Memories of Earl Beatty School 1925 to 1975.

Anything is Possible at Earl Beatty,
where students feel ...



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