



"Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." (Margaret Mead)

As a school community, we had our very first Sharing Assembly at the end of October. A Sharing Assembly is an opportunity for our school to come together and share the learning that is being done in individual classes. It is an opportunity for students to have their voice heard and for our school community to be appreciating the different voices that exist in our building.

At our Sharing Assemblies, we will also introduce the Character Trait for the following month and discuss what this will look like and sound like around the school. This is part of our focus on Character Education and will be occurring at the end of every month.

Message from the Principal

October has been a month of discovery. We have been visiting classrooms and getting to know our students and how they learn.

We converted Room 35 into a Fitness/Activity Room with the help of TDSB's Physical Education Department. Students have had the opportunity to experience physical fitness using circuits.

We began our partnership with East York Alternative and our focus on Character Traits and beautifying our school is beginning.

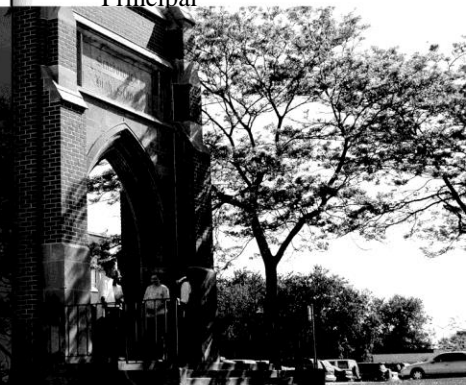
The Art Club has produced such wonderful artwork that we have hung around our office. Please come and visit our school office to see the work that they have created.

November will continue to be a busy month as teachers will be engaging in professional learning opportunities with our Family of Schools Coach in the areas of Comprehensive Literacy and Effective Mathematics Instruction. We look forward to continuing to find ways to meet the needs of all of our students.

Anastasia Poulis
Principal

Your School Newsletter

Earl Beatty Junior and Senior Public School
55 Woodington Avenue, Toronto, ON M4C 3J6



Earl Beatty Students Learn About Empathy in November



Monthly Newsletter for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

EMPATHY

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Caregiver:

Your child is involved in learning activities designed to develop good character and help children make good choices. Our focus this month has been on **EMPATHY**.

What does empathy mean to you?

Your child can show empathy by:

- helping, and understanding how others in the family feel
- using words to describe how others may be feeling
- understanding, sensing, and sharing in the feelings and emotions of others
- showing love, sympathy, compassion, and encouragement
- speaking from "I" and owning his or her emotions

Questions to discuss with your child:

- What is empathy? How can we show empathy?
- What does it mean to be empathetic?

Projects to do together:

- Engage your child in volunteer opportunities, such as helping at the food bank or other community organizations.
- Develop a family project that is meant to help others.
- When reading or watching the news, encourage a discussion about how those involved might feel.

Encouraging empathy in your child:

- Encourage discussion, and expose your child to the language of emotions.
- Talk with your child about the importance of showing empathy through helping others.
- Share your own feelings with your child, providing him or her with the opportunity to be empathetic.
- Allow your child to express his or her feelings, regardless of whether they are positive or negative.

Thank you for supporting our Character Development program.

BUILD CHARACTER
BUILD SUCCESS

Mandatory Green Bin Program



In 2013-14, the TDSB launched the Green Bin program and over two hundred schools from across the city got on board. Beginning in January 2015, all schools that are not already running a Green Bin Program must start one as part of the Board's waste disposal agreement with the City of Toronto. The movement to the recycling of organics across the TDSB is an exciting opportunity that allows us to teach students best practices for sorting waste while reducing our environmental impact.

By December 2014, schools will receive all the materials they need to start a small scale program, such as collecting paper towels in the washrooms or food waste in the lunchroom. Materials will include 35-gallon carts for outside collection, along with bins and posters to organize inside collection

Regardless of how each school decides to organize their green bin program, the expectation is that all schools will start putting containers out for collection on a weekly basis starting the week of January 12th.

The following resources have been created to support schools in getting ready for the Green Bin Program's January 2015 roll-out.

- [Green Bin Program FAQ sheet](#)

Earl Beatty has Teamed Up For Green,

a Toronto District School Board and Toronto Hydro partnership. This brand new fundraising initiative encourages families to sign up for "green" programs and services through Toronto Hydro's secure web applications. If sign up goals are met, the TDSB will receive up to \$250,000 towards 500 new bike racks at our schools!

Team Up For Green

supports the new TDSB Charter for Active, Safe and Sustainable Transportation, <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/AboutUs/Innovation/ActiveTransportationCharter.aspx>, that promotes travel to school by cycling, walking or other modes of active transportation. This is good for our students' health and the environment.

Earl Beatty- let's try to win the bike racks for our school! Please contribute online

Parent-Teacher Interviews



Regular parent-teacher communication is an important part of student learning. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled throughout the year after report cards are sent home. Interviews will take place on Thursday November 13th after school and evening and the morning of Friday November 14th.

November 14th is a P.A. Day and there will be no school for students.

These interviews are your opportunity to ask questions about your child's progress and to discuss any issues. In addition to regular scheduled parent-teacher interviews, you can request a meeting at any time during the school year by contacting the school or your child's teacher directly.

Every parent has a right to discuss their child's progress with the classroom teacher. Please speak directly with your child's class teacher for appropriate interview times. Teachers will be sending confirmation letters home to you to confirm your personal interview time between November 6-10th.

All Senior Kindergarten students will receive report cards and parent-teacher interviews. Parents of Junior Kindergarten students will have opportunities to visit the classroom for observation.

Progress Reports will be sent home with each student on November 11, 2014.

Please return the page 3 of the Progress Report along with your child's envelope back to your child's teacher. We will reuse the report card envelope for each reporting period.

Me to We-We Scare Hunger

This year, a group of dedicated Grade 6, 7 and 8 students have joined the club Me to We. Me to We, in association with Free the Children, aims to empower youth to create change. By joining Me to We, students have committed to supporting at least one local and one international cause.

The first initiative of our Me to We group will be a local one. The program we are currently running is We Scare Hunger- a food drive supporting the Daily Food Bank that serves some people in our immediate community.

Students are being asked, if they are able, to bring in non-perishable food items (past, rice, baby formula, canned fruit/vegetables, canned soup etc). This program will continue to run until November 14th. Last year, we collected 904 items. This year our goal is 1000 items.

Thank you for your support,

The Me to We Club



Bullying - Understanding The Problem for Parents

FACT SHEET

What is Bullying?

Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent and aggressive behaviour that is directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance. [Ministry of Education's Policy/Program Memorandum No. 144, Bullying Prevention and Intervention, October 4, 2007]

Students may attain or maintain power over others in the school through real or perceived differences. Some areas of difference include but are not limited to size, strength, age, intelligence, economic status, social status, solidarity of peer group, religion, ethnicity, disability, need for special education, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender and race.

Key Elements

According to Barbara Coloroso, there are three main factors that allow children, adolescents, and young adults to harm others without feeling *empathy, compassion or shame*.

1. A sense of entitlement;
 2. An intolerance toward difference;
 3. A liberty to exclude, isolate and segregate a person deemed not worthy of respect or care.
- Bullying is not about conflict. In conflicts, two or more individuals disagree on a specific topic. People who are in conflict do not intend to harm others, but rather to uphold their own opinion.
 - The individual exhibiting bully behaviour tries to control and dominate others. There is intent to harm and the use of fear and intimidation is common.
 - Both boys and girls are equally involved in bullying incidents.

Types of Bullying

1. Physical: Kicking, punching, spitting, taking someone's hat, tripping, etc.
2. Verbal: Name calling, insults, making racist, sexist, classist, ableist, or homophobic comments.
3. Social: Excluding others from a group, ignoring, spreading gossip or rumours, facial expressions and eye contact to humiliate or reject.
4. Cyber: Using electronic means to intimidate, harm, exclude or ruin a reputation – includes the use of emails and instant messaging, text or digital imaging sent on cell phones, web pages and web logs (blogs), chat rooms and discussion groups.

Remembrance Day: November 11, 2014



Remembrance Day

On Tuesday, November 11, students and staff at our schools and across the city will mark Remembrance Day with classroom activities and school assemblies. During Remembrance Day, our teachers make connections between global events and students' lives by promoting peace within our school community. On this solemn occasion, our staff, students, parents, and the wider community all join together in a call for peace.

This year's Remembrance Day marks the date and time when fighting stopped on November 11th at 11am in 1918 (the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month) which makes this the 96th anniversary for the end of the First World War. It is also the 69th anniversary of the end of World War II.

John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Author Presentations:

On November 12th, we will be having two wonderful authors visit our school. *Loris Lesynski* will be presenting to Kindergarten and Grade 1 and 2 students and *Linda Granfield* will be presenting to Grade 3-8 students. Homeroom teachers during this time will be reviewing our Math EQAO results and discussing steps of actions moving forward.

To find out more about these authors, please visit their websites at:

Linda Granfield:
<http://www.lindagranfield.com/>

Loris Lesynski :
<http://www.lorislesynski.com/>



School News



PARTNERSHIPS AT EARL BEATTY

Gender Based Violence Presentation

Michelle Cho and Ilana David from the TDSB's Gender Based Violence department will be working with our staff at our staff meeting around the issues of gender identity and gender equity.

Due to the results of our student census which indicate that our students are experiencing moments of feeling lonely and sadness, as well as our qualitative results from EQAO indicating that we have extreme gender gaps in achievement, we know that their work will help support our focus on student success.



November is Diabetes Awareness Month!

Our student nurses from Ryerson University, Catherine Jalsevac and Ashiana Rizal will be preparing information on Diabetes Awareness for classes and will be educating our students and raising awareness about Diabetes this month.

Boys and Girls Club

The Boys and Girls Club has an approved TDSB Partnership and will be starting to service our students in Grades 3-8 and their families beginning the first week of December- June 19, 2015 from 3:15-6:00pm.

East York Alternative High School

Students from East York Alternative visited our school on October 21st and presented character traits to our students. All classes identified the one character trait that they would like to focus on and selected an image for its representation. East York Alternative students will be posterizing these images and bringing them back to our school on November 25th and our entire student body will be involved in painting these images. We will then be hanging these images in our lunchroom to remind us of the character traits that we need to model and how we worked as a school community to create a product that beautified our school.

Calendar of Events

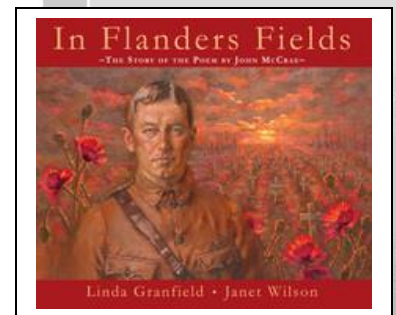
- November 11: Reports go home
- November 12: Author Presentations for students
Teachers work on analyzing EQAO results
- November 13: Parent-Teacher Interviews: afternoon and evening
- November 13: Parent Council meeting-6:30pm
- November 14: PA Day: No School for Students
- November 14: Interviews a.m.
- November 17: Bullying Awareness Week
- November 19: Lice checks for the rest of school that wasn't checked at our last school-wide lice check day (letters have gone home to students who are involved in this)
- November 21-22: Holiday In the Hood (flyer will be sent home)
- November 27: Pizza lunch
- November 27: Math Presentation for Parents-6pm

Looking Ahead...

- December 5: PA Day
- December 18: Pizza lunch
- December 22: Holiday break begins

FUN FACTS

Did you know that the poem **In Flanders Fields** will be 100 years old in May 2015! Our visiting author, Linda Granfield has created a book based on this poem.



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