



Keele/Mountview News

NOVEMBER 7, 2018

"LET'S LEARN TOGETHER!"

Character trait of the month:

EMPATHY

Important Dates:

Please see calendar attached

Principal's Message

This has been another exciting month at Keele/Mountview. As always, our students were provided many opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom to learn and develop their skills and interests. We had many classes involved in a variety of field trips, including the annual Kindergarten trip to the farm. We are very grateful to all the parents who volunteer to help supervise children on field trips. We appreciate your support! This was also another busy month for our student athletes with many students participating in Cross Country, and Flag Football. I want to thank all the coaches and volunteer drivers who gave of their time to support our athletes. It was also great to see so many family members attend our Halloween Parade. The students looked great in their costumes! We also took time this month to celebrate student success in our first Recognition Assembly. Over 80 students were recognized for a variety of reasons including character and leadership. We look forward to our next Recognition Assembly to take place just before the Winter Holidays. We have a lot to be proud of!

Now that reorganization is behind us, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Ms. Kathy Ribeiro who will continue teaching the Kindergarten class in Room 205 this year. We also want to welcome Matthew Ruggeri who is teaching Drama and Dance to a number of our classes in the afternoons.

We look forward to seeing you at the Parent/teacher interviews next week. I hope that everyone has a great month of November!

School Improvement Goals

Each school in the TDSB has been asked to identify an achievement, well-being, and equity goal. Our staff used the PA Day in September to engage in developing these goals. We identified many examples of what we as a school are doing already to achieve these goals, but also began the process to start thinking about new ways to support our students in these important areas. The three goals are listed below for your information.

Achievement – Increased student engagement through inquiry-based instruction that is both relevant and meaningful, focusing on the development of the global competencies to inspire our students to be problem-solvers, creators, and critical-thinkers.

Well-Being – That every student be given intentional opportunities to build and strengthen positive relationships with both peers and a caring adult.

Equity – The identification of barriers that exist in our school that limit the effectiveness of the inclusion of all our learners. Promotion of the belief that all students can be successful under the right conditions.

Boomerang Lunch and Snack Program

Last spring Keele/Mountview was certified as an Eco School at the Gold level due to the advances we are making in being environmentally friendly. To continue our progress, we are launching a Boomerang Lunch and Snack Program!

A **waste-free lunch/snack** contains no throwaway packaging and produces no food waste. Food and drinks are packed in reusable containers within a reusable lunch bag. A **boomerang lunch/snack** means that any uneaten food and any waste material produced is returned home. For sanitary purposes, it is important that food and waste packaging be taken home in a resealable container or bag.

Why?

A boomerang lunch allows parents to see what their children are actually eating during the day. A significant amount of waste is made up of unopened packaged foods, uneaten fruit, full juice boxes and half eaten sandwiches.

Some Waste-Free Lunch/Snack Tips:

- Use a reusable container for packing snacks/sandwiches (no more squished food)...empty margarine containers work well.
- Cut fruit/vegetables into pieces so that some can be eaten at lunch and some can be saved for a snack later.
- Label reusable containers to ensure they are easy to identify if they are misplaced.
- Avoid drinks in packaging that cannot be resealed (especially for younger students) - NO glass bottles. After a few sips, drinks are often thrown out.

The Dollar Store carries reusable container and lunch bags - great deals!

* Please join us in supporting this important initiative. We are making a difference one lunch at a time!

School lunches are a major source of waste in Ontario – the average student's lunch generates a total of 30 kilograms of waste per school year. In an effort to engage students in a small environmental initiative that can make a big impact, our school is starting a **Boomerang Lunch Program**.

Once a student has eaten their lunch, they are expected to place all garbage, recyclable and/or reusable items back into their lunch bag, so that they may dispose of their waste properly at home.

The goal of having a waste free lunch is to:

Celebrate and learn about waste reduction by reducing the amount of waste we create from school lunches

Encourage healthy and nutritious lunches (many pre-packaged lunch items contain significant amounts of sodium, preservatives and fat)

Help you as a parent to reduce the cost of lunches (a waste free lunch can cost as little as \$2.50 per day, whereas a regular lunch containing pre-packaged items can cost \$4.50 or more per day)

Here are some waste-free lunch packing tips:

YES Please

REUSABLE lunch carrier

REUSABLE container (Tupperware, plastic)

REUSABLE drink bottle or thermos

CLOTH NAPKIN to wash and re-use

CUTLERY/SILVERWARE to wash and re-use

Please AVOID

AVOID paper or plastic bags

AVOID plastic wrap, foil, or styrofoam

AVOID single-use cans/bottles, cartons

AVOID paper napkins

AVOID plastic forks/spoons

BOOMERANG LUNCH TIPS

Get children to help pack their lunches with healthy foods

Only pack as much food as your child will eat.

Use a reusable lunch bag/box for carrying a lunch.

Use a refillable bottle for drinks – it's cheaper and children can save drinks for later. Avoid drinks in packaging that cannot be resealed. After a few sips, drinks are often discarded. Use a thermos for cold drinks or hot soups.

Put sandwiches, muffins, etc. in 'Tupperware'-style containers, instead of plastic bags. Label all containers so they have a better chance of coming home.

Avoid pre-packaged, single-serve portions of snacks or drinks.

Prepare extra food at dinnertime and use the leftovers for lunches. Minimize the morning rush by packing lunches the night before and refrigerating overnight.

Thank you for your support in making our school a more Eco-friendly environment for our students.

Vision Screening Clinic

Our Vision and Hearing clinic is scheduled for November 21st. If you are interested in having your child take part in the screening, please complete the registration form that was sent home and return it to the school by November 14th.

Safety

The safety and security of our students is always of paramount importance. For this reason, we are reminding parents of the following procedures:

- Yard supervision does not begin until 8:30am. Please do not send your child before this time unless they are part of a supervised activity
- When driving your child to school or picking them up, please do not enter the school parking lot. We are encouraging as many families as possible to walk to school as it is better for our health, the environment, and reduces traffic congestion. If you are driving, please be very careful around the school and school buses.
- If you need to pick up your child before the end of the school day, please check in at the office and sign your child out.
- If your child is biking to school, please ensure that s/he follows the law and wears a helmet.
- Please remind your child to never walk or bike-ride through our parking lot. It is a busy place and not safe for pedestrians.

Reading at Home

Research shows that the more time children spend reading books, listening to stories read aloud and engaging with print in meaningful ways, the greater progress we will see in their growth as readers. It is strongly recommended that children read each night for at least 15 minutes. Below are a number of questions you can use with your child before, during, and after reading books. Please note, these questions are only suggestions and do not need to be done all at once or every time your child reads.

Before Reading Questions:

- What story clues are in the title and in the pictures?
- Is the book fiction or nonfiction? How do you know?
- What do you think will happen in the book?

During Reading:

- What do you think will happen next?
- How do you think ____ is feeling? Why?
- How do you think the story will end?
- What is the author trying to tell us?

After Reading:

- How did the story make you feel?
- Does the story remind you of another story?
- What did you like or dislike about the story? Why?

Follow us on Twitter!

Keep up to date on all of the great things happening by following us @KeeleMountview

Remember Them



Feel free to join us for our Remembrance Day observance (Grades 1-8) in the main gym on November 9th. We will begin the ceremony at 10:30 am. Please be reminded that although there will be a few classes contributing to the assembly, this is not meant to be a showcase for student performances. Parents are welcome to join us to commemorate November 11th. We will be handing out poppies to students the morning of Nov. 9. We ask that you kindly send a dollar to school prior to Remembrance Day as a donation to support our veterans and the Royal Canadian Legion. We encourage families to observe any one of many official Remembrance Day ceremony offerings in the GTA on Sunday, November 11th.

Anaphylaxis & Food Policy



There are staff and students attending Keele and Mountview who suffer from a life-threatening allergies to peanuts, latex, egg, shellfish, among other allergens. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your co-operation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nuts with your child.

Students who have severe allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when tree nut products are consumed in their environment or shared with them. Please speak with your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with other students at any time.

The Board has procedures for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions. If you are interested, contact me for further information. Further information is also available through Anaphylaxis-Canada (416-785-5666).

If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken.

Your understanding and co-operation in ensuring the safest environment is appreciated.

Appropriate Weather Clothing

As the colder weather approaches, please ensure that your child(ren) come(s) to school dressed in appropriate clothing and apparel to be outside for recesses. We ask that you send your child with a pair of indoor shoes that may remain at school for the duration of the winter season. Please label clothing with your child's name so that we can return misplaced clothing more easily...

Parent –Teacher Conferences



Appointments to meet and discuss your child's progress with your child's teacher can be arranged for Thursday Nov. 15 and Friday Nov 17th. Grade 1-8 Progress Report Cards and FDK Initial Observations Communication of Learning will be sent home with each child on Nov 14th.

Student Council Update

Petar J, Tara, Fiona, Jayvyn, Bella, Jessica, Andrea, and Aleksa, are the 2018-19 student council. These kids will ensure that your children will have a great year. In the past month of October, we've had 3 popcorn days, a senior and junior movie night, a senior dance, and a costume competition. With those fundraisers, we've acquired enough money to spend on a series of fun activities, such as the haunted house. For the first time in Keele history, student council has an Instagram account. You can follow it @keele_student_council, to stay updated on events and fundraisers. This month we will have the regular popcorn days, a surprise spirit day, and many more activities. I hope you will join us on our journey to make Keele Street PS an amazing school.

Sincerely,
Your president,
Petar J