



# Keele/Mountview News

OCTOBER 1, 2018

"LET'S LEARN TOGETHER!"

**Character trait of the month:**

**Responsibility**

Important Dates:

Please see calendar attached

## Principal's Message

I hope that you and your family have had a great start to the 2018/19 school year. I would like to welcome back all our returning families, and a special welcome to all those who are new to Keele/Mountview; you have joined a very special community! This has been another busy and exciting month at Keele/Mountview. Students seem to be settling in to the routines of their new classrooms and many are already participating in some of the extra-curricular opportunities provided to them. We are very excited to have started a Junior/Intermediate Robotics club under the leadership of two of our kindergarten teachers, Mr. Costa and Ms. Bosco. As always we encourage students to get involved in opportunities outside of the classroom. As a school we continue to build our understanding of what it means to have a Growth Mindset. A belief that we can all improve through hard work and perseverance. Please continue to encourage your children to come to school every day ready to give their best effort in all their classroom activities.

We look forward to continuing to work together to make this another great school year for all our students.

## School Improvement Goals

Each school in the TDSB has been asked to identify an achievement, well-being, and equity goal.

**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.

## Orange Shirt Day

On Friday, September 29th, students and staff across the TDSB came together and wore orange shirts to recognize the harm that the Residential Schools did to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit children and to recognize that every child matters. For more information please visit the TDSB webpage:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/News/Article-Details/ArtMID/474/ArticleID/1128/TDSB-Marks-Orange-Shirt-Day>

At Keele/Mountview we had a wonderful assembly with a guest speaker who explained in deeper meaning the Land Acknowledgment that we begin every day with. We appreciate Ms. Hoffman, Ms. McAuslan and Ms. Gordon-Norman for organizing such an important assembly.

### **School Reorganization**

Every September schools review actual student enrolment compared to initial projections from last April, and reorganize classes where required. As a result of changing student enrollment at our school, we were asked to open up a new Kindergarten class and a Grade 4 classroom. While this resulted in a number of students having to move classrooms, and Ms. Tharmaseelan's class moving for this year into the staffroom, the benefit to our students is that we have now been able to lower our class sizes to better align with Ministry guidelines. We welcome Ms. Giambrone who will continue to teach her Grade 4 class. We also welcome Ms. Pinto who has very successfully opened up our new kindergarten class while we go through the formal hiring process. Both Ms. Giambrone and Ms. Pinto have been great additions to the Keele staff.

### **Field Update**

We are very excited that the field and new playground project is almost complete. I know that the students are really enjoying the new artificial field. We are just waiting for the final inspection of the new playground before we are able to have the construction fencing come down. We are hoping that this will take place very soon.

The Kindergarten yard revitalization project has been moved back to the Spring. The design has been approved and we are looking forward to a new and improved space for our youngest learners to use and to enjoy.

## 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 that 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?

## Keele and Mountview are proud EcoSchools



We are so proud of maintaining our Eco-schools Gold Certification for a fifth year in a row! Every school community member has done their part to ensure a greener school community. This year we have set a goal to reach Platinum status! We can achieve this goal if we all work together.

## Green Team



Join the Green Team! Keele/ Mountview is a Gold-Certified EcoSchool that endeavours to raise environmental awareness and promote conservation. Other initiatives for the Green Team include: performing regular energy and consumption audits, promoting our used markers and dead battery recycling bins, encouraging the use of GOOS (Good On One Side) paper and establishing volunteer yard clean-up and compost teams. Classes continue to support our tree-watering efforts!

## 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.

## Speaking of Food...."Boomerang" lunches and snacks please!



Please remember we have "boomerang lunches and snacks" at Keele and Mountview. All wrappers, juice boxes and packaging are returned home in your child's lunchbox/ bag to be sorted and disposed of in the proper

receptacles at home. Apple cores, banana peels or other compostable waste can be deposited in our green compost bin in the lunch room(s). Please send your child with healthy and nutritious items using (labeled) re-usable food and beverage containers to support our waste reduction efforts and to continue to maintain our Gold EcoSchool certification status!

### **Appropriate Weather Clothing**

As the cooler 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...

### **Congratulations to the elected members of the Student Council!**

Last week our students voted for members of our Student Council. It was amazing to see so many students willing to participate and put their names forward for leadership opportunities. The speeches they delivered were very impressive! We look forward to working with these leaders throughout this school year.

### **Follow us on Twitter!**

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