

# Greenleaf Gazette

## PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Recent research has strongly indicated that children whose parents engage them in educational activities tend to do better in school. Families have a major influence on their children's achievement in school and throughout life. When schools, families and the community work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, like school and stay in school longer. As documented, the three most important family influences on student achievement are:

1. Students' and parents' **expectations for academic performance**
2. The extent to which **parents are engaged in support activities**
3. Students' **attitudes toward effort as a necessity to success.**

Parents who instil a solid work ethic and the importance of education most certainly contribute to their child's success in school and their future. Parents need to be role models of character education so our child understands the morals and values we deem so important. Parents should serve as teachers in the home.

Set aside time every evening for your child to complete homework. That homework might be work not finished at school, assignment completion or test preparation. It could also involve reading to and with your children and then asking comprehension questions. You're not supposed to do their work for them but it is quite beneficial to instruct them, provide suggestions or revisions. Memorizing multiplication tables is not outdated. Model the importance of education.

*Ms. S. Fox & Mr. B. Morlog*



## SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2018-2019

At the end of April, we will receive our school organization according to our projected school enrolment. This information will be shared in our last newsletter on the last day of school in June. Please be aware that even once this is shared, things can change. The reason for this is that staffing of schools takes place late in the school year. Over the summer, a school can lose a teacher to retirement, leave of absence, maternity leave or physical move. Sometimes a loss or increase of students over the summer requires us to move students into another class to balance numbers.

Next month, teachers will be meeting in order to "place" students for next year. Our staff spends a tremendous amount of time and energy creating class lists. Staff teams collaborate to create these lists. They review social, emotional and academic development. In addition, they consider learning styles, the number of males and females, balancing academic performance and leadership skills, which students need to be together, and who needs to be separated. As teachers differentiate instruction on a daily basis, requests to have students removed from split classes will not be granted. Any other parental requests/concerns regarding student placement must be put in writing and submitted to the office before **May 11th**. Only requests that are made for "sound educational reasons" will be considered. Parental input **does not** include "lobbying" for a class, and/or a particular teacher. Please note that any input received after **May 11th** will not be considered, as we are attempting to make all class placement decisions before the end of this school year, in order to allow us to get off to a smooth start in September.



Waiting until after school starts to ask for changes is very disruptive to all concerned and therefore all requests at that time will be denied unless a reorganization of classes takes place.

We thank you for your patience and support as we work through this process.

## “VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: ACCEPTANCE

You are practicing **acceptance** when you don't expect others to think, look, speak or act just like you. Acceptance is being free of prejudice, knowing that all people have feelings, needs, hopes and dreams. To be accepting also means to accept things you wish were different with flexibility and patience.



*I am accepting. I overlook people's faults. I appreciate differences. I accept the things I cannot change with good grace.*

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PINK

On Wednesday, April 11, 2018, staff and students across



HWDSB will join millions of people worldwide who wear pink on the International Day of Pink.

We do this because we want to make a statement that we stand against all forms of bullying. It also reminds us that when we stand up and speak out, we can make a difference.

The International Day of Pink began in Nova Scotia when two high school students saw a classmate being bullied for wearing a pink shirt

The two students intervened, but wanted to do more. A few days later they were able to get their entire school to wear pink. That school sent a message that together we can stop bullying.

Bullying can be a problem in our schools and in our wider community. Bullying can happen to anyone, anywhere. Collectively, we can stand up and speak out against bullying. We will continue to support anti-bullying efforts that make our schools safe and welcoming places for all of our students. Please wear pink on Wednesday, April 11.

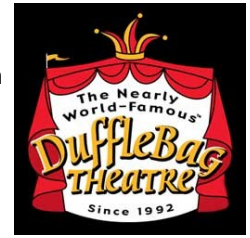
## DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 2-Easter Monday-No School
- April 5-Jump Rope for Heart Assembly
- April 6- Swiss Chalet! (NEW! Lunchbox orders) alt Fridays
- April 10-Booster Juice alternate Tuesdays
- April 11-International Day of Pink-Wear Pink
- April 13-Free Family Movie Night
- April 17-Author Visit-Gr. 4-8
- April 18-Author Visit-Gr. K-3
- April 19-Volunteer Appreciation Lunch
- April 20-Gr.7 Vaccinations
- April 22-Earth Day



## DUFFLE BAG THEATRE

On March 23, students in Grades 3-8 were treated to a bilingual presentation of 'Beauty and the Beast' by DuffleBag Theatre, a Toronto theatre company which performs throughout North America as well as overseas. This hilarious improv version of 'La Belle et la Bête' sharpened the students' French skills while providing them with an hour of pure entertainment. Three lucky students were chosen on the spot to perform along with the actors, which made the show even more engaging! A big thank you goes out to our Parent Council who generously provided funding for this special event.



## JUMP ROPE FOR HEART!

Our annual fundraiser for the Heart & Stroke Foundation begins on Thursday, April 4. Students will receive donation envelopes and instructions for online fundraising. Greenleaf is very proud of our community's generosity; we have raised an average of \$7000 a year over the last 5 years to support research, education and equipment to help prevent and treat heart attacks and strokes. Should you choose to support the Heart and Stroke Foundation, please send in donations or make online donations by Friday, May 4, when students will participate in skipping activities in the gym.



## AUTHOR VISIT

**Kenneth Oppel, a world renowned Canadian author, is coming to Greenleaf!** His books have won many awards and his Silverwing series has sold over a million copies. Kenneth Oppel will be speaking to students on April 17 and 18th, discussing age appropriate books he has written, the writing process and inspirations for his novels. Thanks to parent council for financially supporting for this visit encouraging creative writing and literacy.