

NEWSLETTER

Anril 2019

Principal's message: No bullies allowed



Dear Parents,

As educators, we are always working extensively to find ways to prevent students from intimidating others. As you may be aware, this type of behavior can happen anywhere to anyone from children to children, children to adults, adults to children and adults to adults. Unfortunately, we are certain we cannot stop people from being rude or cruel 100% of the time, but we should be able to expect students to be kind during their time at school. We should be able to provide an environment that leads to greater learning and a feeling of acceptance. With your help, we can be successful.

Since we opened our doors last August, we have implemented many supports for students within the school. Our students in primary and secondary are aware of the issues of bullying. Character awareness has helped in many, many ways. The students are aware that teachers, including their principal, have an open door policy about this issue: come see us and we'll listen. At our weekly assemblies, students perform about a positive character trait with

further discussion. Overall, students must be aware that if they are put in an uncomfortable situation either as bystander or target, they have our complete attention when we're called. In the future, we will invite speakers come to our school to discuss bullying and/ or character. Our goal is this: any unkindness and disrespect of some students by other students is unacceptable and will be countered by teachers and administrators quickly and effectively.

I'm providing you with this information in the hopes that we can work together to find a solution to maintain the positive learning environment we currently have at SIS. We all hope that when our children are not around us that they have been given the skills to act appropriately; however, they sometimes forget and need a reminder. I encourage each of you to sit down with your child(ren) and discuss with them how to choose kind words, how to follow expectations in other settings and how to be respectful to others and to themselves.

Bullying comes in many forms and can be very hurtful to both the target and the bully. Please talk with your child about the different ways bullying can happen and what to do if they see it. I encourage you to talk with your students on what is appropriate and what is not appropriate in the school setting. It is the responsibility of all of us (parents, children, educators, and community) to teach our children the importance of being kind and considerate to others – regardless of age, color, race, gender, sexual orientation, and religion. These are life skills and in our new age of technology, are greatly needed.

Thank you for your future assistance in discussing this issue with your child and in helping to maintain a positive school environment for everyone.

Sincerely,
Larry Synclair
 Principal



In his book *The Education of a Gardener*, Russell Page writes: "If you wish to make anything grow, you must understand it, and understand it in a very real sense. 'Green fingers' are a fact, and a mystery only to the unpracticed. But green fingers are the extensions of a verdant heart." Indeed the heart of our students and teachers is prevalent in our organic garden. Bok choy, cabbage, and morning glory were ripe for the picking. While this is good news, there are better news: plans to expand the organic garden. Why? In *Nature's Gifts Anthology*, students learn more about gardening than from a book: "Regardless of geographical region or culture, gardening is perhaps the most common and shared experience of Nature."



Many congratulations to our student of the month, **Bill**. This Year 6 student is outstanding in academics as well as a nice guy to everyone. He's always ready to help his classmates as well as engage in a conversation during English.



What's happening at KIK?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY RULES

Having a birthday party after school is a wonderful way for your child to celebrate that day with friend. However, we must remind you that this is a school with regulations about visitors. It is mandatory for parents to contact the office several days in advance and inform us about your birthday plans that may involve event organizers or people who are not family. If you have any questions about setting up a birthday party after school for your child, please contact us.