

# The Gator's Tale



Mrs. Fay VandenBeukel - Principal

November 2009

## What's in the November Newsletter:

- ☺ Remembrance Day Information
- ☺ Student Council News
- ☺ Important Dates
- ☺ Character Education News
- ☺ Newsletter Draw Ballot
- ☺ Book Club Information



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Hello again everyone!! Here it is November already. We have enjoyed a very busy and exciting first two months at school. Hallowe'en was certainly one of the highlights for students and they were involved in a myriad of activities such as carving pumpkins, visiting the pumpkin patch, dancing and of course dressing up. Thank you to the numerous parents who volunteered to go on trips, and came to school to watch our parade.



Thank you also to all the families who supported our Magazine fundraiser this year. We sold over \$4000 in magazines. The funds that we raised will go back to support school events such as team sports, student rewards, trips and much more.

Thank you also to our Me2We club students who went Trick or Treating for food items to add to our school donation for Project Share. Thank you to the Greendale School community for making a difference and giving back to our community. **Please note that Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> is a Professional Development Day for teachers. There will be no classes for students.**

Mrs. VandenBeukel

## Book Fair!

We are excited to announce that The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Greendale! It will arrive on Mon. Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. The Book Fair will be open to students and families from Tuesday Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Acceptable methods of payment include: cash, VISA, & cheque (payable to Scholastic Canada). Thank-you to our Parent Council and Ms. Hammond for organizing this for us!

## Me2We MESSAGE



We are entering into some exciting times with the 'Me 2 We' Club! With leadership from Ms. Mortley, Ms. McClymont, Ms. Boon and Mrs. Rackal, we are in for one exciting year! As an outreach and social justice club we desire to reach out within our own school community, within the local community and globally.

As a school we wish to help promote, raise money for, and support volunteer time to Greendale's breakfast program. The club is also joining forces with Ms. Hammond to start an environmental club aiming to help our school increase conservation and preservation of resources. Moreover, with the school, we will be starting a Peer Helpers program, where older students are able to help younger students on their breaks with their studies.

Locally we are aiming to help organizations such as 'Project Share' with running a food drive through our 'Halloween for Hunger' event. It is our desire to also get involved with other organizations in the area that are in need of extra support. Possibilities are working with the Humane Society and helping the Women's Place with some of their events.

Globally we, as a club, are partnering with 'New Hope Orphanage' in Mandoville, Jamaica. This orphanage, which Ms. McClymont had the pleasure of working with during the summer, is a home to roughly 30 children under the age of 5, and has been in operation for nearly 20 years. In which time, 250 children have passed through!



### "Hallowe'en for Hunger" Update...

What a huge success this year's event was! On Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> Greendale had nearly 30 students from grades 6-8 participate in this year's event. Our students went out into their local community collecting non-perishables for Project Share Niagara. We counted the items which filled 6 of Project Share's red bins. Collectively this made 1,270 items or over 1200 pounds of food!!! This event could not have taken place without the support of our volunteer drivers who took carloads of students canvassing: Dave Hartmann, Jerry Drury, Howard Watson, Kulwinder Dhillon, Sara Conlon, Ms. Hammond and Miss. Mortley.

The following is a list of all Greendale Gators who took part in this year's event:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| ★ Bret Hartmann   | ★ River Shawanoo   |
| ★ Jesse Whittom   | ★ Alex Strickland  |
| ★ Nathan Nguyen   | ★ Rachael Kemp     |
| ★ Tommy Nguyen    | ★ Chelsey Allen    |
| ★ Karan Singh     | ★ Julia Zaniol     |
| ★ Huong Vo        | ★ Samantha Bray    |
| ★ Emily Dow       | ★ Hope Foster      |
| ★ Elyse Conlon    | ★ Carrissa King    |
| ★ Eva Hu          | ★ Maiya Chen       |
| ★ Landri Drury    | ★ Tessa Dean       |
| ★ Zach Ferbrache  | ★ Faiz Khan        |
| ★ Faiz Meghani    | ★ Karol Fixon-Owoo |
| ★ Neilson Thai    | ★ Nick Mazzone     |
| ★ Gurneet Dhillon | ★ Alana Arsenault  |





## Character Education Corner

Over the past few months, through conversation with the staff, students and community of the Niagara area, eight main character traits were chosen to be the focus for the entire school board. We will be following the order given below on a month by month basis as well encouraging students to deepen their learning by generalizing the traits to use in real life.

☺ Respect

☺ Optimism

☺ Responsibility

☺ Perseverance

☺ Integrity

☺ Courage

☺ Caring

☺ Cooperation

One way that we are measuring our success of generalization is the introduction of the "Caught Ya" (Being Good) tickets. Each staff member has the tickets and are distributing them at moments where they see students exhibiting good character behaviour. At the end of each month in our character traits assembly five names will be chosen from a draw to receive a reward and recognition by their peers.

November's character trait is **INTEGRITY**. You can practice or discuss the topic at home with your child. Here is some more information about this trait.

### **What is Integrity?**

- ✓ Being honest, trustworthy, and incorruptible
- ✓ Maintaining steadfast adherence to a strict code of moral, ethical, or artistic values
- ✓ Being consistently truthful and fair
- ✓ Following your convictions, rather than reacting in the heat of the moment
- ✓ Demonstrating that you can be counted on and trusted
- ✓ Being truthful and sincere



### **What does integrity look like/sound like?**

- ✓ Thinking about the best option or solution to a problem and discussing different opinions until a solution is found
- ✓ Telling the truth, even if it means admitting a mistake or knowing that it may not be accepted by others
- ✓ Having the courage to do the right thing, even if it may mean losing a friend, a job, or the acceptance of a peer group
- ✓ Acting and speaking in ways that reflect your own values
- ✓ Keeping a promise
- ✓ Not making promises that can't be kept
- ✓ Accepting the consequences when a mistake is made
- ✓ Not abusing a position of power for your own interests

***"Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day".***

(Sally Koch)

## Student Council Update

Greendale's Student Council has been officially formed! We are very excited about this year's crew and impressed with their motivation and creativity! Here are this year's Student Leaders:

Prime Minister	Bret Hartmann
Second Minister	Landri Drury
Secretary	Rachael Kemp
Treasurer	Tommy Nguyen

## CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. Hilliker	Faye Xie
Miss. McClymont	Alexis Kemp & Sofia Kozlov
Mr. Scozzafava	Kanik Nayyar & Dhvani Shah
Miss. Hammond	Gurneet Dhillon & Nick Mazzone
Mrs. Murray	Grayson Manalov & Liam Haley
Mr. Mason	Dylan Staley & Tessa Dean
Mr. Harriman	Ketun Patel & Samantha Bray



Rachael Kemp (our Secretary) selling Glow Sticks to students at the Halloween Dance.

Student Council has already held Greendale's Halloween Dance on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. The crew worked hard to get spooky decorations; including a fog machine, yummy giveaways, cool prizes and fun sale items to help support our school. Students attending the dance were also asked to donate a non-perishable item upon their entrance, which was an awesome help towards our Project Share food drive. Final sales from the dances generated just over \$200.00 for our Council fund.

**Way to go Gators!!**





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Adnan Rizvi, Ketun Patel & Tommy Nguyen (our Treasurer) working the Student Council table.

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Lucas Marcone & Jason Macwhirter



Arjun Singh, Dylan Staley, Adnan Rizvi, Brandon Staley & Harry Haley.



REPORT CARD	
MATH	A
PE	B+
HISTORY	A-
ART	B
ENGLISH	C

## REPORT CARDS

First term report cards will go home on Wednesday, December 2nd. Parent-teacher interviews will take place on : **Thursday, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and **Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** 12:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Information regarding interview times will be sent home later in the month, prior to the reports going home.



## ~Greendale Book Club~

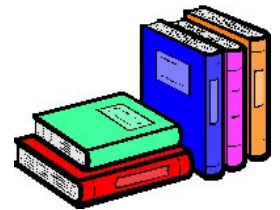


We are pleased to announce that The Greendale Book Club for students in grades 4 to 8 will begin as of Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Once again, students will get to borrow the latest in digital audio books called "Playaways". A Playaway is a digital audio book that is portable and about half the size of a deck of cards. An entire book is already loaded on the unit and students can listen to it on their own, or while reading the accompanying book. Students are welcome to bring the books home and to use it in class during silent reading period.

Many thanks to Sara Conlon, who is graciously giving her time and energy to be the literacy tutor for this program. We are excited to build upon the success of this program and have many new playaways for students to try. Information about this program has been sent home with students and will be posted on our school website. If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact Ms. Boon, our Learning Resource Teacher.

Mrs. Brewster, our librarian would like to recognize both **Akisha Archer** and **Nicole Smith** for all their hard work they put in DAILY to keep our library running smoothly and orderly. You are both very much appreciated ladies.



Thank-you! 😊



Greendale's Remembrance Day service will be held on Wednesday, November 11th. The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will last approximately 40 minutes. All members of our Greendale community are invited to join us as we remember and give thanks for all those involved in the Canadian Armed Forces, both in the past and today. All students will receive a poppy to wear to the service. We are also encouraging students to wear Canadian colours on Remembrance Day and to bring in a few coins to be donated to the Poppy Fund sponsored by The Royal Canadian Legion.

### Save the Date!!

Our Primary Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Greendale School. Mark it in your calendar! Details to follow.



### Newsletter Draw Ballot for November

Family: \_\_\_\_\_

We have \_\_\_ children at Greendale School.



**Good luck on the draw!!**