

East Greenwich Township Schools Character Education Chronicle

Winter Recap written by the *Student Council of Character*

Student Council of Character

The **Student Council of Character** comprised of 5th and 6th grade students is excited to share our second newsletter of the year! We are proud of our students and teachers for promoting excellent character within our school community every day!

Kindness Buddies

Students at Jeffrey Clark and Samuel Mickle teamed up for our first kindness buddies activity of the year. The first part of the activity included listening to the book [The Mitten Tree](#) by Candace Christiansen. Then, students discussed the theme of kindness and created a class "Mitten Tree" consisting of kindness quotes and ways to promote kindness every day. Mitten trees were then displayed in our hallways as a way to share kindness in our school community.



Great Kindness Challenge

Our students and staff members participated in the **Great Kindness Challenge** during the month of February to promote kindness in a variety of ways. Activities included participating in random acts of kindness, sharing about their kindness heroes, celebrating through spirit days, writing notes to their kindness buddies, and writing "complimats" to each other. Students also learned about celebrating and accepting each other's differences through reading [The Jelly Donut Difference](#) by Maria Dismondy. We are proud of our students for continuing to promote kindness every day!

Service Learning

In connection with our Character Education initiative, students in grades 3-6 have the opportunity to participate in service learning projects connected to their grade level curriculum. This year's projects include: **Toy Drive for DYFS, Book Donation Drive for CHOP, Treats for the Troops, Gloucester County Animal Shelter Donation Drive, Kindness Capes, & Sensory Bins**. Service learning allows our students to learn about the needs of others and brainstorm ways to help. The opportunity is a great learning experience for everyone involved.

Lunch Bunch Trip

As an extension to their grade level service project, 6th grade Lunch Bunch students delivered the sensory bins they made to students at St. John of God School in Westville, NJ. Sensory bins are a great learning tool, and our sixth graders created bins with a variety of themes such as letters, numbers, shapes, colors, animals, space, weather, and holidays. The kids loved playing with the bins and learning alongside their new friends. In addition to sharing the bins, students also participated in a variety of holiday-themed activities in the classrooms they visited. "The kids had so much joy and excitement on their faces," commented Rowen Arena. "They just loved every moment we were there," added Jayson Kitchin. The trip was an eye-opening experience for 6th grade Lunch Bunch, who plan on delivering sensory bins to students and staff members at Larc School in Bellmawr, NJ, this spring. We are grateful for the opportunity to work alongside both schools and look forward to continuing to collaborate in the future.



Pennies for Patients

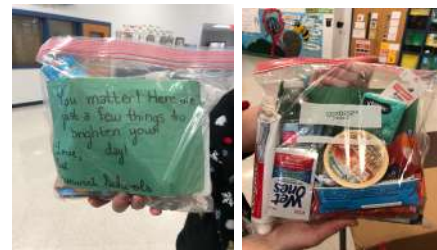
A special thank you to everyone who participated in the **Pennies for Patients** program to support the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**. This year, we raised a total of **\$14,142.60 in donations** bringing the total amount that we have collected to support the program to **\$74,471.60**, since 2012. We appreciate the generosity of our school community and are honored to be a part of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's mission to make a difference in the lives of those who are battling cancer. Thank you for your continued support!



For more information about our Character Education program, please visit our website at: <http://egcharactereducation.weebly.com/>

Blessing Bags/Book Donations

Mrs. Cavanaugh and Ms. Kuhen's classes teamed up to make blessing bags for individuals and families in need of some extra support this winter. The blessing bags included some of the following items that were donated by our students: crackers, granola bars, fruit snacks, cookies, pretzels, bottled water, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, and tissues. Each bag included a handwritten note of encouragement from our students and the bags were donated to Family Promise of Gloucester County to support homeless families. In addition to the blessing bags, students also participated in a book donation drive to support cancer patients at C.H.O.P. and Nemours Hospital. Students included a message of inspiration in each book to help brighten the day of the cancer patients at both hospitals. These 6th grade classes learned that a small act of kindness can go a long way!



Hornets Unite Assembly

The Student Council of Character hosted our first Character Education Assembly of the year for our 3rd & 4th grade students before winter break. Students participated in games and chants that connected to our six character traits: respect, integrity, kindness, acceptance, responsibility, and perseverance. Student Council of Character members performed three skits and the audience shared their input on how to make positive choices! The 3rd and 4th graders were an amazing audience. We concluded the assembly with our "Hornets Unite" chant and thanked everyone for their time and attention. Everyone learned something new while having a great time. We can't wait for our first assembly of 2019 which is scheduled for the end of March!

