

East Greenwich Township Schools Character Education Chronicle

October Recap written by the *Student Council of Character*

Your character will be what you yourself choose to make it.
~John Lubbock

Student Council of Character

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



Hornets Unite Project

Students and teachers at both Jeffrey Clark and Samuel Mickle began the school year with our **Hornets Unite** character education project. The project highlighted our traits of respect, kindness, integrity, responsibility, acceptance and perseverance. Each person received a honeycomb template and was required to share what each trait means to them and how to demonstrate the traits daily. Examples from the honeycombs include: Respect is treating other people the way you want to be treated. Kindness is doing something nice when no one expects it. Integrity is being honest and doing the right thing even if it is hard. Responsibility is not forgetting things or turning things in late. Acceptance is appreciating everyone for who they are. Perseverance is never giving up even if things are tough. Honeycombs were then connected together and displayed as hives outside of each classroom to represent our school unity. The project connected to the **Hornets Unite** and **Bee Your Best** murals created by the teachers in each building during their June and October inservices.



Week of Respect

During the **Week of Respect**, we learned many valuable lessons. Respect is about appreciating each others' differences because everyone is special in his or her own way. Our school counselors, Mrs. Lombardo and Mrs. Weston, reminded us that our words are powerful and that we should use them to promote positivity. We should think before we speak because words can be hurtful and if we say something mean, we can't take it back. We also learned that it is important to be an upstander, and to support each other.

"Chalk It Up" for Kindness

Chalk It Up for Kindness took place on Sunday, September 30th as a kick-off to our **Week of Respect**. Students, teachers, administrators, and families filled the sidewalks between the buildings with quotes displaying good character. These colorful messages inspired everyone in our school community to spread kindness. We are appreciative of the support we received and look forward to continuing the event next year.



Kindness Rocks

The **Kindness Rocks** project at Mickle was organized by Mrs. Benedetto and Mrs. Ligameri to allow students to express themselves through art and writing and to show that every student "rocks" in his or her own way. Every rock in our learning garden is as unique as the student who designed it. When students are in the learning garden, they will be inspired by the quotes written by their peers. Our kindness rocks show that we are all "individually unique, together complete."

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

Health & Wellness Night

The **East Greenwich Education Association** hosted its first **Health & Wellness Night** on October 4th. The evening was filled with a variety of activities that promoted fitness, nutrition, and living a healthy lifestyle. Stations were set up around the school and students and families received a raffle ticket for each station that they participated in. Participants were then entered into a drawing for items including footballs, jump ropes, yoga mats, weights, water bottles, and cook books. A special thank you to the families who joined us and for all of the teachers who volunteered at the event.



STEM Tank Challenge

On Wednesday, October 10th, the 6th-grade SOAR students came out...swimming at the first annual Axalta Summit Shark Tank style, STEM competition. The students worked to develop, demonstrate, and present a scientific way to create safer and shinier football helmets. Pitching their idea in front of a steep judging panel, the team blew the competition out of the water and earned a standing ovation from the audience. It was later announced that the students and teachers would be awarded \$1,000 from Axalta for the school. The amount was then matched by two other companies, Green Sports Alliance and NASCAR Green Innovation, bringing the total to \$3,000 dollars. The five students, Kate Clune, Makenzie Kunsaitis, Anna LaPalomanto, Natalie Ficarra, and Trevor Farrell, were also awarded free tickets to the Franklin Institute and a special invitation to the NASCAR Summit at the Pocono Raceway in July. The opportunity and event were splendid displays of both teacher and student collaboration. The sea of business professionals and engineers were hooked on the East Greenwich team from the first line cast out by the budding entrepreneurs!