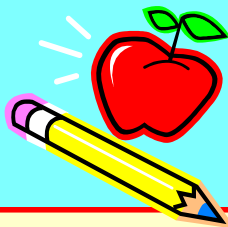




## Greenfield Elementary School



*Sandra Jay, Principal*

*Gail Finniss, Vice Principal*

*Amy Olscamp,  
Administrative Assistant*

# April 2017

## Dressing for the Season

Spring is trying to make an appearance and we welcome that. A change in seasons does have an effect on our school grounds and, unfortunately, we will have wet and muddy areas. Our children need to be dressed for these conditions – rubber boots, splash pants, proper coats. They may need to have hats and mittens until it is much warmer. We do encourage that children stay away from messy areas but sometimes they do find themselves there. It is a good idea to have an extra pair of socks in their school bag.

Thank you for your help with this!

## Triple P Positive Parenting Program

Stepping Stones & Group Triple P is being offered by Family Place, 75 Central Street, Summerside, Tuesday, April 25—May 23 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Some days can feel like a battle from breakfast to bedtime. Some days everyone needs a helping hand. That's where Triple P can help. Triple P is a Positive Parenting Program. It's designed to provide practical help that makes raising children easier. Triple P gives you support and helps you manage your child's behaviour. Triple P helps to prevent the problems that make family life stressful.

Group Triple P is for all families and Stepping Stones is appropriate for families with special needs children.

For more information and to register, drop in to **Family Place**, call 436-1348 or [familyplace@eastlink.ca](mailto:familyplace@eastlink.ca). Register on line: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/triple-p-parenting-program-tickets-33435527563?aff=es2>

## Important Dates

### April 7 – 12<sup>th</sup>

Early Years Assessments

### April 14<sup>th</sup>

Good Friday – No school

### April 17<sup>th</sup>

Easter Monday – No School

### April 28<sup>th</sup>

Professional Learning Day – No school

## Heritage Fair

Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 are busy getting ready for Greenfield's Heritage Fair on **April 12**. Judging will take place in the library during the day. We hope to notify all winners before the end of that day. We are able to send eight projects to the Provincial Heritage Fair on May 4<sup>th</sup> in Charlottetown. Unfortunately only Grade 5 and 6 students are able to participate in the Provincial Heritage Fair.

Projects will be on display in the library after school on April 12<sup>th</sup> if parents wish to drop in to view them.

## News from the Gym

Our Greenfield badminton team has been selected. **Girls Singles Team:** Kristyn Taylor, Maddy Keough, Bridget Philpott. **Girls Doubles:** Kristyn Taylor and Maddy Keough, Bridget Philpott and Jayme Gallant, Faith Echlin and Jacklyn MacMillian. **Boys Singles:** Ethan Gallant, Cole Atkinson, Tanton Wooldridge. **Boys Doubles:** Bennett Gallant and Ethan Gallant, Cole Atkinson and Brett MacAusland, MacKenzie DesRoches and Ethan Steele.

Good luck at the Zone Qualifiers on April 12<sup>th</sup>!

## Counsellor's Corner

### *To Walk in Another's Shoes*

Our character trait for the month of April is empathy. It is also the greatest trait that's needed for peace between individuals and nations because it asks for understanding why a person is feeling the way they are; and, for many of us, empathy doesn't just happen. In particular, for children and adults whose learned experience is survival and their own needs. Empathy asks us to let that go and take a vulnerable leap outside of ourselves and experience the feelings of another from their point of view. It is in this place that real understanding of another can be found.

Harper Lee famously wrote in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." Empathy is that understanding. If empathy were a skill taught to children from a young age and developed throughout the years, fewer children would feel marginalized by their peers. When people receive empathy, they feel fully understood; they feel heard; they no longer feel isolated.

It can start with small efforts like recognizing when someone is having a difficult time and choosing to truly listen rather than jump to offer solutions or justifications. If your effort at empathy begins with, "At least it's not as bad as ....." or "You could try to .....", then you're actually offering sympathy. With sympathy, you can feel compassion, sorrow, or pity for the hardships that another person encounters (which is kind); but empathy is putting yourself in the shoes of another and understanding why they are feeling the way they are feeling. And, isn't that what we're all looking for....a little understanding.

At Greenfield, empathy is also known as "perspective taking". A good place for parents to start teaching empathy at home is to complement our classroom efforts where we teach our students about emotions and using words to describe feelings. Children can't empathize with what others are feeling if they don't know how to put words to their own emotions. As your child goes through his day, make sure to point out which emotions you see

him/her feel, and also which ones you're feeling. Example: "I see you're disappointed that there was only one cookie left." "Mommy felt anxious right there when the car didn't start." No child is too young to start hearing emotion words and learning what they mean. Emotions to words is the beginning of empathy.

## 🎵 Music News

### Music Monday Celebration - May 1<sup>st</sup> 🎸 🎹

Our Greenfield Peace Chorus and Ukulele Group will attend this nation-wide full day event to celebrate Music Monday in Charlottetown. Information will be sent home shortly to start organizing the event! Here are the music YouTube links to the pieces:

- Music Monday 2017 song -Sing it Together ( [musicmonday.ca](http://musicmonday.ca) ) Scroll down and you will see the You Tube link.
- Music Makes Me:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyIywJAMdI4>
- Chantez Alleluia!:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0BxStYQA6M>

We have a very short time to master all three pieces so practice at home will be very important!

### Wee Gator Spring Concert 🎵

Our younger grades will present:

*The Littlest Brown Tulip Bulb* 🌸 a simple dramatization with creative movement, song, storytelling, **and instruments!**

**GRADES:** Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 plus the Wee Gator Adventure Group

**WHEN:** Friday, May 19th at 1:15 pm

**COSTUMES:** Black long sleeved top and black bottoms (Children will wear special school-made extras to become their part in the play! If you do not have black items, please borrow if possible! Thank you!

## Quote of the Month

**"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.**

Mya Angelou