

GOLDEN EARS ELEMENTARY

February Newsletter



Sometimes the Answer is “No”



Telling children “no” is easier said than done. Kids are very resourceful and we have taught them to question and then assert their point of view. They are learning about social justice and developing a sense of what is fair and unfair for themselves and others. However, it is important for children to also develop boundaries, morals, resilience and empathy. Saying “no” can teach them more than giving them what they think they need or want. Here’s what “no” teaches children:

- **Establishing Boundaries:** Saying "no" helps set limits on behavior, what is acceptable and what is not. This helps create a sense of structure and security for children.
- **Safety:** to protect children from harm.
- **Teaching Values:** It helps children learn right from wrong, ethical behaviour, empathy, and respect for others.

- **Learning Self-Discipline:** “No” teaches children that they can't always get what they want, and they need to learn patience and delayed gratification.
- **Social Skills:** Saying “no” helps children learn to consider others' feelings and needs, fostering better relationships with peers and adults.
- **Preventing Entitlement:** Constantly giving in to a child's desires without saying "no" can lead to entitlement. It's important for children to understand that they won't always get their way and that cooperation and compromise are essential parts of life
- **Setting Expectations:** Saying "no" helps establish clear expectations for behavior. Consistency in enforcing rules and boundaries provides a stable and predictable environment, which contributes to a child's overall well-being.

Telling your children “no” and sticking to it can be challenging but let me reassure you,

- You are not the worst parent ever.
- Not everybody else's parents lets their child do or have what they want.
- And you are definitely not ruining their lives.

As the adults, we need to help children tolerate then accept that sometimes, the answer is “no.” If they try to convince you that you are the “worst parent ever,” stay strong. I’ve got your back.

By Mrs. Brandon



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Mark your Calendars:

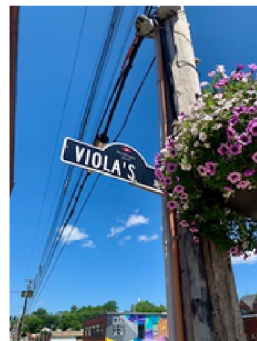
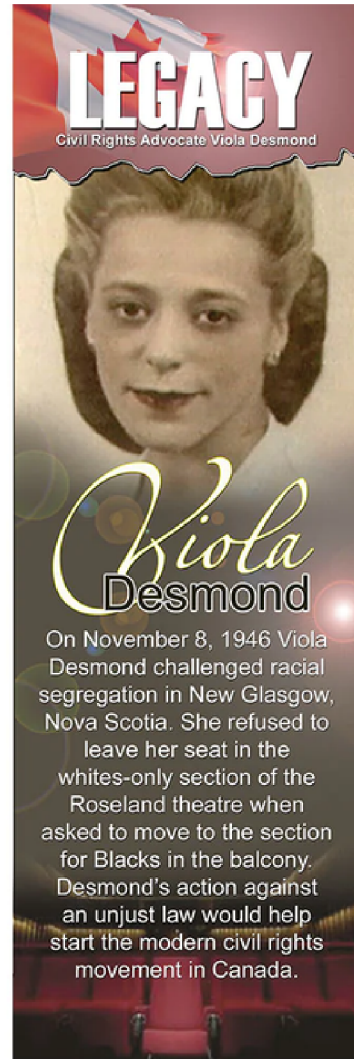
- Feb 9 Lunar New Year Parade
- Feb 13 Grade 7 Bottle Donation (after school)
- Feb 14 Late French Immersion registration
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 14 International Book Giving Day
- Feb 14 Love Your School Library Day
- Feb 15 Term 2 Conference times open
- Feb 15 Grade 7 Bottle Donation (after school)
- Feb 19 Family Day Stat.
- Feb 20 NID; School-based
- Feb 21 PAC Snack Day (Booster Juice)
- Feb 21-27 No Name-Calling Week
- Feb 22 Grade 7 Bottle Donation (after school)
- Feb 25 Grade 7 Bottle Drive (Haney Bottle Depot)
- Feb 27 PAC Meeting (6:30)
- Feb 28 Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 29 Leap Day!

TERM 2 CONFERENCES

Our Term 2 conferences are scheduled for March 7 and 8th, 2024. Teachers will release their conference schedules on February 15th so parents/guardians can schedule their time. It is a parental responsibility to participate in conferences to celebrate your child's learning, plan how to support their learning and setting goals for Term 3. If you can't attend during the times your child's teacher provides, please contact them directly to discuss options.

CELEBRATING BLACK CANADIANS

Last summer, my husband and I went to Nova Scotia and stopped to explore a town called New Glasgow. While exploring, we came across a little street called "Viola's Way." The street walls proudly displayed artwork and information about Viola Desmond's courageous stand against racism in 1946. Viola was arrested for sitting in the "whites only" section of the theatre and refusing to move. Sadly, many People of Colour, including Black Canadians, experience acts of racism today. It is up to all of us to take a stand against racism. Celebrating Black brilliance is one way to counter discrimination.



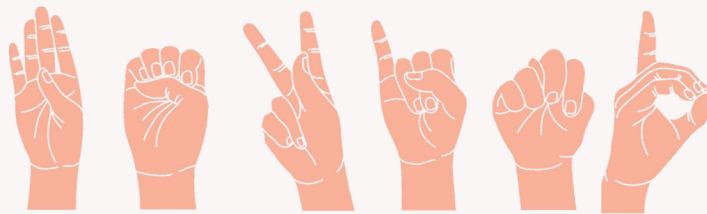
Picking Your Child Up Early

From time to time, children need to be picked up early from school to attend appointments. Recently, we have had a significant increase in last minute requests which are having an impact on our classrooms and office staff. Moving forward, you can help us by adhering to the following:

1. Parents/guardians need to contact their child's classroom teacher (either via email or note in a planner etc) the day before. Please include the time you need to pick your child up so the teacher can send them to the office to wait for you and be signed out.
2. If you need to pick up your child on short notice, please contact the office **30 minutes before** you plan to arrive and we will do our best to have your child at the office for pick up.

Please note that it is extremely difficult for us to call children inside once they are outside at recess and lunch. These are not good pick up times.

Following these procedures will help us protect the learning environments of our classrooms by minimizing interruptions.



PINK SHIRT DAY-FEBRUARY 28TH

Pink Shirt Day is a day dedicated to raising awareness about bullying and promoting kindness and inclusivity. It originated in Canada in 2007 when a group of students organized a protest in support of a fellow student who was bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. In response, the organizers distributed pink shirts to classmates, and the movement has since grown into an annual event.



Registration, Transfers and Withdrawal Requests

- Kindergarten registration for children who will turn 5 on or before December 31, 2024 is now open.
- Registration for our Late French Immersion opens at noon on February 14.
- Information on the transfer process and dates for movement between schools in School District 42 can be seen at: <https://www.sd42.ca/student-registration/>

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, TAKE CARE OF OTHERS, TAKE CARE OF OUR SCHOOL