

# February Newsletter

## Why We Celebrate Diversity

Teaching children about diversity is essential in today's world. It helps them understand and appreciate differences in race, culture, language, abilities, gender, and more. When children grow up embracing diversity, they become more empathetic, open-minded, and inclusive individuals.

Here's why it's important to celebrate diversity:

### 1. Promotes Respect & Empathy

- Learning about different cultures and backgrounds helps kids respect others.
- It encourages kindness and reduces bullying or discrimination.
- Empathy allows children to understand different perspectives, making them better friends and classmates.

### 2. Prepares Kids for a Diverse World

- The world is multicultural, and children will interact with people from different backgrounds.
- Teaching diversity helps kids become global citizens who can work and communicate with people from all walks of life.
- It builds skills for success in school, friendships, and future workplaces.

### 3. Reduces Stereotypes & Prejudice

- Kids aren't born with biases; they learn them.
- Early exposure to diversity helps break stereotypes and prevents discrimination.
- It teaches kids to see individuals, not labels.

### 4. Encourages Inclusion & Friendship

- When kids learn about diversity, they're more likely to include others who are different from them.
- It creates a sense of belonging for children from all backgrounds.
- They learn that everyone deserves kindness.

### 5. Boosts Creativity & Critical Thinking

- Exposure to different cultures, traditions, and ideas expands children's minds.
- It encourages curiosity, helping kids think critically about the world.
- Diverse perspectives inspire new ways of thinking and problem-solving.

### 6. Builds Stronger Communities

- A society that values diversity is more peaceful and united.
- Teaching kids about diversity creates future leaders who promote justice and equality.
- It encourages teamwork and cooperation, essential for strong communities.

# FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Why We Celebrate Diversity Cont'd

Teaching kids about diversity isn't just about tolerance—it's about celebration, acceptance and inclusion. It helps children grow into kind, thoughtful, and understanding individuals who make the world a better and more accepting place.

Here are some ways you can teach your child about celebrating diversity at home:

- Read diverse books (stories with characters from different backgrounds).
- Watch educational videos about cultures, disabilities, or traditions.
- Learn about different holidays and observances.
- Encourage open conversations about race, gender, and inclusion.
- Expose kids to different languages and music from around the world.

It is all of our responsibility to create, model and foster the community we want to live in and that we want for our children. There isn't a finite amount of kindness available to give or receive; spread kindness to everyone and it will find its way back to you.

Kind regards,  
Laura Brandon  
Principal/Directrice



## Mark your Calendars

- Feb 4 LFI Parent info Session for 2025-26  
7:00 pm in our school library
- Feb 5 Global Play Day
- Feb 5 PAC Hot Lunch
- Feb 6 Gr 7 Leaving Parent Meeting (6:30)
- Feb 12 Gr 6 LFI Registration opens at noon
- Feb 13 PAC Valentine's Cookies
- Feb 13 International Book Giving Day
- Feb 13 Love Your School Library Day
- Feb 13 Term 2 Conference times released
- Feb 14 Non Instructional Day
- Feb 17 Family Day Stat.
- Feb 18 PAC Meeting (8:45 a.m.)
- Feb 19 PAC Hot Lunch
- Feb 20 Monthly Assembly-Love
- Feb 26 Pink Shirt Day (wear pink)

## TERM 2 CONFERENCES

Our Term 2 conferences are scheduled for March 6th and 7th, 2025. Teachers will release their conference schedules on February 13th 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 set goals for Term 3. If you can't attend during the times your child's teacher provides, please contact them directly to discuss options.

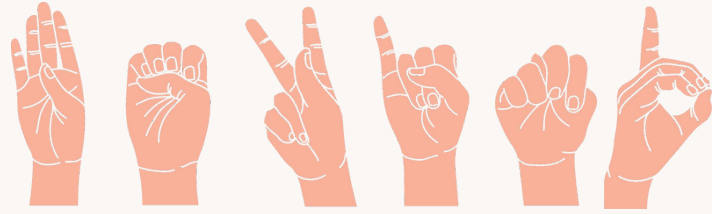
# Picking Your Child Up Early

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 26TH

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 Withdrawl Requests

- Kindergarten registration for children who will turn 5 on or before December 31, 2025 is now open.
- Transfers to grade 8 for current grade 7 students opens February 11th.
- Registration for our Late French Immersion opens at noon on February 12.
- 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**