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From: LeBlanc, Amanda
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 3:08 PM
Subject: International Day of Pink at MLPS

Dear Maple Leaf Families

Today Maple Leaf PS continued our celebration Day of Pink with an assembly. Our Student Leadership Team have been planning this for some time now and their planning and practice certainly showed as it was a tremendous assembly. (Thanks to all for being so kind when reminding us we had selected the day after International Day of Pink for our assembly.)

Student Leadership Team members anchored the performances, poem reading and videos with poignant reflection and bullying prevention messages. We started with **What Is Bullying** <https://youtu.be/zUAbAKee0Cw>. The Choir sang "I Have a Voice" so beautifully that there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Their song and "This is Me" sung by Rebecca reinforced the messages that every one of us has a voice to stand up to bullying and to be accepted as we are.

Students were reminded about the **WITS** steps they can take when bullying happens: **W**alk away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it out, **S**eek Help. The WITS acronym sounds so simple but we know it takes great character and bravery to follow through. Seeking help is important at school. Staff and Admin support, educate and document every incident that is brought to our attention.

The February pink shirt day slideshow reminded us of the kick off to our school-wide formal bullying prevention work, even though at MLPS we provide regular instruction and support all year around. (Please look back at the Bullying Prevention article included in our April News that went home last week.)

A large group of activist students displayed their signs for issues they feel strongly about for the upcoming Day of Silence. The **I Am Silent** campaign emphasizes the importance of taking a stand and standing up for people around our community and globally who are less privileged. You might want to check out this video We Day: United We Are One Voice <https://youtu.be/4mCWIAyIPfk>. On April 18th our students have asked to walk the track during morning recess at 10:40 a.m.. Any student who wishes to make a sign and walk in silence for 30 minutes is welcome to join in. We welcome families to sign in and join in silence with us.

Thanks to Mrs. Cochrane, Mrs. Kamienik, Ms. Gullins, Mrs. Park, Miss. Nigra and Mrs. Goverde and to all of our student speakers and performers. The assembly was captivating and clearly important to all in the gym as everyone was fully engaged in the assembly from start to finish!

Well done Maple Leaf!

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Ask yourself: Have you been kind today?
Make kindness you daily modus operandi
And change your world. Annie Lenox

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