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Mr. Martin Van Beek, Trustee (905) 830-6776

The Character Trait for February is

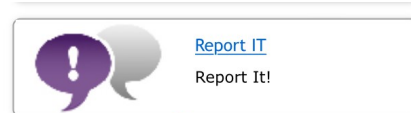
Initiative

We act without being prompted by others. We are eager to do what needs to be done without having to be told to do it. We take the first step towards the achievement of a goal.

On our school website you can find posted the February School Council Minutes. <http://mapleleaf.ps.yrdsb.ca>. You can also find other notices or announcements such as the announcement for the Anthony McLean Anti-bullying parent and caregiver session. The March 1st evening is sponsored by our Maple Leaf School Council Parents Reaching Grant. Free child-minding for this evening is being provided by Boys and Girls Clubs of York Region. Be sure to let us know if you plan to attend and if you need child-minding. Our students will be learning from Anthony McLean on February 27th.

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who took the time this month to respond to either our paper or electronic surveys. We have a small interest in a Breakfast Program and will let everyone know as soon as we are ready to begin. We are going to be reaching out to those community members who indicated that they would like to volunteer to help out with a school event or fundraising activity. We are looking for help for the Annual Spring Flower Sale and for the Spring Festival. The Festival was not able to run last school year due to the large scale construction at the school but this is not an impediment this Spring. The goal of this event is bring together the community and plan for the kids to have some fun. In order for the event to run, community volunteers will be needed. If you would like to lend a hand, please let any of our Council members know or give us a call or email at the school.

If you have been reading our newsletters over the last year or so, you will know that our school focus is to ensure that every student at Maple Leaf feels “welcome, worthy and safe”. We have engaged in many activities here with all students to communicate our Code of Conduct, address problems as they arise and to engage the community in this work with us. The Anthony McLean performances are one example of our ongoing work. We know that bullying happens in all schools and at Maple Leaf we address every report seriously. Students are encouraged to tell a trusted adult at school or at home so that we can work together to sensitively stop the bullying from continuing. Reporting can also be done anonymously at the www.yrdsb.ca by clicking on the Report IT button.



Also in February we were fortunate to have students experience “The Secret Life of Riley” an interactive musical performance about a young girl who begins to feel ill right around the time she is supposed to give a big speech. The story helped our students to understand what anxiety can look like and feel like and showed some strategies to help quell anxious feelings. Thanks to Ms. Kimber for organizing that event.

Be sure to keep an eye on our School Community Calendar which is found on our school website homepage. Our next Character Assembly is February 27th and begins right after morning attendance and announcements. Feel welcome to join us.

Summer Institute Looking for summer learning and fun activities for students entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8? Summer Institute offers academic, recreational and athletic programs and activities with intentional links to the Ontario Curriculum. The program runs for six weeks during July and August. It is offered at 11 school sites around York Region, including right here at Maple Leaf. For more information on dates, programs and locations, please visit the Summer Institute page on www.yrdsb.ca. Registration opens March 7. Families can now register online, as well as in person or by mail.

Contribute to Strategic Planning at YRDSB - Upcoming Town Halls York Region District School Board is revising its Multi-Year Plan (MYP) and Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting the strategic direction of public education in York Region public schools. The MYP incorporates the direction established by the Trustees with feedback received from all stakeholders, and will inform decision making at the Board in the years to come. Town halls will be taking place across the region and feedback collected from families and community members will inform the creation of a new MYP. Your voice is important and your input and feedback will help York Region District School Board support student achievement and well-being. There will also be other opportunities, including a survey available in April, to share your thoughts if you are unable to attend a town hall. Sunday, April 22, 2018, 2 - 4 p.m. at Sir William Mulock Secondary School, 705 Columbus Way, Newmarket, and Monday, April 16, 2018, 7 - 9 p.m., Keswick High School, 100 Biscayne Blvd., Keswick.

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