CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT:

MRS. JAEKE, 1ST GRADE

The first graders in Mrs. Jaeke’s class are off to a great start this year. We have learned what a super reader looks like, sounds like, and acts like. Ask your super reader all about it! We have also been working very hard in math with our new Go Math series. We’ve already learned to add and subtract! This class currently has 7 out of the 10 needed “All Class” awards for a class party. There are smiles on all our faces and we are doing a superb job of keeping our dear teacher happy!! Stop by anytime to see learning and fun happening in room 11.

Dismissal Notes / Early Check-Out

If you have a change in directions for your child’s dismissal, please make sure your student is aware of these changes before the start of the school day. When we get calls at the end of the day, it is difficult and not always possible to get the message to your child and teacher. All calls to the office regarding dismissal changes should be made prior to 3:00 PM.

If you are picking up a student for a doctor, dental or other appointments, please do not call ahead and request the student to be waiting in the office. Minutes missed from class are lost instructional time. Please allot yourself plenty of time to pick up students in case you are held up in traffic. The student will be called to the office once the parent is in the building and has signed the student out.
Bullying Prevention and Reporting

Many children face bullying each day and believe that adults can’t or won’t help. They also worry that reporting bullying is the same as tattling. Research shows that bullying can be reduced greatly, but only when the whole school (staff, students and parents) works together. Steps to Respect: A Bullying Prevention Program is one of the ways to do that. The primary goal of our school wide program is to help create a safe, caring, respectful learning environment in which bullying is not tolerated. This program is being taught in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classrooms.

The Steps to Respect program defines bullying as “unfair and one-sided. It happens when someone keeps hurting, frightening, threatening, or leaving someone out on purpose.” Social bullying includes things like put-downs, rumors, verbal threats, gossip, hurtful graffiti, and being excluded from groups.

Your child is learning through classroom group guidance lessons with the counselor to recognize bullying, and if it is safe, to refuse the bullying by speaking out assertively. They have learned to seek an adult’s help immediately if:

- They are someone else is in danger.
- Someone is touching or showing private body parts.
- Refusing bullying doesn’t work.

One of the best preventions of bullying is through friendships. Friendship plays a powerful role in preventing bullying and protecting children from the effects of bullying. Children with at least one friend are less likely to be bullied once it has occurred. Children without healthy friendships don’t seem to do as well academically.

Parents can help students practice Steps to Respect skills with the following ideas:

1. Increase your child’s awareness by pointing out the use of put-downs, rumors, and gossip you notice in TV programs. Discuss how these things affect the character in the story.
2. Help your child think of effective, respectful ways to block put-downs, rumors, and gossip. For example:
   - “I don’t like rumors.”
   - “That sounds like a put-down to me.”
   - “That sounds like something you should talk about with the person involved.”
3. Have your child practice responding assertively to bullying. Effective behaviors include remaining cool and calm, standing or sitting tall, looking directly at the person, and speaking in a respectful, strong, clear voice.

As a parent, you can support our schools bullying protection program by reinforcing what your child is learning by doing the following at home:

- Assure your child that adults will try to help.
- Discuss the importance of reporting any touching or showing of private body parts.
- Talk about how he can help keep other students safe by reporting bullying.
- Ask her how things are going with classmates. This will help encourage her to talk with you as concerns come up.

Do you shop at HyVee? This year the Boyd Robotics program will be participating in the Hy-Vee CASH for STUDENTS program. Send in your HyVee receipts and turn them into the bucket by the office to help us raise money to buy parts and attend competitions. Go Boyd Bots!