



# PAW PRINTS

<http://bayridgeps.limestone.on.ca>

Twitter: BayridgePS\_LDSB

March 2017

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## In Memorium

A former student, Ethan Bulhao, passed away on Wednesday February 15. Ethan was a highly respected student who left an academic and athletic legacy at Bayridge Public School. In his grade 8 year he was elected Valedictorian. His family, friends and all of us at Bayridge will miss Ethan. A donation has been made to the Addison's Society in his name.

## Respect Yourself: Self Assessment

As you all know at Bayridge Public School we are all about respect: yourselves, each other and the school!

Respect does start with each of us, how we feel about ourselves and how we conduct ourselves. This month we are going to focus on self-assessment. This is timely, coinciding with the receipt of the first report card and on the feedback that it contains.

Undoubtedly, there will be areas to celebrate. Students have been working hard and have excelled in many areas.

Teachers are also required to include next steps on the report card. Between areas where the grades may not be in line with students' abilities or where there are identified next steps, there will be things to work on. Take time to look carefully at the report card with your child (ren) and agree to some next steps that they can work on at school and that you can support with at home.

Self-assessment is identified as one of the seven fundamental principles of assessment in Growing Success, the Ministry of Education's document on Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting. This document can be found on the Ministry of Education website:

[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca).

To ensure that assessment, evaluation, and reporting are valid and reliable, and that they lead to the improvement of learning for all students, teachers use practices and procedures that:

- Develop students' self assessment skills to enable them to assess their own learning, set specific goals, and plan next steps for learning

Self-Assessment is one of the three pathways for success including teacher and peer assessment.

Self-Assessment places the primary responsibility for learning with the learner. The teacher clearly outlines the success criteria for any given learning goal and provides descriptive feedback to enable the student to meet the learning goal. Students are increasingly able to set short and long-term goals for their learning.

Teachers will model what self-assessment looks like, give students guided opportunities to practice self-assessment and ultimately allow students to do independent assessments of their work. These skills will lead to the ability of students to become more and more independent as they move through elementary and secondary school and into whatever post-secondary pathway that they choose.

Please help us by reviewing the report card with your child (ren) and help them self assess: set goals and move forward in their learning!

### **School Council**

Next coffee morning: March 22, 2017

Next meeting: March 28 6:00 pm

Next JP Speaker: March 1, 2017 Addictions and Mental Health Services speaker

Skate Night @ Center 70 March 4 6-7 pm

Spring Fling: May 25 evening (details to follow)

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Families are encouraged to register their children for Kindergarten as soon as possible.

Children have to be 4 years old by December 31, 2017. Early registration ensures that you receive an invitation to our Welcome to Kindergarten evening and that we can make plans for support if your child has any special needs.

### **Welcome to Kindergarten May 23**

5:30-6:30 pm

Join us for a tour of the school, a visit to Kindergarten classrooms and to meet the teachers and Early Childhood Educators!

Our **Me to We** Syrian Research group shared their learning with the school at the January and February Assemblies. Through their falafel fundraiser, they also raised \$250 to donate to Kingston Syrian Newcomers.

**Food Policy:** We had been doing very well with our new food policy; when Valentine's Day came, there were a number of food items that were sent to school. Unfortunately, the response to this was varied in different classrooms and so across the school there were some inconsistencies. We apologize for that. Please be advised that as noted here in the food policy, that we ask that no food be sent to school to be shared with others. Thank you for helping us to assure a safe and respectful environment for all.

*"We have changed our food policy at the school. After consulting with School Council and staff, as well as asking for feedback in the newsletter, we have decided to move forward with a policy where no food comes in to the school from families other than what is in each child's lunch kit. We have many students in the school with serious/life-threatening allergies. As a result, we have many classrooms that are "aware" of these restrictions. When treats or other foods come in to the school, these children are at risk. They also are excluded from participating in the treat. We also have many students who have cultural dietary restrictions. Please do not send food/treats of any kind. "*

### **Poem Award**

Emmett Morgan won a contest for his poem and the poem will be published in a book by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater called: How Poetry Teaches Us To Write Well In All Genres.

### **The World Is So Big**

The world is so big.  
There is lots to see and do.  
More people to meet...  
New friends to make...  
things to learn...  
and emotions to feel.  
You won't always get along  
With people you know and will know  
But when in doubt  
Just remember...  
The world is so big.

### **Nunavut Chili Night Fundraiser**

Our Nunavut Exchange Group held a chili night to raise funds for their exchange. A slide show of the students' research about Nunavut was shown. Thanks to Mrs. Burrows for organizing such an amazing event. There were games for children including building tiny inukshuks! Thanks to everyone who helped organize, made chili, set-up, cleaned up or came to enjoy!