

From the Principal  
12-4-06

### **'Tis the Season for CARING**

Our students ended the month of November on a respectful note. Thursday, November 30th was declared Day of Respect #2. On this day, students were asked to show their usual respect for each other, but at the end of the day, each classroom would conduct a survey to determine if students recognized when and how an act of respect was made toward them. The goal of this activity was to determine if our students understood not only how to be respectful, but to recognize when they were respected throughout the course of a day.

The staff was pleasantly surprised. Once the surveys were submitted, we discovered that indeed from Kindergarten through Grade Six, Springer students recognize when they are being respected. Comments on the survey included:

- I was asked if I wanted to sit with someone at lunch. I felt included.
- My friend waits for me after school so we can walk home together.
- My friend helps me when I need it. I don't have to ask for it.
- Someone came and invited me to play.
- When I had my scooter, I couldn't carry my backpack, so my friend rolled my scooter for me.
- When I was feeling kind of lonely at lunch, one of my friends cheered me up. We just talked.

These results, and a great deal more, were shared at our Friday flag assembly. I spent some time commending our students on the results of the Respect Survey.

Following our Respect Survey discussion, the Lifeskill for December was introduced. CARING is our December Lifeskill. During the conclusion of our assembly, I do believe the students received a meaningful message based upon a story entitled The Seashore. I do not think any students missed the message from the story based upon the popular ending line which stated, "made a difference to that one."

We move forward into December with goals of caring for all at Springer. The response from our students to The Gift of Reading Program certainly illustrates we are well on our way to a successful month.

#### More Surveys

The Los Altos District Curriculum Council is identifying its focus for research, discussion, and analysis for the 2006-2007 school year. Two areas have surfaced for this year's work: homework and report cards. To gather parent input, we have developed a survey that parents are invited to take. If interested in providing input log on:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=733832949518>