

Community Connector

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I Just Don't Get No Respect!

When comedian Rodney Dangerfield coined the phrase, "I just don't get no respect", I doubt he realized the significance and popularity it would generate over the years. It personally reminds me of an ongoing issue we have been having with student behaviour at Milton Christian School, particularly as it relates to the area of respect. The characteristic of respect has been an ongoing challenge, and I would like to encourage and inform parents, teachers and students of the valuable need for respect at Milton Christian School, in three main areas.

1. **Respect for our Building**—MCS has been significantly blessed to use the facilities of Southside Community Church. Our daily habits reflect who we are as a community and a school, and cleanliness, order and noise volume have been significant areas of student misconduct.
2. **Respect for Teachers and Adults**—The Biblical lesson to be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry has been an ongoing challenge, and students must learn to respect authority. Please speak to your children about respecting authority figures.
3. **Respect for Each Other**—The level of respect and encouragement peers share with peers has been a significant challenge. We are encouraging BETOA—Be Encouraging To Others Always.

With these in mind I would like to introduce a revised code of conduct for Milton Christian School.

OUR STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Christian school community, we want our behavior and conduct to be guided by Jesus' command to love God above all and our neighbors as ourselves. Specifically, students are reminded to follow the Student Code of Conduct.

MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- I will speak of God in respectful ways.
- I will respect Bible reading, prayer, sharing and other habits that build relationship with God.
- I will respect myself because God created me in His image.

MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE IN AUTHORITY

- I will be respectful in my speech and conduct.
- I will be obedient to those in authority over me.
- I will not condone disrespect displayed by others to those in authority.

MY RELATIONSHIP TO OTHERS

- I will be respectful of others and I will not engage in bullying actively or as a bystander.
- I will address everyone properly and not resort to name calling, swearing or dirty language towards others.
- I will respect everyone's property and use it only with permission.
- I will encourage everyone to feel included.
- I will respect everyone's person and remember, "no touching except for helping."
- I will learn to apologize when I fail, and seek God's strength to continue building a community of love and respect.

MY RELATIONSHIP TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

- I will respect school property. This includes furniture, books, equipment and building.
- I will report any damage done and volunteer to pay for damages if I am responsible.
- I will accept responsibility for the cleanliness of the school and grounds.

Principal Van Slingerland



MCS Announcements

2011/2012

Adolescent Bullying

At Milton Christian School we believe that every child is made in the image of God, and has infinite dignity, worth and value. Each child has a unique God given package of gifts, abilities and talents. Our board and staff are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for each child to develop in all aspects of his/her life, including spiritual, intellectual, physical, social or emotional.

Programs:

A School Climate Approach to Bullying Prevention

The Protectors – A Bullying Prevention Program—www.theprotectors.org

What Is Bullying?

- Bullying involves a power imbalance in which the child doing the bullying has more power, due to such factors as age, size, support of the peer group or higher status.
- Bullying is usually a repeated activity in which a particular child is singled out more than once and often in a chronic manner.
- Bullying is carried out with an intent to harm the child.
- Bullying includes physical aggression, verbal insults, the spreading of malicious rumors or gossip and threats of exclusion from the peer group.

Prevalence Rates

- More prevalent during late elementary through middle school years (grades 4-8).
- Reaches a peak in grades 6-8.
- Equally prevalent in males and females; however, the act of bullying is notably different.
- Students view teasing as the most common form of bullying.

Types Of Bullying

- Verbal
- Physical
- Relational

Who Is Involved?

- The child who bullies.
- The child who is bullied.
- The child who observes bullying.

“Working Together”

- Intended to raise awareness on a prolonged basis.
- Provides ongoing education and resources.
- Classroom presentations for all grade levels.
- Parent presentations.
- Staff presentations.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

LORD,

Make me a channel of Thy peace, that where there is hatred,
I may bring love; that where there is wrong,
I may bring the spirit of forgiveness; that where there is discord,
I may bring harmony;



MCS Announcements 2011/2012

M.C.E.A Board Announcement—The M.C.E.A. desires to recruit new people interested in serving in a volunteer capacity. If interested please contact Principal Van Slingerland. The Board of Directors are pleased to announce that they look forward to presenting the results of the Capital Campaign Study at the next members meeting on November 21st.

Important Dates:

October 27th, 28th, 2011—MCS Professional Development days. MCS will be closed as its staff participate in the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools Conference.

October 31, 2011—The PreK, JK, SK and grade 5,6 classes have won a pizza party for this day.

November 11, 2011—Grades 1-8 will be attending Remembrance Service at the Evergreen Cemetery at 11am.

November 21st, 2011—7:00pm—Milton Christian Education Association members meeting. Everyone is invited!

Operation Christmas Child—Brochures are attached with this newsletter in regards to Operation Christmas Child. This is an awesome opportunity to teach our children to be generous to the needy children of the world by filling a shoe box with gifts. Details to come!

School Attendance/Late Policy – It is important that students arrive before and are prepared to begin class at 8:30am. Many students are arriving right at 8:30am or later.

Volunteers Needed

MCS is looking for volunteers to be involved in a number of areas. Whether it is helping with yard duty, future Christmas plays, chapel services, sports, etc—There is a place for you! Call the school and ask the Principal for details.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blessings to you!

Principal Van Slingerland



Milton Christian School
Mr. Mike Van Slingerland, Principal
7480 Derry Road
Milton, ON L9T 7H6
905-878-0550
principal@miltonchristianschool.com