

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 19, 2017

Gary Sabol
360-618-6217

Eagle Creek Elementary's Great Kindness Challenge encourages community to spread kindness

ARLINGTON- Eagle Creek Elementary's Great Kindness Challenge kicks off next week to coincide with the national movement but students are already getting prepared for the event. A checklist with 50 acts of kindness has been sent home with students for them to complete as many kindness acts as possible. Student leaders who are part of the Respect Team have been working on banners and pennants for the event.

The Great Kindness Challenge is a national movement designed to increase tolerance, unity and respect. More than 11,000 schools across the country are involved in the event. During the week of Jan. 23-27, district office staff, city representatives and community members will greet Eagle Creek students as they arrive at school. Activities during the day include writing letters to local hospital patients, thank you letters to teachers, cleaning up the playground and a book swap.

"The idea behind the event is to be kind to everyone you meet," said fifth-grader Dallas Miller. "But it's not just being kind for one week. It's being kind for the whole year."

Eagle Creek has held several spirit weeks with kindness as a focus but this is the first time the initiative has gone beyond the school building. Students are making kindness banners to give to local businesses and representatives from Arlington Public Schools, the city of Arlington, Arlington Police and Fire and the local airport will be involved with the events next week. Kindness pennants are also being sent to other schools.

“We want to show students that spreading kindness throughout the whole community is important, not just in our building,” said Colene Jablonski, Eagle Creek counselor and organizer of the event. “We feel that by having kindness posters displayed in local businesses and organizations, it is a way for the students to reach out to the community and bring awareness to all that being kind to each other does matter.”

#



Eagle Creek Elementary Respect Team members spell the word “Kind” on a fence near their school for the Great Kindness Challenge, Jan. 23-27.