

September 21, 2018

Hello Thornton Families,

This week saw Thornton's Culture of Peace recognized by the ME to We foundation and the local media for their efforts to develop student leaders and for their efforts to raise awareness of issues of social justice. Click on the link to see our staff and students highlighted by CTV news <http://ctv.news/wG7zKIU>.

Thornton staff and students also attended the ME to We day in Toronto and heard from a variety of inspirational speakers and artists.

On Monday, Thornton was given an additional intermediate class by the Board which resulted in a significant amount of movement across grades 1 to 8. Additional staff had to be hired, timetables altered and students moved from their original class placements. The overall impact of the changes will mean that the student teacher ratio in the Junior and Intermediate divisions was significantly lowered. I appreciate that for some the transition to a new class may be difficult and staff will be working with those new students to their rooms to make the transition a smooth one.

The Cross-Country team competed in their first meet this past week and put forth an amazing effort. Our runners have continued to train at lunch three days a week and are looking forward to competing at the Thornton Thump on Wednesday. The Junior soccer team continues to practice in preparation for their first games this week as well. The Intermediate boys and girls volleyball teams are working hard with the girls winning their first match of the season. The Pop Rocks Choir began meeting this week as well. Please encourage your children to look for opportunities to get involved in the many activities that are offered here.

**On Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup>**, we encourage all students and staff to wear orange to honour the survivors of residential schools. This is an opportunity to join in the spirit of reconciliation and recognition of the impact the residential school system had on children and the generations that followed. **On Friday September 28<sup>th</sup>**, we have our annual Terry Fox Run. Please see the attached note that was also sent home. Thank you for supporting these opportunities to give back to our communities and recognize the importance of doing so.

**Our first SCC meeting is on Tuesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm.** All parents and guardians are welcome to attend, to give input, to plan and to assist with different events. Hope to see you there. The SCC has sent information home on the Farm Fresh fundraising event last week. Reminder that orders are due on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Durham District School Board - Student Success 7-12 Department, Durham Black Educators' Network, and Durham College – RISE Program are partnering to bring you a focused discussion for Grade 7-10 students and families. Together we present, ***VISIONS OF THE FUTURE, The Making of...*** **October 4, 2018 at Durham College – Oshawa Campus from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.**

The goal of this initiative is to welcome future black students to the college campus to familiarize themselves with a post-secondary environment discuss future pathway opportunities. The evening is the first of two events that will highlight racialized role models from the post-secondary environment and community at large in a variety of professions. Please see attached for further information.

Have a great weekend.

John Love

Principal