Weekly Update – November 8-12, 2010

Character in the Workplace Attribute for November: Courage
“The test of courage comes when we are in the minority. The test of tolerance comes when we are in the majority.” Ralph W. Sockman

Remembrance Day
All elementary and secondary schools throughout KPR will be recognizing Remembrance Day Thursday. Flags will fly at half-mast and students will participate in a moment of silence to honour and remember those who have served our country and died to protect our freedom. Many schools will have ceremonies to which parents and community members are invited, while others will have classes attending ceremonies at their local cenotaph, led by Royal Canadian Legion Branches.

Restorative Practice/Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
Restorative Practice Week/Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week will involve students in a variety of special activities across KPR next week. Poster campaigns, plays, daily announcements and other events will focus on acceptance, equity and anti-bullying. Details are available in the media release posted at www.kprschools.ca. In addition, staff can take advantage of a new, interactive website - http://restorativepracticeweek.wikispaces.com/ - which offers related curriculum connections for all grades.

KPR also is participating in a local attempt to set a new Guinness World Record for the highest number of circles in a week. A circle is a group of three or more people sitting together to build community, make connections between people, restore or build relationships, or repair harm. Schools are encouraged to register every time they form a circle during Restorative Practice Week, November 14-20. Registration for the world record attempt will go live November 14. For details and registration, please see http://restorativepracticesweekpeterborough.blogspot.com/

All interested staff and community members are also welcome to attend a series of workshops related to using restorative practice at home, at work and in the community. The workshops will take place November 16 and 17 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Peterborough CVS, and November 18 from 1-4 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Peterborough. The November 17 workshop will feature speaker Nadia McLean-Gagnon, a Whitby teacher and speaker whose extensive experience with restorative practice began after she was injured in an
act of vandalism. For details on restorative practice at KPR, please contact stan_baker@kprdsb.ca

Deepest sympathy
Sincere condolences are extended to the family, friends and all who knew Carol Faux (Elmhirst), occasional teacher with KPR, following her recent death. She will be deeply missed.

Coming events & opportunities
• Havelock Belmont PS and the YMCA are holding two courses - Be Safe Home Alone and Red Cross Babysitting Course – at the school on Saturday, November 27, from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For information and to register, please contact Heather Stephens at the YMCA, 705-748-9642 ext. 225, before November 19.
• The news media and community partners are invited to join in a celebration of community partnership in action, at the Grand Opening of the Otonabee Valley Family Hub on Monday, November 22 at 10 a.m. The Family Hub is located at Otonabee Valley PS. For information, please contact Mary McGee at 705-742-9773 ext. 2051, or mary_mcgee@kprdsb.ca.
• Nominations are open for the Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards. The awards recognize youth aged 6-17 who have made significant contributions to their community. Details are available at www.ocna.org/junior_citizen

Hats Off!
Congratulations and Hats Off! go to:
• all the employers throughout and beyond KPR who welcomed our Grade 9s into their workplaces for Take Our Kids to Work Day, November 3
• James Strath PS parent Chris Potter and teachers Jeff MacKay, Mary Adams and Margaret Monis, for organizing a Remembrance Day ceremony that is being posted on CBCnews.ca and accessed by Canadian troops serving overseas
• Courtice SS for raising $6,100 for the Terry Fox Foundation this year, S.T. Worden PS for raising over $1,938, John M. James PS for raising $970, Colborne PS for raising over $1,026, Prince of Wales PS for raising over $834, Percy Centennial PS for raising almost $309, Hillcrest PS for raising $2,050, and Kenner Intermediate School for raising almost $5,500
• R.F. Downey, Otonabee Valley, Westmount, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth and Prince of Wales Public Schools, for participating in Car-Free Wednesdays; the initiative encouraging students to
take active transportation to school is organized by Safe and Active Routes to School Peterborough

- East Northumberland SS students and community, for collecting donations of soccer and sports equipment for the children of Zambia
- the Armour Heights PS Social Justice Club, for initiating a school-wide collection of nonperishable food for Kawartha Food Share
- Port Hope HS teachers Sandy Fischl and Kristen Longley, for their presentation to a standing room only crowd of teachers at the OSSTF Tools and Toys Conference in Toronto
- the Millbrook South Cavan Me 2 We Club, for organizing a bake sale in support of UNICEF, and to the club’s staff advisors, Martha Siberry-Monti and Debra Falkenberg
- the Hastings PS We Day Crew, for working with the Hastings Youth Action Committee to organize a recycled clothing sale for December 4 at the Hastings Community Centre; the funds raised will support the school’s Adopt a Village project
- the 29 Kenner CVI students and staff members Janice Prentice, Russell Cook, Nancy Watson and Brady Young, who won first place in the annual short film festival at the Ontario Student Leadership Conference in Niagara Falls; the students won over $1,400 towards a leadership conference to be held later this year at the Youth Ontario Leadership Centre at Lake Couchiching
- KPR maintenance services manager Peter VanEssen, for finishing the Niagara Falls International Marathon in less than four hours
- North Cavan PS teacher Mark Hamel, who completed the Road2Hope marathon in Hamilton in under 3.5 hours, thus qualifying for the Boston Marathon
- Kawartha Heights PS, for working with Trent University to raise funds to assist Haiti through Free the Children’s Adopt a Village campaign; Free the Children speakers will visit the school November 25 at 9:30 a.m.
- Plainville PS students, staff and school council, whose work to naturalize an area adjacent to the school with native perennials and tallgrass was honoured with an award from the Willow Beach Field Naturalists.

Share your news! We welcome written submissions for future Weekly Updates and Hats Off! listings. Simply e-mail them to judy_malfara@kprdsb.ca