

Dear Parents/Guardians,

November 25, 2011

There are many exciting initiatives going on at Erin Public School. Our staff carefully selects co-instructional activities that enable students of all ages to gain awareness of their local and global community. To this end, we continue to be a Me to We school for the 2011-12 school year. Me to We is a social enterprise that is part of Free the Children.

Many schools in the Upper Grand District School Board are participating in the Me to We program. It's a great way to engage youth in activities that make a difference in the world. Since last February, forty of our students in grades 6-8 participated in the Me to We Days at the Kitchener Auditorium. They were treated to speakers like Craig and Marc Keilberger, Mia Farrow, Magic Johnson, Al Gore, Romeo Dallaire, Justin Bieber, a host of musicians, and many more. This year's Me to We day was on Nov. 16. Twenty-one Erin PS students attended the event and came back brimming with ideas to help change our world and serve those less fortunate.



Me to We Day on Nov.16, 2011 at the Kitchener Auditorium.



Marc and Craig Keilberger speaking to the youth.



Spencer sharing...



Magic Johnson sharing...

The following chart outline's our December Me to We events that our school will be participating in and will require your support:

Erin PS Initiative	Details	When
<b>Vow of Silence</b>	<p>One serious global issue that was raised on We day involved children around the world living in poverty, living in violent situations, and living without hope for the future. These are often children without a "voice" for making their world a better one. In honour of these countless children around the world, we (and other schools across North America) are going to take <b><u>a vow of silence for one hour</u></b>. We are asking everyone to bring in a toonie that day and the money will be entirely donated to Free The Children, the ME to WE charity. If \$10 can feed a child in Africa for an entire month, imagine what our \$1000 can do!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**Remember your \$2 on November 30<sup>th</sup>**</p>	<p><b><u>On Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:25-10:25a.m. as an entire school</u></b></p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> At our Character Education Assembly on Nov 29<sup>th</sup>, our ME to WE students will be explaining the significance behind the Vow of Silence. Our art club will be creating a banner for all of our students to sign to mark the occasion.</p>
<b>School Supply Shoe Boxes</b>	<p>We are asking every class to fill a SHOE BOX with donations of SCHOOL SUPPLIES in December to be sent overseas to needy areas. Donations can be sent into the school until December 16<sup>th</sup>. Teaching our children to be compassionate citizens is exciting and empowering!</p>	<p>**Remember, bring in your School Supply donations by <b><u>December 16<sup>th</sup></u></b> **</p>
<b>EWAG Hygiene Drive</b>	<p>Once again, Erin PS is participating in the EWAG Hygiene Drive to provide much needed hygiene items for families of need in our community. All students bringing in an item will receive a draw ticket for one of many excellent reading resources. Last year we gave away over \$300 worth of books to our students.</p>	<p>All through December there will be donation boxes set up in the front foyer. Please bring an item to donate on the night of our Christmas Open House, <b><u>Dec 13, 2011</u></b></p>
<b>Student Council Bake Sale</b>	<p>Also on the evening of our Christmas Open House, bring some loonies and toonies! Our student council will be having a bake sale in the front foyer area. Half of the proceeds will be going to Me to We and the other half to support Student Council activities.</p>	<p><b><u>Dec 13, 2011 from 6:00 to 7:30</u></b></p>

I am amazed at the level of engagement our student body is showing regarding making a difference in our community and globally. Thanks for nurturing this level of consciousness in your child. I am thrilled that they see their school as a place where they can learn about worldly issues and act in a manner to make a difference.

Thank you for your support and contribution to the Character Education of our students.

M. Zuk, principal

"An essential part of a happy, healthy life is being of service to others."  
~ Sue Pattom Thoele