## Dear Parents/Guardians,

As Student Connection at Holy Family, we do many fundraisers and campaigns throughout the school year to help support our community and spread our message of "Be the change!" with our peers. We thought it would be a good idea to remind everyone about what kind of difference we have made in the lives of our community during the first four months of the 2018/2019 school year.

The first campaign that we completed was WeWalkForTerry. We do this campaign to help our fellow classmates become aware of how many lives cancer can affect, both young and old. We definitely saw this with all the different colours of the ribbons around our school. We also did this campaign to inform HFA about Childhood Cancer by wearing gold/yellow and about Terry Fox, the man who lost his leg to cancer and attempted to run all the way across Canada to raise money for cancer research. At the end of September we gathered together as a school community and did the Terry Fox run. Everyone ran or walked around the track. We raised a total of \$1160.00, which we donated to cancer research.

We started out our WeScareHunger Campaign in early October. We were collecting non-perishable food items to support The Good Shepherd Food Bank. This campaign helped support families over Thanksgiving and before the Christmas holidays. Classes were challenged to bring in items to see their "can" go up on our wall tracker. We definitely caused the hunger monster to move down bit by bit throughout October until he was scared out of the school! By the end of October, we had collected 922 lbs of non-perishable food items to donate to the food bank.

Our November campaign was meant to promote literacy and to inspire young minds to become leaders, readers and lifelong learners. For one month, everyday after lunch, the whole school would D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) for 10 minutes or more. At the end of November, everyone had the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character to inspire their classmates and teachers to read a new book.

Not only did we promote literacy in November, but we also took part in the WeAreCalledToBeKind campaign. For a whole week, when people caught others being kind, they could nominate them into a draw for a chance to win a prize. This campaign helped promote positivity and uniqueness. It also helped create awareness of the power and impact of each other's words. This campaign helped kids realize that together, we can create a positive and friendlier place not only in school, but also online.

In December, Holy Family participated in the WeGive campaign. We were supporting the Alliston Lion's Club, My Sister's Place, and The Good Shepherd Food Bank. We collected 560 lbs of non-perishable food items, toys, books, hats, mitts, and scarves for approximately 130 families in our community to bring them a blessed Christmas season. This campaign helped children realize that they can make a small or big difference by helping those in need around our community, and because of everyone's contributions, a lot more families will have a better Christmas.

But of course, none of these campaigns would be possible without the help, support and generosity of the parents, students, and staff of Holy Family School. We appreciate the support you show in the campaigns here at Holy Family, and we look forward to seeing what the new year brings.

We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Sincerely, **Student Connection** Groce Shayla Olivia W