



# SOARING EAGLES NEWSLETTER

Empire Public School Newsletter



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

## Belonging at Empire

by Krista Mohr Beamish

Dear Eagles,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Empire! It's very true that "all are welcome here". As a staff team, we are working to foster a safe, inclusive space that honours the lived experiences of all of our students, their families and caregivers. We want all students and families to feel a sense of belonging at Empire.

How are we working to do this? Our staff are working hard each and every day to get to know our students, and to provide opportunities for our students to get to know each other. The more we know and understand each other, the better we can reflect our diversity in the curriculum and in all aspects of school life!

In an environment based on the principles of inclusive education, all students, parents, caregivers, and other members of the school community – regardless of ancestry, culture, ethnicity, sex, physical or intellectual ability, race, religion, creed, gender identity/expression, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or other factors – are **welcomed, included, treated fairly, and respected**. I am proud to share that Empire has a dedicated staff Equity and Inclusion team. This team meets regularly to share resources, discuss issues that pertain to equity and inclusion, and to plan events and activities within the school.

In an inclusive education system, ALL students see themselves reflected in the curriculum, their physical surroundings, and the broader environment, so that they can feel engaged in and empowered by their learning experiences. We are striving for this for all our Empire Eagles!

*"Diversity is not how we differ. Diversity is about embracing one another's uniqueness." - Ola Joseph*



# Let's Meet our 2021/2022 Newsletter Team



Hi I'm Ms. Gilmour and I'm so excited to be part of the newsletter team for the third year in a row. I love working at Empire Public School, meeting new students, helping out in classrooms and running some of our school clubs. Soar Eagles! I love working with the newsletter team and enjoy reading all of the great articles. In my spare time, I love painting, decorating, spending time with my family and jumping in the waves at the beach as often as I can.



Hi my name is Lily. I have been on the newsletter team for 2 years now. Last year I worked on jokes and riddles and this year I am working with Charlotte to try and end bullying and give advice.



Hi! My name is Maryam and it's my 3rd year on the newsletter team. I am in sixth grade in Room 9. I have one cat, one mom, one dad, one sister, and one brother. I am excited for the newsletter! I hope this year goes great!



Hi, my name is Vivian and this is my first year on the Empire Newsletter Team. Last year in the June edition I wrote an article on an interview with Martina Capriotti, a famous marine biologist, so I have a little experience of writing articles. I'm ecstatic to be back in school this year after so much online, and it's a pleasure to be part of this fantastic team. Common pastimes of mine include writing, reading, listening to podcasts, crafting, drawing, climbing, and exploring the outdoors during camping trips and other travels. I'm rather passionate about the environment, which is why I was assigned the environmental part of the newsletter along with my friend Amelia. I hope 2021 will be better than prior years, and that perhaps we'll find some peace in this pandemic pandemonium.



Hi, my name is Amelia and this is my first year on the newsletter team. I am incredibly passionate about the environment. In my spare time, I enjoy writing, reading, climbing trees, playing guitar, and rock climbing.



My name is Veera. I have one older brother. My favourite color is sky blue. And I have never had a pet, but if I could choose a pet it would be a dog. My favourite animal is a blue whale. I am so excited to be part of the newsletter. I also love Empire Public School. In my spare time I love drawing online.



Hey! I'm Joy. I'm a grade 6. This is my first time being in the newsletter. I really like video games (Genshin impact, Tales of symphonia, etc.) I have 4 birds. 2 are budgies, 1 is a parakeet and the last is a cockatiel. I enjoy reading comic books and manga. I like to watch action movies and anime with my dad. (He got me into both of them) I love drawing. If you see me anywhere I'll probably be drawing. I hope this year will be nice.



Hi. My name is Kayleigh. I am in Grade 6, room 9. This is my first year on the newsletter team and my 8th year in this school. I have two cats and one dog. I love snakes. I have one brother and one sister. I hope I can have a great last year at this school.

## Let's Meet our 2021/2022 Newsletter Team



Hi! I'm Jana. I am a very shy person and I am 12 years old. My favourite season is Winter because everyone wears long pants and shirts and that's what I wear all the time. I am scared of the dark and I love art. I am a new member of the newsletter this year, although I have written an article for the newsletter in the past.



Hey, I'm Carson. I am 10 years old and I like hockey and baseball and I am trying out for the rep baseball team. I have one brother and a dog named Sadie. She is a cockapoo. I like to tell jokes and share them in the newsletter. I have been a member of the newsletter since it started.



Hi I am Zaara. I am 10 years old. I love art. I have two siblings. I am the youngest child. I have known my best friend since I turned one. I love writing stories and books. I have been a member of the newsletter since it started and I continued even when I was doing distance learning.



Hi My name is Charlotte. I am 10 years old. I am a really open and welcoming person. I love to run around and play sports in the Summer. This is my first year on the newsletter team. I knew a couple of people on the newsletter team so I decided to join.



Hi I'm Caitlyn. I am 9 years old. This is my first year on the newsletter team. I love doing art and playing with my friends. I am going to be doing some artwork for the newsletter and doing special interest pieces and interviewing people.



Hi my name is Soren and I love comics so I will be doing the comics for the newsletter. In the past I have done a series called Bird Brainz, but I might change it up this year. I like playing video games.



Hey people my name is Charlie. I am 9 years old and I love baseball and I think that being on the newsletter team will be fun and I know that comics are part of the newsletter. I like to make comics with Soren and I love video games.



Hello my name is Madeline and I love chickens, not to eat, but as the animals that they are. I am planning to write about facts and stuff for the newsletter. I am a psychic in training and I am learning about palmistry.



Hi my name is Sam. I am 9 years old and I am really excited that I can be part of the newsletter. I love soccer and it will be fun to talk about it.

# Let's Meet our 2021/2022 Newsletter Team



Hi my name is Fletcher and I am 9 years old. I like sports and my favourite sport is hockey. I like playing outside.



Hello my name is Quinn. I have been in the newsletter since it started and I even worked on the newsletter from distance learning. I like to step dance and I enjoy playing piano and ukulele and I would like to start playing guitar.



Hoi I'm Agatha. I have been in the newsletter since it started. I use they/them because I am a-gender and I prefer people to know my pronouns. Me and my friend will probably be doing Would You Rathers. I really enjoy drawing and I am learning how to play the drums.



Hi! I'm Miles and my favourite subject is lunch. I like to make comics and last year I did a comic for the newsletter.



Hi! I'm Jascha. I like sports. My favourite sport is volleyball. I play piano. This is my first year on the newsletter team. My favourite subject is lunch.



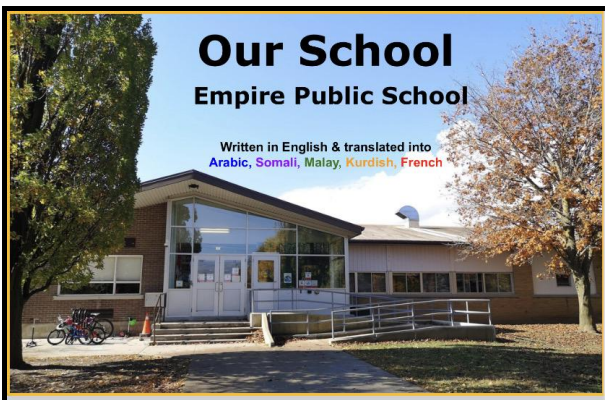
Hi My name is Ian and right now I am having a good time at school. I really like school and I am really looking forward to being in my class this year. My favourite hobbies are drawing, playing video games and hanging out with my brother.



Hi my name is Adam and I am happy to be back at school this year because it was hard to turn in assignments from home. I enjoy playing outside with my brother and friends and I enjoy the subject math.

## Our School Empire

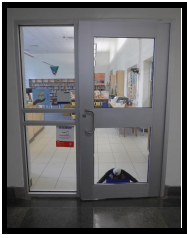
by Mrs. Jeanette Voaden



Our School is a welcoming place for multilingual students and their families. A joint project between teachers, students and community members allowed us to create a book called "Our School" translated into 6 languages. This book would not have been possible without the support of: ABLE students & families of Empire Public School, Bea Benian, Angela Duquette, Rula Fakes, Jennifer Okum, Jeanette Voaden and the Rotary Club of Kitchener Grand River. Click on this link to enjoy a tour around our school: [Our School Empire](#)

# Our Empire Library

by Mrs. Rachel Thompson



The Empire library space is being used as a staff planning and lunch room because of physical distancing requirements. Staff have been signing out books from the Library Clerk to use in their classroom.

Mrs. Thompson is back as the Library Clerk, after a leave, and is very gradually returning to work. Mobile library cart sign out service will start for students soon.

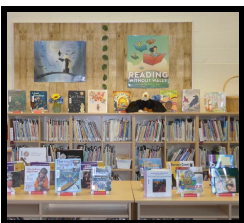
To get library services started, Mrs. Thompson has made Class Reading Bins filled with new books, picture books, early readers, chapter books, graphic format books, non-fiction books, magazines and French language books. Classes are welcome to order a carefully curated Class Reading Bin.



Mrs. Thompson and friends have looked at many of the new books that arrived last spring and this fall. Many new books have been included in the Class Reading Bins. Library Services at the Education Centre, chooses, buys and sends new books to the Empire library several times a year.

The Empire library has a large non-fiction section. This section has books about birds!

Mrs. Thompson has been providing curriculum-based books for teachers and classes, for example, books about rocks, minerals, migration, gears and butterflies.



Mrs. Thompson, with help, updated the bulletin boards with posters, and she made a huge display of books for Orange Shirt and Truth and Reconciliation Day for staff to sign out for their classes.

Mrs. Thompson and Eagle have been looking at many books to make sure they are in good shape. The book looked OK on the outside, but they found a mystery stain on the inside. Please protect all books, not just library books, from water bottles and lunch spills, so they can be used for many years by many students and staff.



Books that are dirty, water damaged, falling apart and beyond repair, are sent to Library Services at the Education Centre for recycling.

# Our Empire Library continued

by Mrs. Rachel Thompson



Mrs. Thompson uses this taping machine and stamp to process the new books and to fix damaged books

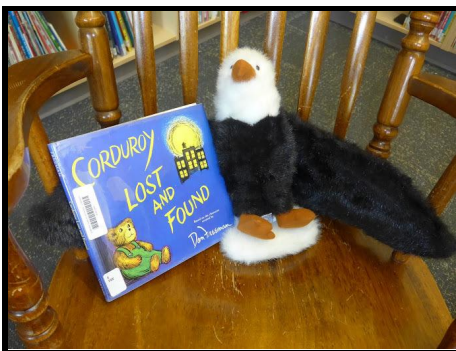
The library space also has other uses. All Chromebooks were stored in and distributed from the library.



The library is being used by Empire staff as a planning time and lunch room.

The Principal and Vice-Principal brought donuts for staff to celebrate National Custodial Workers Day and World Teacher Day. Eagle likes the look of Ms. Bahab's celebration donut, after reading about them!

Eagle and Tiger are celebrating World Cerebral Palsy Day!



There are about 150 overdue or lost books from the past two years.

Please take one last look to see if your overdue/lost books are tucked away on a bookshelf, or somewhere else in your home.

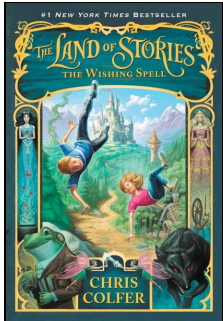
The Empire library accepts Empire library books, or books from other WRDSB school libraries, as well as home reading books!

**Please return any found books as soon as possible. Even if you find the book(s) later in the year, the Empire library will still accept them.**

# Our Empire Library - Book Reviews

## Land of stories the Wishing Spell by Chris Colfer

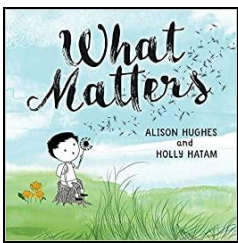
by Veera Shah



After Alex and Conner end up in a magical world called the land of stories, they realize this is no ordinary world. The characters in the stories they grew up reading are now alive. They also find a talking frog who tells them that the wishing spell is a way to get home. They found a journal that shows a person's journey to find the wishing spell. The wishing spell can only be activated twice with it already being used once, Alex and Conner have to win the battle against the evil queen to find the items first. I would suggest this book for grades 3-7. It's a very interesting book full of adventures and magic.

## What Matters by Alison Hughes

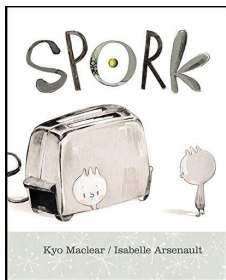
by Kayleigh Wightman



What matters is a book that is about the environment and keeping it safe. What matters is a kids book that has kind messages, like showing that something small can make a big difference. It is easy to read and it has cute pictures and animations. This book will help kids do the right thing and teach them **What Matters**.

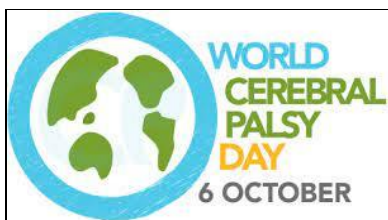
## Spork by Kyo Maclear/Isabelle Arsenault

by Joy Zhang




Spork is a book that is about not being left out. Spork starts off with a little cute character which is a spork, not a spoon or fork. When spork grows up he feels left out because some things are only for spoons or only for forks. Spork becomes sad but after his mom and dad give him a talk and some people invite him to play, spork realizes that everyone is different even if they are both spoons or both forks. He realizes that he is perfect just the way he is and does not have to change anything about him.

## World CP Day

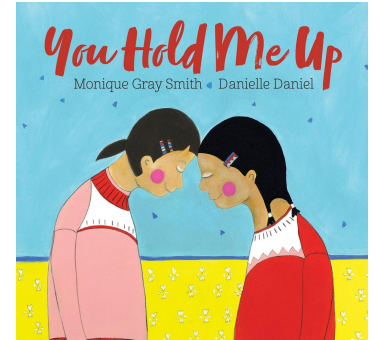
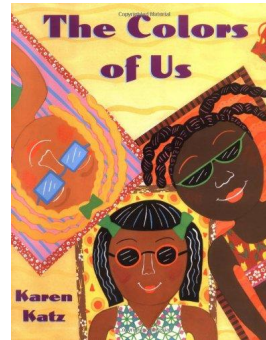
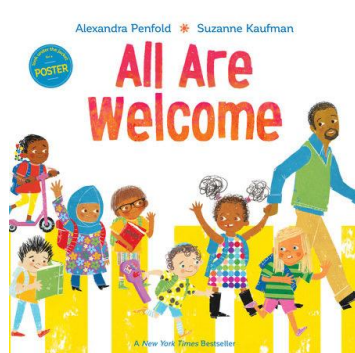
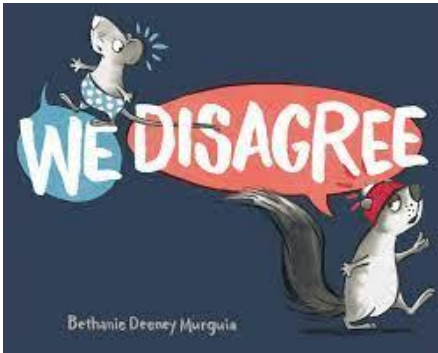


At Empire Public School we celebrated World CP day on Wednesday October 6th with a sea of green. A number of our students came to school in green clothing and wore green stickers. We all learned a little more about our friends Ella and Dilava and were treated to a virtual assembly by Mrs. Chapman. Here is the link if you want to check it out:

 [World CP Day 2021 FINAL.mov](#)

# Our Empire Library - Book Reviews

Our amazing library clerk Mrs Thompson found some books for us from our Empire library with the theme of welcoming others. We decided to read two of them and write a book review for each. These are some of the books Mrs. Thompson found for us. You can read them too!



## Baz & Benz by Heidi McKinnon

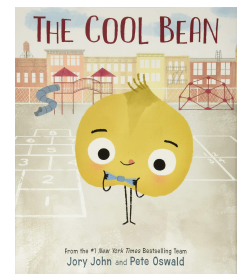
by Ian and Adam Crowell

We chose this book because it reminded us of being brothers. We feel like the message is that you can still be friends if you look different or if you change. We would definitely recommend this book

## The Cool Bean by Jory John & Pete Oswald

by Ian and Adam Crowell

We chose this book because it seemed like the cover looked good. It shows that if you mess up, you can still get along. We would recommend this book because it was really good. It's not about acting cool - it's about helping others.



## A SOAR Challenge

At Empire we SOAR. How many times can you find the word ~SOAR~ in our school newsletter? Please send your answers to Ms. Gilmour at [jillian\\_gilmour@wrdsb.ca](mailto:jillian_gilmour@wrdsb.ca) Winner will be selected by random draw. Hint: SOAR may also have been said in our videos and they count too. Good luck!





## Welcoming Entertainment

by Quinn Romagnoli and Agatha Phipps

Here is a list of movies, games, books and songs with a welcoming theme. Enjoy!

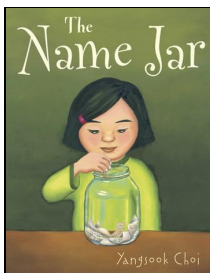
### Movies

- ♡ Finding Dory
- ♡ Zootopia
- ♡ Wall-E
- ♡ Spider Man: Into the Spider Verse
- ♡ Big Hero 6
- ♡ Lilo & Stitch
- ♡ Toy Story 1-4
- ♡ the Greatest Showman



### Games

- ♡ Charades
- ♡ Freeze Dance
- ♡ UNO
- ♡ 2 Truths & a Lie
- ♡ Would You Rather
- ♡ Capture the Flag
- ♡ Everybody's It Tag
- ♡ Escape Room
- ♡ Silly Olympics



### Books

- ♡ The Name Jar
- ♡ My Friends and Me
- ♡ The Brand New Kid
- ♡ Why I Laugh - a book about Autism
- ♡ Emmanuel's Dream
- ♡ Ben's Adventure
- ♡ Strictly No Elephants

### Songs

- ♡ Count on Me - Bruno Mars
- ♡ Happy - Pharrell Williams
- ♡ Stand By Me - Ben E. King
- ♡ Dalla Dalla - Itzy
- ♡ Born This Way - Lady Gaga
- ♡ Can't Stop the Feeling - Justin Timberlake
- ♡ This Is Me - Keala Settle
- ♡ You've Got a Friend in Me - Randy Newman

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## Word Scramble

by Miles Faulkner and Jascha Reimer

emcolew refnisd oscabile dunclinig ssoprt reifydln  
donrew sohcol sekisdnn moslasrco

Answers: sports ~ wonder ~ friends ~ classroom ~ sociable ~ welcome ~ school ~ including ~ friendly ~ kindness ~

# Riddles (answers on the next page)

by Jana Kantar

1. I am tall when I'm young and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?
2. What month of the year has 28 days?
3. What is always in front of you, but can't be seen?
4. What goes up, but never comes down?
5. What can you keep after giving to someone?
6. What can't talk, but will reply when spoken to?
7. What do you call an ocean of orange soda?
8. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday?
9. What room do ghosts avoid?
10. I'm in a room. I have a sink, a stove and you use me for cooking? What am I?

# Word Search (answers on the next page)

by

Zaara Mahmud and Jana Kantar

R	G	F	I	U	X	F	X	Z	P	Q	N	T	X	L
L	H	N	T	Q	R	G	N	I	D	U	L	C	N	I
M	T	G	I	I	T	R	O	P	P	U	S	S	T	Q
V	L	W	E	R	K	Y	Y	K	U	R	O	T	I	B
D	X	N	X	G	A	P	W	W	G	L	U	R	E	C
F	D	J	O	Q	P	H	O	X	L	D	U	O	G	M
S	E	W	H	A	P	A	S	E	R	N	U	N	D	M
E	M	Q	H	G	D	P	H	Q	O	I	E	G	Q	M
Q	O	J	Q	G	Z	Y	T	M	W	K	Z	A	X	W
M	C	L	U	F	T	C	E	P	S	E	R	O	F	M
M	L	F	B	G	M	L	C	V	M	R	Q	D	F	U
U	E	R	Q	Q	V	S	T	N	I	A	M	A	D	H
Y	W	M	F	Q	Z	M	P	Z	L	O	J	J	Y	D
S	O	O	Q	C	Z	V	A	E	E	S	J	D	I	B
J	C	T	N	W	Z	V	C	Q	P	V	L	D	H	G

Find these Welcoming words:

friends  
sharing  
happy  
smile  
hello  
welcome  
including  
strong  
kind  
support  
respectful

**Did you also find the word SOAR?**

# Riddles Answers....

by Jana Kantar

- |                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. A candle    | 6. An echo                    |
| 2. All of them | 7. A fanta sea                |
| 3. The future  | 8. Yesterday, today, tomorrow |
| 4. Your age    | 9. The living room            |
| 5. Your word   | 10. A kitchen                 |



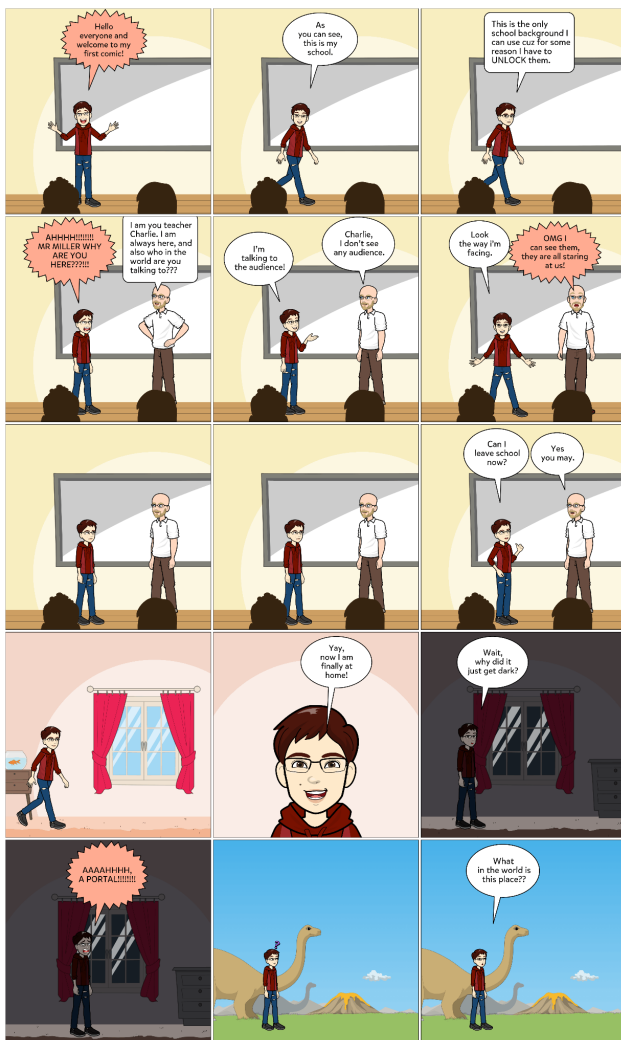
# Word Search Answers...

by Zaara Mahmud and Jana Kantar



# My First Comic

by Charlie Doxey



# Images

found by Kayleigh Wightman



# Environmental Column:

## Reconnecting With Wildlife - Welcoming Nature Back Into Our Lives

by Amelia Pletsch and Vivian Lang



Humans used to rely on nature, and nature on them, to help make the world a better place. Sprawling forests covered the planet, the salty sea flowed freely and fresh, the air was crisp and clean, and deforestation was nonexistent. All species lived in harmony, each supporting each other in the

beautiful circle of life.

But all that has changed, now that humans have learned to be independent, to build their own cities that are growing to replace the gorgeous picturesque forests and natural wonders of the world. We're polluting the oceans and lands, contaminating the fresh air and dirtying our tainted reputation. Artificial light shoots up into the sky from the large cities, shrouding the natural stars and galaxies that were once visible in the night sky. Roaring, cacophonous noise disrupts the peaceful natural ecosystems worldwide, dangerously imposing, when once the only sounds you could hear were the birds twittering, the trees rustling.

Science and technology are replacing the natural land to a point where humans are no longer aware of what we are doing to what was once our savior. Without the forests, the oceans, the plains, the rockies, the glaciers, humans would not be what we are today. And yet that seems to have been forgotten amidst the technological world we've created.

We need to introduce nature back into our lives, to allow it to grow and spread, to be cherished as it once was, replace the artificial lives humans have built for themselves, choosing a path that would result in destruction. However, we have allowed our ignorance to spread for so long that it seems impossible for nature to be what it was originally. We may think that our discoveries will lead to utopia, but the only true bliss will be when we can breathe fresh air, when we can stop worrying about the decreasing forests and animal populations, when we humans will stop dying

because of natural disasters caused by growing climate change, when we can finally appreciate the value of each individual life form. We have to grow back the genuine Earth our ancestors once knew and loved.

Though times have been tough during coronavirus and the pandemic pandemonium, it is no excuse to forget what humans should have grown to be. We think that we are the greatest species, the cleverest, the rulers of the wilds and the grand buildings, but we are no different than invasive pests. That's only because we refuse to listen to the voices of the equally precious species we share our land with.

Think of the gypsy moths that were and still are threatening our trees. We instinctively kill them on sight, to protect our impressive forests. But humans cause much more damage to trees, and we do not expect consequences, we do not expect to be killed just because we are following our true nature. I could imagine that if gypsy moths were as big as us or as capable of killing as us, we would be squashed out of existence for the sheer amount of destruction we cause on Earth.

We must stop thinking that we are better than animal life, when we rely on it for pure survival. If the ecosystem were to fall, humans would find out what it feels like to be an animal, running away from everything you believe a predator, fearing for the lives of your families, endlessly worrying that everything you know and love will be crushed beyond repair.

Scientists are working to create a possible future where we live on Mars, using up resources that could otherwise be put to use creating a solution for climate change, putting up protective barriers between the forests and loggers, making this world a better place for everyone and everything. We can not just leave our problems behind, pack up and move to another planet, only to further destroy Mars. We can't just leave the other creatures to suffer as we go. We can't leave behind our lives and the lives of others for selfish intentions.

We must stop thinking of the future, only of the present, before it is too late.

# Funniest Jokes of the Month

As found by Carson Bartscher



What kind of vest should you wear in the fall? A har-vest

What is a tree's least favorite month? — Sep-Timber!

What runs around a farm but doesn't move? — A fence.

Why did the scarecrow win a medal? - He was outstanding in his field.



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## Bird Brainz Comic

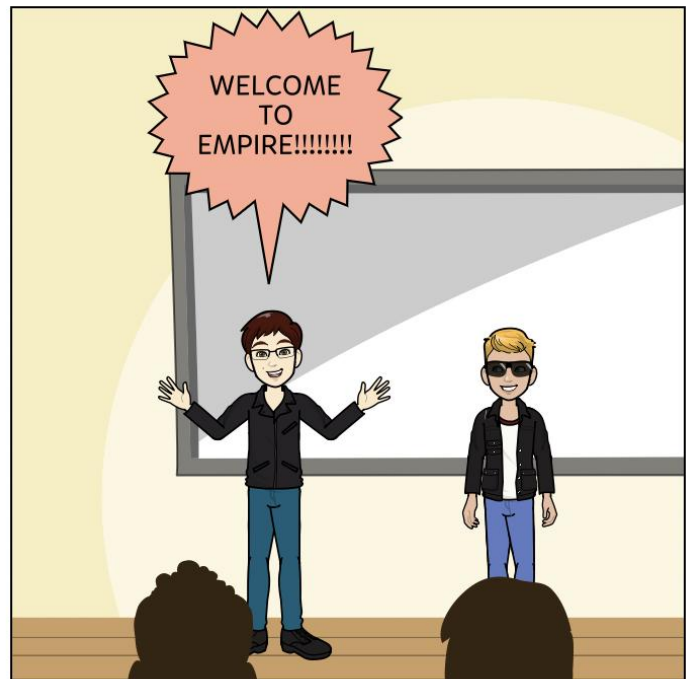
by Soren Bergstrom



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## Comic

by Charlie Doxey



# Welcoming Quotes

Submitted by Zaara Mahmud

Quotes 2, 4, 5, 9 are made by me

1. Smile, Be Opening and welcoming.
2. Welcoming others is the path to kindness.
3. A smile is the universal welcome.
4. People judge you for your language, but you can say everyone is welcome in any language.
5. There is no such thing as welcoming in to many friends.
6. Enter as a guest, leave as a friend.
7. Sunshine is a welcoming thing, it brings a lot of brightness.
8. Enter a room with a happy heart.
9. Friendship, kindness and happiness are welcome, bullying and fighting are not.
10. There is always room for 1 more.



# Welcoming Artwork

by Artist Caitlyn Berkhuizen



# Our Welcome Banner

by Madeline Knight and Caitlyn Berkhuizen

We had an interview with Ms. Mohr to ask her about our new WELCOME banner by our front entrance. Here is what we found out:



1. Was it your idea to get the Welcome mural?  
No it wasn't mine, it was the Equity team.
2. How many languages are on that poster?  
There are 45 languages on the banner including 6 Indigenous languages.
3. How many languages are spoken at Empire?  
There are roughly 37 different languages spoken at Empire homes.
4. Why did we get the mural? Is it to help people feel welcome at our school? Yes, we got the mural to make every student feel welcome and represented.
5. As the principal, how do you make people feel welcome at our school?  
I like to be outside to welcome students and families. I also like to learn the names of the students and go to their classrooms.
6. What qualities should a welcoming person have?  
Well I think that we can all be welcoming. Some qualities would be kind, compassionate and caring.
7. Where did the phrase "There's always room for one more" come from?  
The saying was here before I became principal at the school. I think Mrs. Hamel may have said it. I prefer All are Welcome.
8. When did the mural get put up?  
The mural was put up in the Spring of 2021.
9. What do you think students at our school could do to be more welcoming?  
I think students really need to get to know each other, to respect differences and cultures. Students should be open minded and show empathy so that all can feel welcomed.

## A Welcome Challenge

How many different languages can you say 'WELCOME' in? We will start you off:

English = Welcome  
French = Bienvenue



# Would You Rather

by Quinn Romagnoli and Agatha Phipps

BE POPULAR BUT HAVE NO TRUE FRIENDS

OR HAVE A LOT OF TRUE FRIENDS BUT NOT BE POPULAR?

GO TO PRIVATE SCHOOL

OR GO TO PUBLIC SCHOOL?

HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS YOU'RE CLOSE TO

OR ONE REALLY CLOSE FRIEND?

HAVE ONLINE FRIENDS

OR IN PERSON FRIENDS?

GO TO A SMALL SCHOOL WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS EACH OTHER

OR A BIG SCHOOL WHERE EVERYBODY DOESN'T KNOW EACH OTHER?

## Best Recipes

by Maryam Rabi

My Aunt's Tarte Tatin

- 200 gr flour
- 50 gr sugar
- 1 Stick butter
- Mix with hands till crumbly texture
- Add 3 tbs water
- Mix till you can form a ball then put in plastic wrap
- Place into freezer for 10 mins



Filling

- Wash 4 medium apples peel and cut into a bowl add cinnamon if you want
- Put ½ of butter in a pan on medium heat
- When butter is melted add 75 gr of sugar
- Add apples in rose array
  - Put flour on empty surface roll dough into 3 mm thick place
  - Place onto pan and poke hole on top
  - When bubbling remove and put in to oven ( 375 degrees F )
  - When caramelized take out let it cool and eat



# Sports Column

by Fletcher Zaborski and Sam Beamer



One day I was playing soccer. We did not have enough players so we asked everybody in class to play soccer with us. We said - you are welcome to play. They said yes and we played for 30 minutes. So welcome all kids and all kinds.



# Advice Column - There's Always A Friend

by Charlotte Macallum and Lily Knight



Hello and welcome to Empire! You could be new here or you could have been coming here for a while now - no matter what, there are still new changes every year at Empire. Sometimes changes are good - so let's all work together and make a good change and end

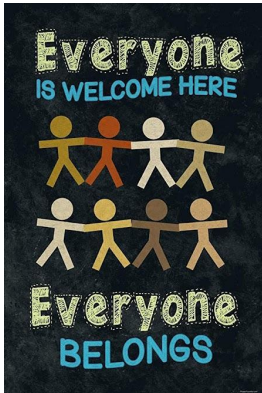


bullying! If you are getting bullied it is probably because the bully is not satisfied with their own personal life or that they want to be your friend and they just don't know how to say it. It could also mean they like you - and they just want it to seem like they don't like you. Everyone can be nice so if someone has been mean to you in the past they could have changed so give everyone a chance to be nice. At Empire we soar not only with our minds but also with our hearts. At Empire we respect everyone equally and have empathy for other people. At Empire there are probably times when you disagree with people but just think about what you would have done in their shoes. Always treat others how you want to be treated because if you're mean to someone and make them feel sad they could be mean back. The main thing to be at Empire is to be yourself and be kind. Always be kind to others and even the smallest things can mean the most to people. Just know that at Empire there is always a friend.



# Welcoming Countries Around the World

by Joy Zhang, Maryam Rabi, Kayleigh Wightman and Veera Shah



According to the article ‘The Top 10 Most Welcoming Countries’, countries have been ranked in order of how welcoming they are. We have focused on the top 4 most welcoming countries. They are: Portugal, Taiwan, Mexico, and Cambodia. Portugal is the most welcoming country because it is a sunny country, 29% of the local residents make up the majority of their friendship group. 40% of people who visited Portugal said they wanted to stay. Portuguese people are known to others as “looking after each other”. Taiwan is the second most welcoming country and a great destination if you want to have friendly locals and to move easily. Visitors say that the Taiwanese people are very welcoming and 74% say it is easy to move to Taiwan. 86% of visitors say that the Taiwanese people have a friendly attitude towards foreign residents. Mexico comes in third as the most welcoming country.

88% of people surveyed say the general population is very friendly. 93% of people surveyed said Mexicans were friendly people and 80% say it’s easy to get used to the culture and 73% say it is easy to make local friends. The best thing about Mexico is the friendliness of the townspeople. Cambodia came in fourth. 85% of respondents are welcoming and 83% say it is easy to settle down in Cambodia and 39% say it is easy to feel at home in Cambodia right away. In case you were wondering about Canada, we made the list. Canada was number 10.

Source:

<https://www.internations.org/guide/global/the-top-10-most-welcoming-countries-39411>

## The Front Learning Garden A New Welcoming Space at Empire

by Mme. Bardeggia-Irwin

Empire Public School has added a new and improved outdoor learning area to its beautiful schoolyard. It is in the front of the school. With the financial support of our Parent Council and the hard work of teachers, we were able to redesign and to build this outdoor space so that our school community could gather outdoors and benefit from the wonders of nature. It is a place where you can sit quietly and reflect, discuss and collaborate, observe and discover, and above all, immerse yourself in a calming and peaceful space.



Many hours of hard work went into creating this special learning garden: logs were installed, the bench was moved, walkways were created and tidied up, weeds were removed, trees and bushes were planted and mulch was spread. As stewards of the environment, we ask that you respect this wonderful space by treating the trees, bushes, and plants as you would your best friends. Soon we will be planting tulip bulbs in recognition of renewed hope. Please use the pathways when exploring your new garden and recognize that plants require a personal space to grow and to flourish.

We hope that you enjoy this newly created outdoor learning space for many years to come.

# Welcoming Tips From Our Team

by 2021/2022 Newsletter Team



Some members of our newsletter team have been together for 2 or 3 years. We like to think that our team members know a thing or two about being welcoming to others. Here is what they had to say:

**Ms. Gilmour** - When new students come to our school I try to make sure they feel comfortable and I usually introduce them to someone that I know will be kind and include them.  
#thereisalwaysroomforonemore

**Vivian** - When there is a new kid at school I accept their individualities, value their uniqueness, and welcome their diversity into this school. Canada is a free country, and therefore Empire is free too. People are allowed to have opinions, and I will not judge them if they are different.  
#ExclusiveAndInclusiveDivideByOneLetterAndOneWorld

**Amelia** - If someone is being bullied, I would invite them over to play with my group of friends so they're not alone.  
#upstandernotbystander

**Jana** - I try to talk to people and invite them to play with my friends.  
#everyoneswelcome

**Zaara** - I try to be as polite as I can and I try to help as many people as I can.  
#helpothers

**Carson** - I play with people and include them in games and tell them about the school.  
#includeeveryone

**Charlotte** - If I see someone getting bullied I stand up for them.  
#selfless

**Lily** - One of the ways I can make people feel welcome is by accepting them for who they are.  
#alwaysbeyourself

**Caitlyn** - I just act like myself and so should you.  
#loveyourself

**Madeline** - I am welcoming by being weird and speaking the truth.  
#speakyourtruth

**Soren and Charlie** - Whenever a new person comes to Empire then we can always make sure they have a friend.  
#goodfriends

**Fletcher and Sam** - We like to include everyone in sports and make sure that no one gets left out.  
#welcometoallpeopleplayingports

**Agatha** - If I see people being bullied I stand up for them and ask them to play.  
#beyourselfanddontletotherstellyouwhotobe

**Quinn** - I like to always look out for other people.  
#beyourself

**Adam and Ian** - WE tell people that everything is going to be okay and after a while you will fit right in.  
#bekind

**Veera** - I never let anyone play alone.  
#bekind

# Welcoming Tips From Our Team continued....

by 2021/2022 Newsletter Team

**Kayleigh** - I am helpful.

#agoodfriend

**Joy** - Always be helpful to someone who needs it.

#neverbackaway

**Maryam** - Be inclusive.

#involved

**Jascha** - Whenever there is a new kid in my class that I haven't met before or a kid that is new to Empire, I try to be friends with them and play with them a lot.

#wallballisfun

## Saying Welcome in 38 languages:

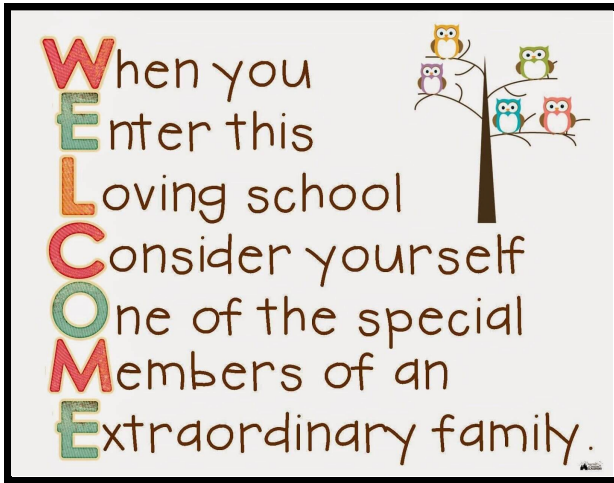
Aneshanbae	miigwech gayegiin
Arabic	اهلاً وسهلاً
Aramic	שלמך
Bemba	Mwaiseni
Bengali	স্বাগতম
Bosnian	Dobrodošli
Cantonese /Chinese	歡迎
Croatian	Dobrodošli
English	Welcome
Farsi	خوش آمدی
French	Bienvenue
German	Willkommen
Gujarati	સ્વાગત છે
Hebrew	א ברוך הבא
Haudenoaushi	Wa'tkwanonhwerá:ton'
Hindi	'स्वागत है'
South Asia	Namaste

Igbo	Nnọọ
Japanese	ようこそ
Kinyarwanda	Murakaza neza
Konkani	स्वागत
Korean	안녕하세요
Kurdish	Tu be xér hatî ye!
Lao	ຍິ ນດີ ຕ້ອນຮັ ບ
Malayalam	സംഗതം
Mandarin	欢迎
Marathi	स्वागत आहे
Oriya	ଅଭ୍ୟର୍ଥନା
Portuguese	Bem-vinda
Punjabi	ਸਵਾਗਤ ਹੈ
Russian	Добро пожаловать
Serbian	Добродошли
Somali	Soo dhawow
Spanish	Bienvenido
Tamil	வரவவற்று
Thai	ยินดีต้อนรับ
Turkish	Hoşgeldiniz
Urdu	خوش آمدید

# You Are Always Welcome Here

by Ms. Jillian Gilmour

I am always amazed by our extraordinary Empire Eagles. The way they welcome one another back to school after a long Summer. The way new students are welcomed into a classroom filled with old friends. The way students have adapted to Covid safety protocols by greeting each other with air high fives or hugs, or a fist pump or an elbow pump. The way old newsletter team members welcome new members with open arms. At Empire we say that “there is always room for one more”. I have seen so many wonderful examples of this so far, this year. Keep it up Eagles! At Empire Public School everyone should feel included because we are all welcome here. Soar Eagles!



## Faces

A Read Aloud by Ms. Elisa Titizian



Hello Eagles! My goal as an educator is to make all children feel included, loved and embraced. I created a book that is intended to encourage all children to spread kindness and acceptance. What a better world it would be if there were no bullies, and only buddies!



Here is a link to a video of the read aloud: Enjoy!

[Faces- Read Aloud](#)



*A SMILE is a universal welcome. Everyone recognizes a smile as a friendly greeting. Did you know that a smile is the only facial expression recognized instantly all over the world? Neat, huh? So go for it. SMILE at everyone you see today. I dare you!*