

# Building Bridges of Kindness

Inquiry Grant Documentation 2024/25

**School:** William Bridge Elementary

**Inquiry Grant Area:** SEL

**Staff Involved:** Deanna Trewin, Vanessa Wardell, Gideon Kalman-Lamb, Ann Lee, Marnie Flores



# January

What are you noticing about your learners?

Teachers reporting similar behaviours school-wide:

- Running in the halls
- Students wandering indoors, especially during recess & lunch
- Using washroom as a social space
- Talking back to adults
- Challenges with respecting the physical environment
- Self-regulating at lunch time & following directions
- Taking accountability when mistakes are made

# January

What is your inquiry question?

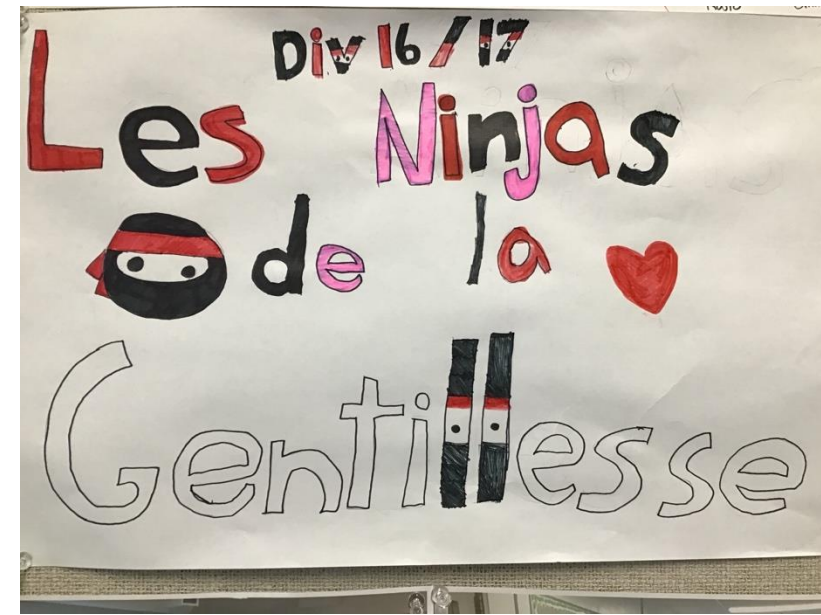
How can we use school-wide language of "Building Bridges" to model and embed the practice of kindness into our classrooms, our school community and during our extra-curricular events/activities?

What is the goal for your learners?

- Our goal is for students to develop a concrete understanding of what kindness to self, others and place looks/sounds like at school
- Learning the social-emotional skills to enact kindness at school



# What we have tried: Kindness Displays





Artwork by students  
to incorporate our  
Bridges of Kindness  
core ideas into a  
graphic.





Morning  
Announcement  
Messages then  
added to our  
Weekly  
Newsletter.  
In English and  
French.

# kindness MATTERS

**At Bridge, we are learning to be kind to ourselves, others and place. Here are the messages of kindness from our morning announcements this week!**

Kind words can be short and easy to say but can have a huge effect.  
Les mots gentils peuvent être courts et faciles à dire,  
mais ont un très grand impact.

You can brighten up someone's day, with just a small act of kindness.  
Vous pouvez égayer la journée de quelqu'un avec un petit geste de gentillesse.

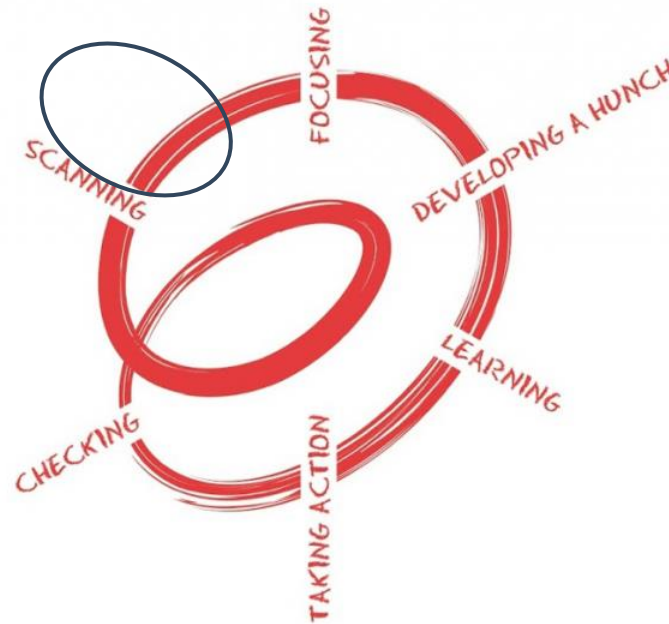
Always encourage kindness!  
Encouragez toujours la gentillesse!

Being kind can help you make friends.  
Être gentil peut vous aider à vous faire des amis.

A little spark of kindness can put a colossal burst of sunshine into  
someone's day.  
Une petite étincelle de gentillesse peut faire une différence colossale.

What further  
information  
do you  
need?  
How will you  
collect it?

- Collect more data from students in a scan – student voice organized re: what they are noticing?
- Student survey:
  - How can we show kindness to ourselves, to others, to place?
  - What kind acts have you noticed? (self-others-place)
  - What things have been making you upset at school? (outside, lunch time, hallways)



How can we  
further involve  
students in  
implementing  
the school wide  
language of  
"Building Bridges  
of Kindness"?

- Kindness to place: school-wide Eco-week initiatives
  - Lights-out day, pick-up garbage day, recycling day, walk to school day
  - Making concrete links between language and waste habits (compost vs recycling)
- Student created morning announcements
- Kindness "shout-outs"
- Student involvement in creation of a school-wide logo



# REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION!

# June

## What was your inquiry question?

How can we use school-wide language of "Building Bridges of Kindness" to model and embed the practice of kindness into our classrooms, our school community and during our extra-curricular events/activities?

### Did your inquiry shift during the process? Explain.

Our question remained the same as it started. How we pursued the question shifted slightly over time. We started with teacher-led inquiry by surveying staff. Then we transitioned into more student-led inquiry. We surveyed the Student Voice Committee and they will help to survey other classes.

### What was the goal for the learners?

- Develop learners' awareness of and celebrating kindness and positive behaviours at school.
- Applying these positive behaviours in their everyday experiences.

### How have you worked towards the goal?

- Student involvement in messages and surveying kindness positives and challenges
- Student-led morning announcements
- Art project for kindness logo
- Pink Shirt Day and Earth Day initiatives

# June

## How has your inquiry made a difference for students?

- Allowed space for students to share their kindness concerns anonymously
  - Anecdotally, staff have heard the language of the project being used by students in the hallways, classrooms, and school yard
  - Students have actively participated in each initiative, suggesting they are developing awareness
- More student interest in showing kindness to place through recycling vs compost vs garbage
  - Inquiry initiatives have longer-term SEL goals; more conclusive results to be expected upon continued use of school-wide language next year.

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# June

## What are your next steps?

### This Year

- School-wide survey of behaviours students are experiencing or witnessing at school

### Next Year

- Plan a school-wide activity to start off the school year. In buddy classes, read: "What Does It Mean to Be Kind?" and do story response activity.
- Create model videos of kindness to self, others, place to play at assemblies.
- Perform the school-wide survey again at two points next year as a way of checking progress in meeting our goals



Student Name: Rex Piché

**KINDNESS MESSAGE**

A student in Division 16 showed kindness to  
Others (self/others/place)

by sharing his eraser with another  
person. Great job!

Student Name: THAN

KINDNESS MESSAGE

A student in Division 13 showed kindness to OTH (self/others/place)

by Helping somebody get off monkey bars

# Morning Kindness Messages

# Building

# Bridges

of

# Kindness

## Kindness to self

## Kindness to others

## Kindness to place

## Student survey and data aggregation

## Student poster designs

3. Are there other things that you notice at school that you find upsetting?

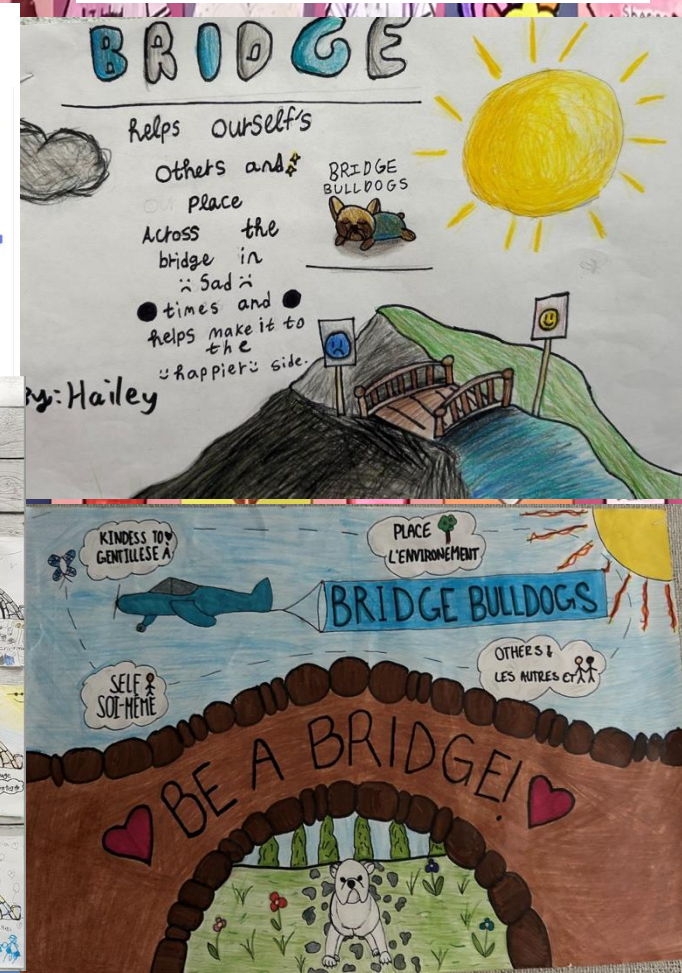
9 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	No
2	anonymous	I see a lot of bias in a lot of things
3	anonymous	Not bringing their instruments at band & eating during class time because it smells like chicken while we are doing math or whatever
4	anonymous	People kicking balls away
5	anonymous	I find it upsetting and annoying when people still leave a mess and other people have to clean up and stay after school even though they didn't make the mess.
6	anonymous	People locking the stall doors then climbing under so u can't get unless u crawl under : (
7	anonymous	I have found in school here that when people are playing soccer in the soccer concrete pad they are sometimes being mean to each other when there are misunderstandings.

5. How often you notice these things happening at school?

● Never ● Sometimes ● Often ● Always

Item	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
I hear racist or hurtful comments at school.	40%	10%	40%	10%
Students are kind and inclusive during games and activities.	10%	10%	40%	40%
Some students are mean to others if they aren't good at sports or games.	30%	10%	40%	20%
People are respectful to substitute teachers (TTOCs).	10%	10%	40%	40%
Some students leave others out or don't work as a team.	30%	10%	40%	20%
Students treat classroom and library materials with care.	10%	10%	40%	40%
I notice students throwing things in the classroom.	10%	10%	40%	40%
People treat the playground (like slides, sandbox, spinner) with respect.	10%	10%	40%	40%
Students leave messes or don't take care of shared spaces.	30%	10%	40%	20%
Some students push, hit, or get too rough during recess/lunch.	30%	10%	40%	20%





# RICHMOND

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.38

