

Hello VES Families:

It's Springtime at VES! We are so thankful to be in school this year enjoying the sun and outdoor recess. One of the things I missed most last year during shutdown was watching the beautiful flowers planted during the fall of 2019 grow. This excerpt from last April's Counselor Newsletter explains their history:

"On a brighter note: If you are out walking or riding by VES, please take note of the beautiful daffodils surrounding several of the trees in front of the school. Each October VES observes Red Ribbon Day. This is a day to celebrate living healthy, drug free lives. The theme this year was Plant the Promise. I ordered 200 red tulip bulbs for third graders to plant on VES's grounds. Instead, I got 200 yellow daffodil bulbs. The company said to keep the bulbs while they processed the original order. The bulbs were planted to honor Melanie Stainbrook, beloved 2nd grade teacher, who died several years ago. The flowers are just beginning to open and look beautiful reminding us that spring has arrived! Third graders did eventually plant red tulip bulbs and a few are also starting to peek out."

So, this year we are at VES to witness in person the miracle of blooming flowers. It is a reminder that even when we go through hardships, flowers still bloom. On that note, we are going to be celebrating Happiness Week beginning on April 12-16, 2021. The science of happiness suggests that happiness and laughter are contagious; those who give to others are happier people; being outdoors improves our mood; the color yellow is a "happy" color; and happiness can boost our immune system - imagine that! For that week, VES staff and students will celebrate happiness in a number of ways and parents will receive a flyer outlining the activities.

Our theme this month is Trustworthiness. Trustworthy students are happy students. We challenge our students to do what they say they will do and have the courage to do the right thing, even when no one is looking, when it's too hard, or when they don't feel like doing the right thing. It is an important theme to explore and students will receive many examples during the month to increase their knowledge of trustworthiness. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or if I may be of help in any way, please contact me.

440.204.1700 #641.
Love, Mrs. Greenawalt

