**Garlands of Gratitude**

    “Garlands of Gratitude” is a community-based activity that will involve students and teachers at Windermere in sharing random acts of kindness they have participated in, things that they are grateful for, or something that makes them happy. The main goal of this project is to inspire other students to also engage in similar acts of kindness and reflect on the things that they are grateful for in life.

Our idea is inspired by the activity we participated in during our first few weeks of eighth grade, in which we wrote down the names of every student and teacher at Windermere Secondary, connected the slips of paper into a garland, and hung it up along the main hallway. Now, as the facilitators of this project, we plan to incorporate our own twist into this activity, and instead of writing down names on the slips of paper, we will have Windermere students write down acts of kindness they have recently partaken in or received or anything that they feel grateful for. We plan to set up our garlands in the foyer, in order to draw as much attention to them as possible and hopefully impact the entirety of Windermere. We will measure our success rate by spending time in the foyer and asking for peer feedback, as well as through the amount of slips we get filled out by the 27th of February.

Timeline: February 20th - February 29th

February 20th - 24th: Ask people about recent acts of kindness they’ve witnessed or partaken in through social media (Instagram) and in person. We plan to go around the school and ask as many people as we can in the halls during breaks. We will also use this time to collect the materials we need, such as coloured construction paper, a table, and a chalkboard. We will also set up a table in front of the school asking people to take a few minutes to write down something positive on the pieces of paper. This will work as an easy and convenient alternative when we are unable to receive the responses directly.

February 25th- 27th: Write down the collected responses on slips of construction paper and staple them together, forming a garland that will be hung in foyer. We will also use this time to find a chalkboard and write down a message containing instructions and a positive message about Pink Shirt Day. As well as this, we will discuss our plan with Ms. Kwon and decide on the optimal place for our garland and any restrictions we may encounter.

Feb 27th- March 1st: On the 27th, we plan to have the garland finished. We will use paperclips to hang the garlands from the holes in the ceiling during our Leadership block, remove the table from the front if we haven’t already, and move the chalkboard if need be. We will use this time to also talk to anyone we see passing by, and collect peer feedback that we can use to further increase the success rates of future projects.

March 6th: We will take down the garland, and erase the chalkboard during tutorial. This will mark the end of our project.

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| Outputs | Short-term Outcome | Long-term  |
| Talk to random individuals in the foyer throughout the time the garlands are up | Gain insight on how students initially feel upon seeing the garlands, and hopefully give inspiration to others  | Insight for future projects, give students inspiration for their own projects |
| -Have students write down positive messages on slips of paper in the foyer | -Start conversation between individuals and spark creative ideas and kind thoughts between friends  | -Create long lasting friendships that allow students to have connections to people outside their friend groups-inspire people to be a little bit kinder  |
| -Create garlands that will be hung up in with their messages visible to everyone who stop by to look | -Spread positivity when students find their own message and read others in the process-Create a colourful and fun display for everyone to see when they enter the building | -Show students/outsiders that Windermere has a student body full of kind and thoughtful people -Inspire others to be kinder/take initiative to potentially start a project of their own in the future |
| -write a sign on the chalkboard in the foyer containing a positive message about kindness/pink day | -advertise the project, and raise awareness for pink day-remind students to be kind as soon as they walk into school | -Spread compassion and engage students by decorating the foyer and giving them something to think about |

*How and who will this project impact?*

This project will impact members of the Windermere community, including both staff and students. By displaying our garlands in the foyer, it should have the desired impact on most everyone who stops by and takes a look at the messages.

*How will you measure the success of your project and measure your goals?*

We will measure the success of our project by counting the amount of slips that are filled out by the end of our deadline and the messages that are written on them. We will also measure success by taking note of any peer feedback we receive.

*How do we plan to promote our project?*

We plan on promoting this project alongside pink shirt day. We will place a large chalkboard right at the front of the school, making it relatively impossible for people not to see the message we have on display about our project and how to contribute. We will also walk about the halls and mention the project to people, suggesting they take a moment of their day to go and fill out a slip of paper.

*What is our vision for the foyer?*

We plan to hang the garland at the back of the foyer near the display cabinets, due to the fact that there have been previous instances where streamers and garlands in the carpeted section have set off the schools motion sensors. We will place a chalkboard in between the display cabinets containing a positive message, and a table in front of that for a few days during the planning process. We will later remove the table, but hang the garlands directly above the chalkboard.

*What is the plan for getting students to write on the slips of paper - what are they supposed to write?*

We will write a message on the chalkboard explaining exactly what we’d like them to write- a positive affirmation or act of kindness/compassion they have experienced or participated in, which we would like to remain anonymous.