## <u>August/September Character Counts (RESPECT) Family Newsletter</u>

Reflections for School Parents

Dear Parents,

Teaching RESPECT is one of the most important responsibilities parents and teachers have. For the months of August and September we will focus on re Obedience should not be confused with respect. Children can be obedient without showing respect. Obedience can at times be the result of fear. Students may also be obedient out of respect. This usually happens when the students receive respect and know the adults in their lives have their best interests at heart.

Respect should be given to others at all times. True respect has to be earned. Respect is like a boomerang, you must send it out before it will come back to you. Respect cannot be forced, though sometimes individuals mistakenly believe that it can.

What is the difference between fear and respect?

- Fear is toxic. It's bad for the body and the emotions.
- Respect is nurturing. It builds self esteem and creates a safe environment.
- Fear destroys self-confidence.
- Respect builds self-confidence.
- Fear is demanded.
- Respect is earned
- Fear is forced
- Respect is life-enhancing.
- Fear is learned.
- Respect is commanding.
- Fear comes from distrust.
- Respect comes from trust

## Family Discussion Topics & Questions

- -How would you define the word respect?
- -Which teachers/staff members or other adults in your life best model respect?
- -What are some ways I can respect you more?
- -How do your friends show each other respect? Do your friends disrespect each other? If so, how?
- -What does a person have to do to earn your respect?
- -How do you feel when you are not respected?

"REPUTATION IS WHAT THE WORLD THINKS A PERSON IS; CHARACTER IS WHAT THEY REALLY ARE."

ANONYMOUS