

The Leader in Me

great happens here

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Graden, we use the *Leader In Me* program as an introduction to personal leadership. All students have the capacity to lead in their own lives and affect those around them by making positive choices. The *Leader In Me* program provides students with activities to help them learn practical character and life skills that will lead to those positive choices. Your child will be learning the following habits:

Habit 1: Be Proactive: I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes, and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong actions. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind: I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission and vision.

Habit 3: Put First Things First: I spend my time on things that are most important. This means I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule, and achieve my goals. I am disciplined and organized.

Habit 4: Think Win-Win: I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I make deposits in others' Emotional Bank Accounts. When conflicts arise, I look for third alternatives. I look for ways to be a good citizen.

Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood: I listen to people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking.

Habit 6: Synergize: I value other people's strengths and learn from them. I work well in groups, even with people who are different than me. I seek out other people's ideas to solve problems because I know that by teaming with others we can create better solutions than anyone of us alone. I am humble.

Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw: I take care of my body by eating right, exercising, and getting sleep. I spend time with my family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. I take time to find meaningful ways to help others.

Habit 8: Find Your Voice: I have found something that I am good at and really like doing. I am proud, but do not boast. I use my expertise to help and inspire others.

The *Leader in Me* program gives you the opportunity to engage, hands-on, in what your child is learning and may lead to many "teachable moments." Having your child reteach the content to you will give them an even deeper understanding and will give both of you the opportunity to learn together!

Additional information is available at www.TheLeaderInMe.org. You can find ideas to use at home involving the family and reinforcing your child's learning in a fun, interactive way!

We look forward to celebrating the leadership in your child! Thank you so much for your support!