

March Impact Month

March is a busy, yet very exciting month here at New Groningen! "Pay it forward" is a motto often used when serving others in a positive way just because we care. At New Groningen, we are committed to practice this *at our school, in our community* and *globally* purposefully during the month of March.

As individual classrooms we will be working to build service into our everyday lives. When a student or staff can identify an act of service, they will write it on a strip of paper that will become a chain and hang it on a connecting piece throughout the school as a visual reminder of serving others. It is an awesome opportunity to be able to teach our students how serving others can make a big impact in another's life. Today is even 'World Compliment Day' so what a great way to start!

As an entire school, we have committed ourselves to raising funds for bowls for a school an orphanage in Ghana. One of our staff members, Allie Nelson, is adopting from this orphanage. Thanks to many supportive people, they have recently been able to have tables and benches built for the orphanage meals and getting the bowls would be exciting for them to eat together at the tables. We will be collecting money for this piece, but we really encourage the students to ask parents, neighbors or grandparents if they can help them with something and be able to raise \$2 to bring in.

Each student and staff will be encouraged to perform a service act of their choice outside of school. Parents - here is where we need your help! Each student AND staff of New Groningen will be given one postcard today, March 1st, after our kick-off assembly. When we serve someone else, we need to give the postcard to them. Each postcard is tracked with a specific number. There is an email on the card for people who have been impacted to write their story and reference the number on the card so we can share them. If you are looking for some ideas, here are some examples: shovel your neighbor's driveway and leave the postcard in their door, bake cookies and bring them to the fire station and attach the card, have your child earn a few dollars and have them pay for a coffee for someone at Starbucks and leave the card for them. The possibilities are endless! Be creative - but talk with your child about what they can DO for someone else.

If your child wants to do more, please have them ask their teacher for more postcards. Our goal is for EACH of us to impact someone else in a positive way this month...think of the hundreds of people that will be touched in March! What an inspiring thought!!!