



This week at Venture Heights School we are celebrating Pink week and learning about bullying prevention, empathy, and kindness. Each classroom will be doing lessons or activities centered on this theme which has been tailored to their grade level. Some of these include digital citizenship and cyber-bullying. We felt it was a good time to share the definition of bullying and some of the resources we use at school with all of you. Bullying prevention happens because of the partnership we have between the school and home.

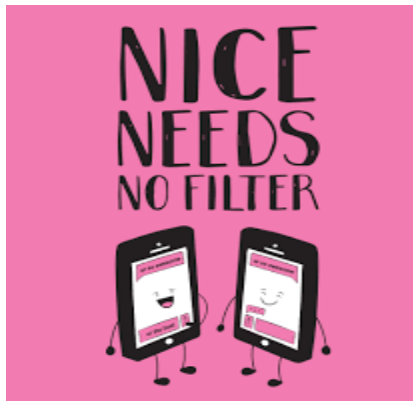
A Definition of Bullying

"Bullying is a relationship issue where one person or group repeatedly uses power and aggression to control or intentionally hurt, harm or intimidate another person or group. It is often based on another person's appearance, abilities, culture, race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Bullying can take many forms: physical, emotional, verbal, psychological or social. It can occur in person or through electronic communication."

Saskatchewan's Action Plan to Address Bullying or Cyberbullying November 2013

It is important to differentiate between Bullying and Conflict

"Conflict" is expected to be a normal occurrence during any social interactions. Conflicts are natural and enable individuals to develop appropriate problem solving and social skills. Play-fighting, rough and tumble play, and playful teasing among friends of equal power may be inappropriate but should not be considered bullying. Such behaviour should be looked upon as part of normal growth and development. It is through such interactions children learn the skills necessary to make friends, resolve conflicts, and develop positive relationships with others.



Bullying Prevention

Students have the right to a caring, respectful, and safe school environment free from all forms of bullying. All school staff members will take steps to prevent bullying and to assist and support students who are being bullied. The best thing to do is report your concerns to a trusted adult!

Much of the work done at Venture Heights School emphasises positive, constructive behaviors and attitudes. One of the key leaders in this is our "**Knights in Action**" team. Through the work of the Knights, students learn important virtues such as courage, responsibility, and respect.



WEAR PINK
and show you stand up to bullying

We invite everyone in our school community to wear a pink shirt on Wednesday, Feb. 24th for Pink Day.