



Imagine Newsletter

A School Climate Approach to Bullying Prevention

Information for Parents

Issue # 5

Bullying Awareness Week

Each year in November, a week is designated as National Bullying Awareness Week.

Visit www.bullyingawarenessweek.org for more information on this campaign.

What can you do?

Your child's school is involved in the "*Imagine...A School Without Bullying*" project. Parents need to learn more about bullying and find out what their child's school is doing about it.

- Talk to your child about what is happening at their school
- Read the school newsletter to find out what activities have been planned, like assemblies or contests
- Offer to join your school's School Climate Committee

What is a School Climate Committee (SCC)?

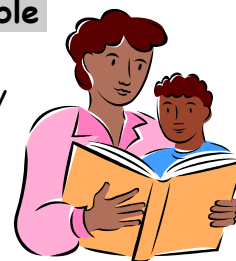
Each *Imagine* school has an SCC. This committee may include school administration, teachers, support staff, students, and parents. They are working together to create a safe and respectful place for children to learn and play.

What does a "safe" school look & feel like?

- Children have at least one adult they trust at school to talk to if something is wrong.
- Children feel accepted and included by peers and school staff.
- When children go to school, they feel valued, noticed, listened to, and respected.

Resources Available

You can support the school's efforts to reduce bullying by talking to your child about relationships. Bullying is a relationship problem. It's fun to watch a video together or read a book and then discuss it afterwards with your child.



Check your local library for books and videos on:

- communicating with your child
- bullying prevention
- conflict management
- assertiveness
- building your child's character (e.g. promoting inclusion, equity, justice, respect and compassion)

You can borrow related resources from the Public Health Resource Centre (located at 99 Regina St. S in Waterloo) at 519-883-2256 or look online at www.region.waterloo.on.ca/bullying