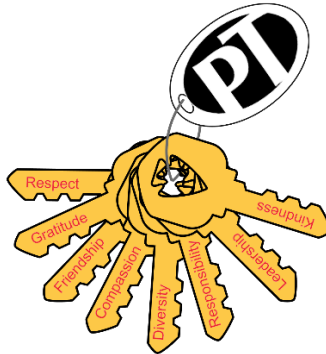


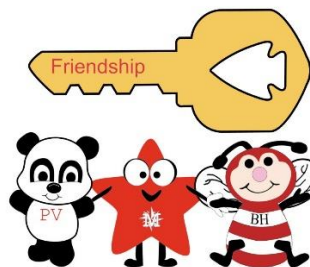
Character Counts with our Key Character Words



Pleasant Valley, Bower Hill, and McMurray are **SUPER** excited to share a new and fun approach to Character Development K-5!

What you can look forward to:

- A "Key Character Word" that will be shared, taught, and modeled throughout the month. Our HERO program will include highlighting the Key Character Word in different capacities!
- Students in all buildings K-5 will be connected by celebrating the same Key Character Word each month. This initiative is intended to connect our students and parents as they learn the meanings of these valuable words.



- Don't forget to ask about the amazing key on display outside of the gym! The Key Character Word will change each month along with the definition. To help reinforce the Key Character Word, each homeroom also has a smaller version of the key that displays the Key Character Word and the definition of the word. The hope is that the Key Character Words become part of our students' daily language! (A HUGE thanks to Mrs. Cloonan for designing the beautiful key and to Mrs. Wolk for her beautiful handwritten words! Let's not forget Mrs. LaRosa who helped to cut and laminate! THANK YOU!)

- The word of the month will be shared on the announcements and throughout the school in any way that each building sees fit (student speakers, quotes, clips, posters) and will also be shared with PTA/parents so that they may help support the theme of each month at home. School counselors will provide a lesson/activity to accompany the monthly theme.
- Each week, students will be nominated for HERO based on the Key Character Word. We will celebrate our HEROES every Friday morning! Be sure to ask your child about the HERO Wheel! Stay tuned for photos or our HEROIC students!
- There will be fun-filled days/weeks for students to celebrate the Key Character Word! Our first one is Character Counts/Friendship Week from October 24th - October 28th:
 - **Monday:** Friends make the world colorful! Wear your favorite color today.
 - **Tuesday:** Friends have different talents and interests! Wear a favorite shirt that shares something about you! Do you play a sport? Do you have a favorite hobby or a special interest? Where do you like to go on vacation? Do you have a favorite character?
 - **Wednesday:** Friends make healthy choices! Wear your exercise clothes and make a healthy choice today. Share your healthy choice with your teacher and with someone at home.
 - **Thursday:** Friends help one another when they "fall"! Wear your favorite fall or Halloween shirt today! ALSO, it's crazy/spooky hair day!! Come to school with your wildest, spookiest hair today!

Key Character Words

- October-Friendship
- November-Gratitude
- December-Compassion (Empathy)
- January-Diversity (Being Unique)
- February-Kindness
- March- Responsibility
- April-Leadership
- May-Respect

As always, feel free to reach out with any questions, concerns, or ideas!
 Stephanie Ali, School Counselor Email: alis@pt-sd.org Phone: 724-941-6020 ext. 1419