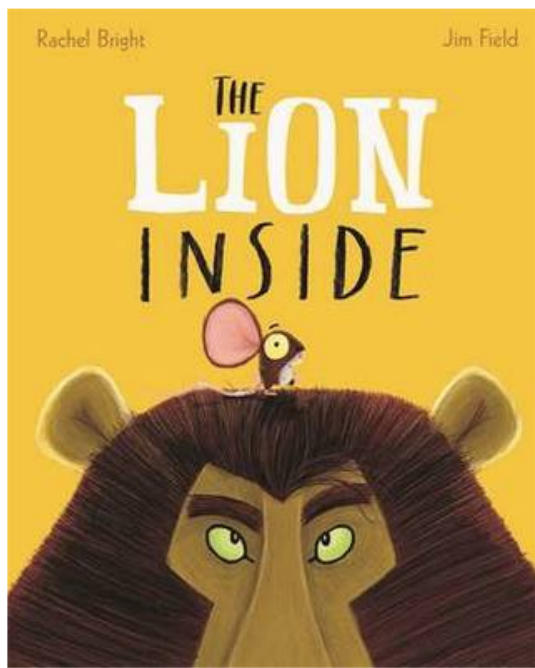


OCTOBER 2021

# GODWIN GAZETTE

Monthly newsletter from the Godwin School



## WEEK OF RESPECT

Text and photos by  
Christine Soderman

On October 6th, during the Week of Respect, we enjoyed our first in-person assembly of the school year! During the assembly we got a chance to watch a read-aloud of the book The Lion Inside by Rachel Bright and Jim Field. This book gave us a great opportunity to examine respect, self-esteem, bravery, kindness and acceptance.

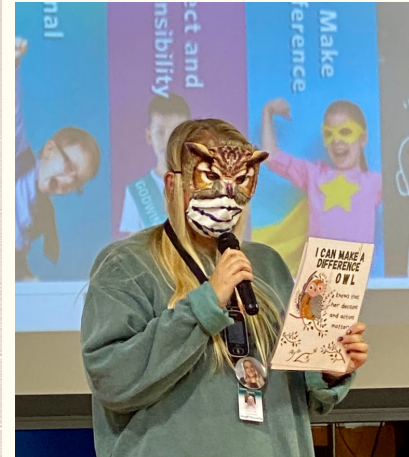
The story centered on a small mouse, on a journey to be respected by others, admiring the mighty lion for its loud roar and impressive strength. The mouse feels the only way for him to be noticed and accepted by others is to find a way to roar like the lion. He musters up the courage to approach the lion and ask for guidance, and he quickly finds that this mighty beast, who seems so tough and confident, is actually afraid of mice! The mouse earns the lion's respect by showing kindness and understanding, and he realizes that despite their many differences, he and the lion have a lot in common. We discussed how this book reminds us that respect isn't earned by being the loudest in the room. Smart decisions, kindness, and the bravery to do the right thing allow us to give and receive respect. We reflected on how we all have a mouse and lion inside, and how we can accept ourselves and others for those strengths and weaknesses.

As a follow-up take home activity, the students were asked to tell how they show respect to others and how they show respect to themselves.





Introducing our  
Bulletin Board creator  
and playing the  
Owl from  
I Can Make a Difference  
Christine Soderman



## GODWIN PRIDE

In September I created a bulletin board in the hallway dedicated to our school motto: Godwin Pride. The different animals represent each of those letters.” Personal Best Bear always gives his best effort; Respect and Responsibility Raccoon makes good choices and treats others with kindness; I Can Make a Difference Owl knows that her decisions and actions matter; Dream Big Squirrel knows that he can change the world; Educational Excellence Deer takes pride in her schoolwork. The Godwin teachers played a special role in the assembly as they represented these animals and spoke a bit about how they show Godwin Pride in their own lives. It was a wonderful way to reintroduce our school motto, and take some time to focus on the things that are so important to the Godwin community.

## **Let's Meet Ms. Lauren Fenning, School Nurse**

Ms. Lauren Fenning joined the Godwin School Family in March of 2019 as our school nurse and has established herself as the school's medical resource. Ms. Fenning is extremely knowledgeable when it comes to treating students and navigating through this Global Pandemic along with the health departments input. If you have any questions or concerns, related to your child's health, the nurse is your **GO TO** staff member, her email is [lfenning@mpsnj.org](mailto:lfenning@mpsnj.org). Please utilize her knowledge with all of your school related medical questions. Plus, by contacting the nurse directly, your child's health information stays confidential. The entire Godwin Staff is here to help you, but when it comes to medical questions and information, please utilize our school nurse. \*\*\*The nurse's office is always in need of girls and boys' pants. The next time you clean out your child's closet, please consider sending in pants.

