

# IRISH WAY AT HOME

The Irish Way is a program based on a culture of gratitude and character development that helps to build intrinsic motivation over extrinsic motivation. The focus is on an appreciation for each person's strengths, by expressing a genuine thankfulness for what they do to help our school continue on its path to excellence. Growth in the tenets of the Irish Way will allow all students to meet their potential and cultivate an understanding that we are all part of something bigger than an individual. Each person that comes through our doors possesses something that can make Davis a better place. In order for this program to continue to grow and be successful it must be a standard for our students in all areas of their life, both at school and at home. Parents can be integral in the success of the Irish Way by reinforcing the core values when the students are out of the building.

**Integrity**-Is the student getting their work done to help the family, do they go above and beyond for the good of the whole? As a parent, have chores for them to do around the house, to make them a part of the solution and have some ownership in the family.

**Respect**-Is the student respectful, to not just their parents, but the neighborhood, environment, and surrounding property? This is vital to the success of the school and neighborhood. All too often the attitude of "apathy", when it comes to other's belongings, can bring about an unintended culture of isolation. Picking up items around the house, community, and school brings an important sense of pride in your surroundings and changes how you behave because of that pride.

**Individual Responsibility**-Is the student being accountable for their actions, not just the actions that others find out about, but what happens when they think no one is watching? Is there a pattern of attempting to blame others when things do not go well? If the student finds a phone, or \$20 bill, will they turn it into the office?

**Service**-Is the student of service, to not just the community, but the people they are in contact with in their daily lives? Can you count on this person to help when asked, and will they self initiate helping others? Is the student tolerant and accepting of others who are different? Think of ways to give/show perspective, either through communication, service projects, or education about negative stereotypes.

**High Expectations**-Is the student reflecting on each area of their life and looking for growth areas? At Davis we ask: "**How** could you have done that differently?" rather than "**Why** did you do that?". Why questions will typically get met with an "I don't know" response or defensiveness. Each time something happens in our life it is designed to help us become the "best version of ourself" we can be. Encourage this growth mindset to continue to challenge what can be accomplished in every situation.