

Local schools stepped up to help the less fortunate over the Holidays



Alloa Public School teacher Zelia Inacio was a little nervous as she prepared to have her hair cut recently. She grimaced a little bit, as her colleague Jennifer Cardwell did



the opening cut. Inacio's hair was donated to Locks of Love. Hair Dresser Elvia Machado was keeping an eye on things.



These folks from St. John the Baptist Elementary School in Bolton had a lot of big boxes packed and ready to go to Operation Christmas Child, run by Samaritan's Purse. Seen here, helping to load everything, was (front) Mariangela Giorgio, Shannon Fraser, (standing) Annalisa Lattavo, Jessica D'Ettore, Alesya Bartella, Amanda Iovine, Emily Jardine, Chris Desroches, Sandi Wight, Peter Graham and Cosimo Cacciola.



MACVILLE MADE CONTRIBUTION TO CCS

Students and staff at Macville Public School worked hard to raise money during their fall United Way Campaign, and the day recently came for them to present the proceeds. Terry Wernath, from Caledon Community Services, was on hand to receive the contribution of \$3,651.71. The presentation, assisted by students Mack Winters and Haley Welch, was made by Macville teachers Penny Cirone, Lynne Butlin, Ann Clark and United Way Committee Chair Louise Millken.

Photo by Bill Rea

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He said the school was informed of a family in need through the school board, along with a list of items they require, and staff and students have worked to fill those needs. As well, he said the school is involved in coats for kids program, also run through the board.

Students and staff at Alton Public School ran a food drive at the Holiday Concert, with proceeds to go to Family Transition Place in Orangeville, school Secretary Sharon Locke reported.

The major charitable effort at Caledon Central Public School was participation in the Share the Joy program through the board. Principal Donalda Barlow said contributions were collected through a silent auction, which netted about \$1,800.

Once again this year, the Credit View Learning Community adopted a family through the Share the Joy Campaign, reported Credit View Public School Principal Mariann Miller.

She said each class at Credit View donated items to create a themed basket, such as chocolate, toys, entertainment, arts and crafts, bed and bath and gift certificates. Raffle tickets were sold and more than \$900 was raised. The funds were used to purchase items, such as clothing, games, art supplies gift certificates and food for the family. The beautifully decorated baskets were raffled off at Credit View's Holiday Concert Dec. 17.

"We have been quite busy" on charity efforts, reported Brad Teeter, princi-

pal at Caledon East Public School.

The school contributed food items to the Caledon Community Services (CCS) Santa Fund. As well, toys were contributed to the Peel CAS.

"The spirit of giving's been good here," Teeter declared, adding there were piles of toys in the school's foyer during the last week of classes.

"The school's done quite a bit," commented Special Education teacher Cathy Moorehead on the activities that have been going on at Herb Campbell Public School.

In addition to taking part in the Share the Joy campaign, she said the community school council came up with a Candy Cane Tree toy drive, in which students selected candy canes with the gender and age of a certain child, and they were to bring in an appropriate toy.

The school also took part in Caledon OPP's Cram a Cruiser effort.

Constable Jonathan Beckett reported a number of schools in the community were involved in this effort, which saw kids filling police cars with food and other items, which went to the CCS Santa Fund.

And it the program turned out to be a big success.

"It exceeded our expectations tremendously," Beckett declared, adding they had at least 15 police cars crammed with donated items.

In addition, the OPP's Toys for Tots program was another "completely awesome" success, Beckett reported, with numerous loads of toys being collected for the Santa Fund. "My

office is full of toys," he said.

Staff and students at Holy Family Elementary School in Bolton were collecting mitts, scarves and toys for the Santa Fund, Head Secretary Margaret Proctor reported. As well, some of the girls in the school were selling little bracelets, which resulted in more than \$400 going to the hospital for Sick Children.

In addition to helping police cram their cruisers, the people at James Bolton Public School pitched in by holding a book drive. Principal Lisa Miller-Wood said this was carried out through a program called Helping Hands, and was aimed at supporting a needier school in the area.

Allan Drive Middle School also helped the police cram cruisers. Principal Richard Ward said they stuffed some 3,200 items into four cars.

Palgrave Public School contributed food items for the CCS Santa Fund, as well as toys for Family Transition Place. Principal Laurie Johnson said close to 2,000 items were collected.

The students at Pope John Paul II Elementary School in Bolton were busy too. Vice-Principal Emily Plastyina said they contributed toys for the Santa Fund. As well, they had a Sock Tree, in support of the Help with Heat program, which is also run by CCS. In addition, she said students adopted seven families in need and collected goods for them.

Students at St. Cornelius Elementary School in Caledon East collected toys, food and gently used clothing, and secretary Kerri

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