

Santa fund got lots of help from schools

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Majetic said they were sent to CCS.

Students at St. John the Baptist Elementary School in Bolton were busy collecting contributions for Operation Christmas Child, run by Samaritan's Purse. Teacher-Librarian Peter Graham reported a bunch of large boxes of donated items were shipped out earlier this month. They contained shoeboxes filled with items destined for children in such lands as Uruguay, Nicaragua,

Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, El Salvadore, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Senagal and Haiti.

Staff and students at St. Nicholas Elementary School in Bolton were also on deck to help with the Santa Fund. School Secretary Cathy Fay said there was a Hat and Mitt Tree set up, along with a food drive, and some families contributed toys too.

There was lots of charitable activity at Humberview Secondary School in Bolton too. English Head Allyson Henley said there was a

strong focus on giving back to the community. That included a coat drive, which saw 20 garbage bags full of coats going to CAS. Staff at the school also took part in a food drive for the Santa fund.

The folks at Ellwood Memorial Public School in Bolton collected about 2,000 food items for the Santa Fund, according to Principal John Stegeman. As well, he said they worked to sponsor a needy family in town, and compiled 88 bed kits for Sleeping Children Around the World.



Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School staff members appear here with toys and presents they donated to the Catholic charity, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, instead of their annual Chris Cringle gift exchange.

Photo by Jon Yaneff



Constable Jonathan Beckett was helping to load contributions in the Cram the Cruisers program from these students at Ecole James Bolton Public School.



Caledon OPP Constable Clyder Vivian was watching as Herb Campbell Public School students Rebecca Kontosic and Niko Racicot piled stuff into the back seat of this cruiser.

Celebrating the New Year

Another year is quickly coming to an end and we are now making plans for ringing in the New Year.

There are many ways to do this, which is evidenced by the various celebrations that occur around the world. Fireworks and resolutions typically come to mind when we think of the most popular ways to celebrate, but there are also many other traditions and even many different foods that are eaten at New Year's.

Cabbage is a popular New Year's food. When buttered or used as a wrap, cabbage and collards are intended to resemble money and bring good fortune in Denmark and the southern United States. In Austria, Germany, Portugal, Spain and much of South America, roasted pork is prepared as symbol of prosperity. Fish is often eaten in China and in northern and western Europe as a traditional New Year's food and as a symbol of fertility. In Japan, herring roe is often eaten. Shortbread, oat cake

and fruitcake are given as gifts. In Scotland, for first-footing – the custom of being first through the door in the New Year. Lastly, 12 grapes and/or pomegranate seeds are eaten to ensure future prosperity in Spain, Portugal, Italy and South America.

Many cultures around the world also believe anything shaped like a ring will bring good luck because it symbolizes "coming full circle," completing a year's cycle. It is for this reason that the Dutch believe eating donuts New Year's Day will deliver good fortune.

We've all heard the song "Auld Lang Syne" at the stroke of midnight. It is a tradition found in most, if not all, English-speaking countries around the world, but many of us are unsure of where this tradition originated. It was at least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700s and was first published in 1796 after Burns' death. This Scottish song literally means "old long ago" or simply put, "the good old

days." The most common tradition, making resolutions, See 'Happy' on page 16



PROCEEDS FROM DANCE GO TO CCS

Caledon Community Services (CCS) were the beneficiaries of some Halloween festivities hosted by the Home and School Committee of Ecole James Bolton Public School. The result was a contribution of \$1,000, along with a number of boxes of donated non-perishable food items, which were delivered recently by event organizer Katie Mitri to Joanna Lenz, manager of community services at CCS. Mitri was accompanied by a number of students. Seen here are (standing) Emily Adam, Taylor Fantin, Kasia Symanski, Jorgii Mitri, Jessie-Renee Mitri, Kate Costaris, Emma Dance, (kneeling) Katilyn Adam, Jeremy Mitri, Julia Crump and Julianna Avamidis.

Photo by Bill Rea

Ottawa Journal

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