

January 10, 2012

Canada's Favourite Crossing Guard

Windsor crossing guard, Deanna Gay, was recently named Canada's Favourite Crossing Guard in a contest sponsored by Fed Ex and Safe Kids Canada. She was recognized by the contest sponsors, Trustees Hayes and Narang and Mayor Corrigan at a special assembly on December 16 - pajama day at Windsor! Deanna was awarded a trophy and received a gift of \$1000 for her school.

Nationally Acclaimed Mathematicians at Maywood

Mr Sanderson's grade 6/7 class at Maywood Community School didn't just participate in *The Maple Leaf Math Challenge* - they dominated this online challenge! The class placed first among schools in Canada, and 15 Maywood students placed in the top 100, including Sherry Y who placed second overall. An assembly will be held on January 17 to recognize this achievement with a presentation by Mathletics, organizers of The Maple Leaf Math Challenge.

Volleyball Superstars

Volleyball is supreme at Nelson Elementary. On Dec 2, Nelson's co-ed volleyball team finished fourth overall in a 29 team Lower Mainland competition held at Burnaby Mountain Secondary. A week later, Nelson's boys and girls volleyball teams won the district championships. Special thanks and appreciation goes out to Coaches Morrison, Phillips, Kimmie and Grant for their time, effort and dedication in leading these teams to victory.

Walking for Water

With water issues as part of the curriculum, students from Marlborough Elementary learned that people in Africa have to walk miles, and sometimes days, for safe drinking water. In an effort to raise awareness of this issue and money to help build a well in Africa, the students orchestrated an event in December in which they walked around the school's track carrying jugs of water.

Vancouver Sun Children's Fund Focuses on School Children

This year's theme for the Vancouver Sun Children's Fund was an "adopt-a-school" campaign. The campaign and stories generated a tremendous amount of awareness province-wide. Burnaby schools benefited from donations from:

- North Vancouver's Montroyal Elementary who chose to adopt Windsor Elementary, provided winter clothing and funds to support the school's healthy snacks program.
- A Best Buy donation of \$10,000 towards musical instruments to support a refugee music program for Morley, Edmonds, and Byrne Creek schools respectively.

Making Spirits Bright

Helping make Christmas a bit brighter for others is a tradition in Burnaby schools. Some of the special highlights for Christmas 2011 included:

- Grade 2 student Simon B from Stoney Creek used his love of cooking to help others this Christmas. Simon produced his own cookbook, to raise money for the school and the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. He sold his cookbook at school during recess, at his hockey practices and was invited to attend two Giants games to sell his book and to receive a special Giants medal of valour for raising more than \$400.
- Twins Rachel and Ruth Kao, grade 12 students at Burnaby Central, spent the month of November raising awareness for the Rotary Club's "Coats for Kids" campaign. They set a goal of 12 coats. Through their infectious efforts they accumulated well over 50 coats for distribution to children throughout the Burnaby community.
- For 20 years and counting, Burnaby North's Christmas Cheer Committee raised \$10,000 for the Burnaby Christmas Bureau.
- Teacher Melissa Curtis set up a "Christmas Store" at Edmonds Community School with new and gently used items donated by staff at the district office and other Burnaby schools. It gave students the opportunity to choose gifts for their parents and siblings and to experience the pride and joy of giving.