

ST. JOSEPH

It's hard to believe it is already the end of March. The students are thrilled to be outside in the sunshine enjoying the school yard and the warmer temperatures.

We finished off February with two wonderful presentations to celebrate Black History Month. The students loved the storytelling and the African drumming. We thank

Mrs. Douglas for helping us organize and plan these events for our school community.

We were pleased to welcome author and storyteller Susan Aguilio to our school. Ms. Aguilio focused on the ways to write and tell a story and the process of using your own life experiences and imagination to write books.

Our Valentine's Raffle

was a huge success. Congratulations to the winners of the Toronto Maple Leaf, Guelph Storm, and Toronto Rock tickets. Together we raised over \$500 to be donated to the Canadian Red Cross and the Black Creek Animal Hospital. We thank students Andrei and Pharoh who worked hard on these initiatives.

Thank you to the Halton Region for presenting to our students on the Waste Management practices here in Acton. Our

students are very diligent with our recycling and composting of waste, and this is reflected in our GOLD Eco Status.

The North Halton Regional Speech Competition was held at St. Joseph's this year. We would like to congratulate Mac C. and all of the other competitors who presented wonderful speeches and represented their schools so well.

We hope everyone had a wonderful March Break. We are preparing



for Easter by participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and we

look forward to our Easter Mass on April 4 at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

M.S.B.

At MSB, we provide different opportunities and experiences to our students to better engage them in the education process as well as preparing them for the future. In sports, our boys' and girls' senior basketball teams are nearing the end of their seasons while the grades four and five volleyball teams had a great time hosting their finals right before March Break featuring teams from Glen Williams, Robert Little, Harrison, Joseph Gibbons and Limehouse. Coming up in the spring season, our students will be competing in grade six basketball, senior soccer, and track and field. Good

luck Mustangs!

Ms. Muir is leading our Green Team this year. Students are learning about the importance of taking care of our environment. They are building awareness about energy conservation through regular classroom inspections, visits, and lectures. Students are learning about waste management and the importance of sorting the garbage into the right bin.

We celebrated "Earth Hour" on Friday, March 23 during the last period. We disconnected from all technologies, turned off the lights, and we were engaged in educational



activities with no devices. Some of our classes took the opportunity to go for an outdoor education, especially since it was a beautiful day.

On March 21, we observed the World Down Syndrome Day. Some teachers and students wore blue and yellow or funky socks. We participated as

we wanted to raise public awareness about the rights and inclusion of people with Down Syndrome in our society. We discussed the importance of eliminating the use of

the "R" word as it is no longer appropriate if we are to create an inclusive and accepting world where we all have the right to feel safe.

Some of our students joined the chess club where they learned new strategies and techniques to win. Other students joined the Robotics club as they are very interested in technology. Our teachers believe that technology is critical to innovation, and we strive to innovate to better meet our students' needs.

"Battle of the Books" club continues to encourage students to read and

share what they found interesting.

We continue to practice for our big performance on April 18. Students work hard to prepare for "Beauty and the Beast" play. They have memorized their songs and lines, they also worked on creating the different scenes for the play. Our parents are involved using their talents in arts, make-up, and organization.

Our grade seven students had the opportunity to go to Muskoka Camp where they learned to reconnect with nature by spending most of their days outdoor.

ACTON HIGH

Lights Out!

On Friday, March 23, the school's EcoClub asked for unnecessary lights in the school to be turned off from 2 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. to acknowledge Earth Hour. Earth Hour started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia to raise awareness about climate change. While Earth Hour was officially held on Saturday, March 24, Acton High wanted to do its part to make a difference.

Lots of Sticks on the Ice

On Thursday, March 8, Acton High held its annual Hockey Tournament at the Acton Arena. Mr. Brown and the school's Grade 12 Leadership class organized the event in collaboration with clubs such as the Safe Schools Action Team and Me to We, in order to put together an event with lots to see and do... and the turnout was huge! Not only did we see cur-

rent high school students there, but Stewarttown and Brookville students also made an appearance. Proud parents and community members also sat in the stands to cheer on their favourite teams. Many charities benefited from bake sales and raffle tickets. Look for our upcoming thank you notice in the Acton Tanner.

Musical Notes

The Acton Music program is in the midst of its festival season. Our Concert and Jazz Bands played at Golden Horseshoe Music Fest

at Redeemer University College in Ancaster in February, and the Choir performed at Ontario Vocal Jazz Fest just last week. All groups put on great performances. We look forward to our joint concert with the Acton Citizens Band on Thursday, April 5, as well as the Wonderland Music Festival in May.

Let them calculate cake!

In the grade nine math classroom, students had to complete their calculations before making their cakes. They applied their knowledge of volume, proportions and percentages to the baking process.



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