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Your Kawartha

Students In Woodville Take Part In "International Christmas Tour" Placing Candles To Honour Fallen Soldiers At The Cenotaph

By [Pamela Vanmeer](#) - December 17, 2020

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Courtesy Andrew Veale



KAWARTHA LAKES-Students at Woodville Elementary School gathered at the cenotaph, candles in hand, to honour local fallen soldiers on Wednesday night.

They placed one candle for every name on the cenotaph.



Courtesy Andrew Veale

It was part of an International Christmas Tour in which students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 participated.

Officials say teachers at the school wanted to give students a more global look at how holidays are celebrated around the world.

"Therefore, throughout the day, stations were set up to represent holiday traditions that take place in Estonia, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany, and Norway." Sinead Fegan, Communications with TLDSB told Kawartha 411 News. "Grade 7 and 8 teachers and their students provided leadership at each station or country, having students participate in various activities and games which were visited and all Covid friendly."

One of those stations was the placing of the candles at the Woodville Cenotaph.

Schoolchildren visit the Canadian War Cemetery in Holten, Netherlands on Christmas Eve, candles in hand as part of a long held Christmas tradition. The candles are for the fallen Canadian soldiers of the Second World War who liberated the Netherlands. The ceremony that begins at 4:30 p.m., around 300 schoolchildren walk to different burial plots, and place a candle at every one. 1,393 Canadian soldiers lie there; most of them fell during the last few days of the war, according to the Veteran Affairs Canada's website.

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Pamela VanMeer is a two time winner of the prestigious Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA) Award. Her investigative reports on abuse in Long Term Care Homes garnered international attention for the issue and won the Ron Laidlaw Award. She is a former reporter and anchor at CHEX News, now Global Peterborough and helped launch the New CHEX Daily, a daily half hour talk show. While at CHCH News in Hamilton she covered some of the biggest news stories of the day.

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