

# Local family hosts inaugural Isaac's Trek for Treats for Duchenne's research

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A four-year-old boy and his family are inviting the community out for a fun-filled day to raise some money for a cause that hits close to home.

Last year, four-year-old Isaac van Asseldonk was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy - an aggressive form of dystrophy found only in boys, with no treatment, and no cure, and a life expectancy of mid- to late-20s.

Isaac will be starting junior kindergarten at St. Joseph's in Acton this coming September. He's your typical little boy; full of energy, a lot of fun, and a good brother to his younger sister, Evelyn, 2, and older brothers, Peter, 5, and Luke, 8. He likes to partake in a lot of the things they do, like running and jumping, but with Duchenne's, he has to work hard to do so.

"It's tiring on his body, it hurts physically sometimes, and he just doesn't have the strength to do it," Isaac's mom, Meghan,

said. "But he is always right behind them. He is a determined little boy. He has taken all of the doctor visits, and the needles, and the daily medication in stride. He just keeps trucking along."

The family stumbled across Jesse's Journey - a charity started by a family in London after their son, Jesse, was diagnosed with Duchenne's in 1986. Meghan established contact with the organization's fundraising coordinator, and asked about hosting an event in Acton.

"We asked what we could do to raise money because it's really the one thing we can do to help Isaac," Meghan said.

After some thought, the van

● See DUCHENNE, page 41



Meghan van Asseldonk/submitted

On Oct. 28, the van Asseldonk family is inviting the community out to Isaac's Trek for Treats: a fundraising event to help raise money for Jesse's Journey, a charity based out of London, who donates funds towards Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Last year, Isaac van Asseldonk, 4, was diagnosed with the genetic disease.



By Cory Soal  
R.H.A.D.

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