

**CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STUDENTS VISITED
BY AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR**



Eamonn Maher photo

The African Children's Choir visited Georgetown and Acton for some recent performances on its Canadian tour and stopped by Halton Hills Christian School for an interactive workshop with local students. As well as performing their own energetic show, the visitors from Uganda, aged eight to 10, showed Halton Hills students how to play drums and other instruments.

Thousands of Halton students face financial barriers that cause them to fall behind before they even set foot in class.

You can change that.



Help ensure No Student is Left Behind.

www.help4hf.ca



Eliminating Financial Barriers to Education



Ensuring no student is left behind
Halton Learning Foundation

"We have a little pumpkin in Kindergarten who is coming to school hungry." So began the email from the principal at Max's school; the six-year-old was coming to class with no lunch and no breakfast. When the principal called Max's mom, she broke down and admitted she was struggling to put food on the table due to the high cost of rent.

Unfortunately, there are many six-year-olds in Halton like Max who come to school without food. There are 10-year-olds who are kept home from class on cold days because they don't have a warm coat or boots. There are 16-year-old students in our community struggling to live on their own because it's unsafe for them to remain at their parents' home.

These are just some of the more than 6,500 students of the Halton District School Board who face financial barriers to their education. Fortunately, when principals like Max's need help for their vulnerable students, they can turn to the Halton Learning Foundation (HLF). HLF provides immediate financial support to ensure students have the basics they need to stay in school and focused on learning.

"When kids are hungry or they don't have the proper clothing to participate in school activities, it's very difficult for them to fit in or to concentrate on class," says Lesley Mansfield, executive director of HLF. "We provide a helping hand to students and their families to ensure kids can remain in school and feel included in their education."

Earlier this year HLF purchased a bicycle for a student living in a part of Halton that has no public transportation. The student had previously dropped out of school, but had come back to class fully committed to learning.

"Transportation was a barrier to this student's education, because his parents didn't have a car and it was too far for him to walk," said Mansfield. "A \$150 bicycle was the difference between this student continuing to come to school and remaining engaged in learning, versus potentially dropping out for good."

Requests for support are up more than 40 per cent over this time last year, so HLF needs the community's support to continue saying "yes" to students.

To help, please visit help4hf.ca.

Halton Non-Profit Groups:
Increase your visibility by taking part in our

GIVING TUESDAY

November 28th, 2017

Multi-Media Feature November 28th, 2017

Contact Kelly Montague at kmontague@metroland.com for complete details

Look... for a special Giving Tuesday insert in your November 24th edition!



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