

## Tot 'Learn to Skate'

Look Mom and Dad! I'm skating all by myself!

The one-hour Learn to Skate program for preschoolers is a great introduction to ice skating. Parents are invited to join in the fun too.

Classes begin Friday, Jan. 6 at 10 am at the Acton Arena and run for 10 weeks.

Call the municipal Recreation and Parks department at 873-2600, ext. 275 for registration information.

## 'Dec' the halls at M.Z.

### M.Z. BENNETT NEWS

BY CHRIS DENNIE & MATTHEW DAYMAN

Well, here we are! Almost Christmas!

It's been very busy here at M.Z. Bennett this week and we'll be that next week is even busier.

With Christmas songs and making presents and decorations, we certainly have to work hard to make sure our school work gets done too!

The Kindergarten students have been doing many different Christmas activities. They made paper chains, Hawaiian leis and tissue paper wreaths. They are also sewing Christmas stockings and learning the letter "C."

The entire primary end of our school is doing Christmas crafts right now. They are doing cross-grade grouping and rotating to different teachers.

Students in Mr. Waitson's class are teamed up with Miss Dunnet's

class to do skits about Christmas. They presented their skit at an assembly today. All the classes will present something one day this week.

All the classes are decorating their classroom doors — there is a contest for the prettiest door in the whole school. It is certainly brightening up the halls for Christmas.

The junior classes are doing Christmas crafts as well.

Our Christmas open house is tomorrow (Thursday), and it will be followed by caroling. We will also collect canned goods for the FoodShare.

The Christmas break begins Dec. 19 till Jan. 2

This week we interviewed Mr. Dorscht. He lives in Guelph and has a pig for a pet! He likes to bike in his spare time or cross country ski, or even read (especially science fiction).

Mr. Dorscht likes to work with computers too. We all certainly enjoy his creativity and talent.

## Auditions for 'Oz'

### McKENZIE-SMITH NEWS

BY CHLOE SAVAGE & AMY YEATMAN

This week's teacher/helper of the week at McKenzie-Smith is Mrs. Linda Bowen. Why, you ask? Because Mrs. Bowen is outside every morning to make sure students get off their bus all right and are safe around the playground. Mrs. Bowen helps teachers and students. She is an instructional assistant. Thank-you Mrs. Bowen, we appreciate your help.

Auditions for the role of Dorothy, for our spring production of the Wizard of Oz, have just begun and the decision will be made before Christmas break. Everybody is very excited about the whole arrangement of the play. Each person auditioning for the Dorothy part had to sing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow."

Good friend Shawn Weatherall has broken his leg, and all his friends at McKenzie-Smith want to say ... Get well soon!!

Last Tuesday was our Christmas concert. The boys' volleyball team got a big round of applause for their great year. Dave Walker's name will be on the Mustang Main Event trophy, on display in the showcase. This is the biggest event for McKenzie-Smith sports and it will go down in history!

Even though it's sad to see volleyball end, there is still basketball. Try-outs were last week.

And our swim team had try-outs last week too. Congratulations and good luck to all who made try-outs last week.

## Christmas gift ideas

Need a good idea for that active, have-everything person on your Christmas list? Smile Theatre tickets are the perfect answer, and a real deal at just \$6 apiece.

On Jan. 26, this professional theatre group from Toronto will present *The Light in Winnie's Window* — the story of a British war bride who settled in Brandon, Manitoba, who raised four children, and is still there, alive and kicking.

"Life ain't all Dr. Peppers and Skittles," says Winnie, "but it sure is a heck of a ride."

A new toe-tapping musical by Tom Kneebone and William Orlowski will be presented in Acton on March 30. The title of this lively production is *Dance — Danse — Dance!* Don't miss it!

Call Acton Support Services and Information Centre, 853-3310 for tickets, or stop by and pick them up at 19 Willow St. N.



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## Christmas raffle a hit!

### ROBERT LITTLE NEWS

BY ANDREA DINGWALL & MEGHAN COLVIN

Last week Mrs. Clevely's Grade 4 students were making some special books for the Grade 1 classes. They had to think of special features that a Grade 1 book should have.

The class decided there should be big printing, lots of word repetition, big colourful realistic pictures that illustrate the words of the story.

It certainly was a challenge but they turned out great!

Everyone at Robert Little is really excited about Christmas and especially our Christmas raffle.

Mr. Adshead, our caretaker, has made a candy-covered gingerbread house, Mrs. Nodwell made a wreath, and Mrs. Parker made a Yule Log for the raffle.

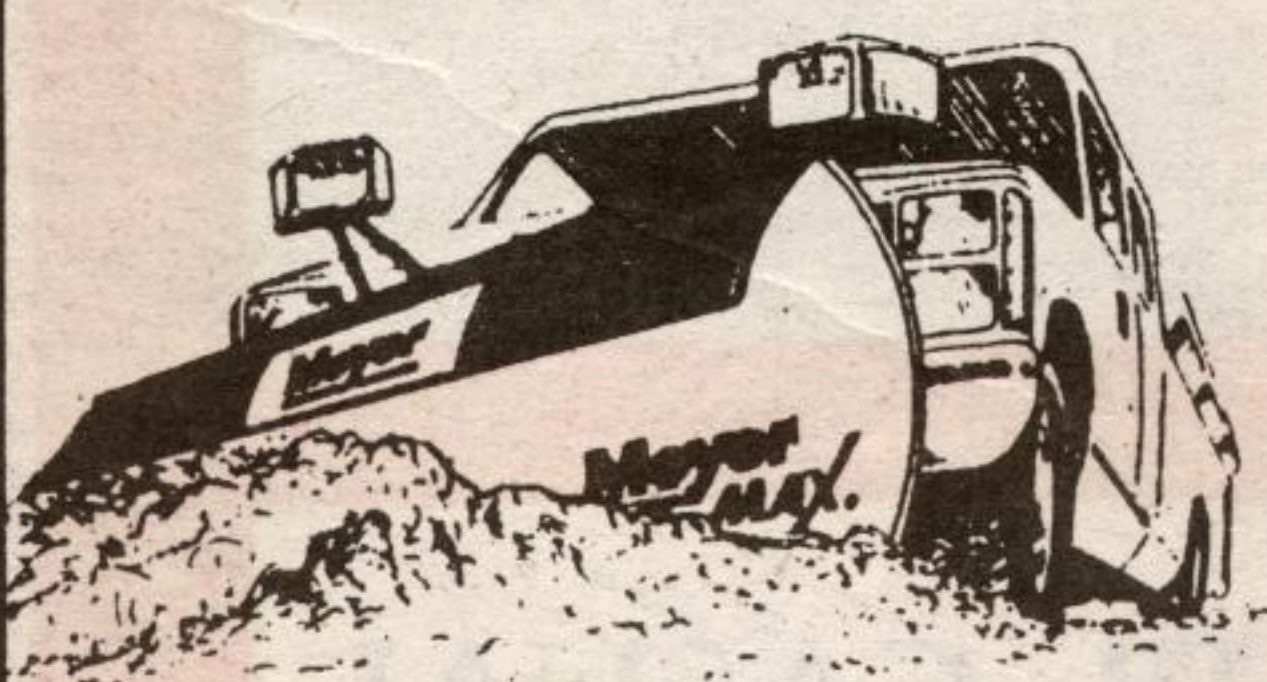
Children can buy as many tickets as they want to win one of these fantastic prizes.

This year we have a food drop off box in the front lobby of the school. All Robert Little students are being encouraged to bring some food or money for this box instead of a Christmas present for their teacher.

We are looking forward to our Christmas open house when the parents come in and see the classrooms and listen to the school choirs.

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CHRISTMAS HOURS  
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CLOSED MON. DEC. 26 AND TUES. DEC. 27  
NORMAL HOURS ON WED. DEC 28 & THURS. DEC. 29  
CLOSED FRI. DEC. 30 AT NOON