

Read-a-thon kicks off

M.Z. BENNETT NEWS

BY MATTHEW DAYMAN & HAYLEY ELLIS

Soon our Grades 2-3 will be starting a unit on measurement. Together with Grades 1-2, the five classes will rotate through several different centres.

Grades 4-5 are studying Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, which they will perform in early May. It means some very busy weeks ahead for both teachers and students.

The M.Z. chess club has chosen

its "Dream Team" to represent the school at the Halton-wide tournament at Joseph Gibbons school. Congratulations to Creed Swan, Nicholas Newby, Brendan Dick, Dawn Stevenson, Joe Douglas and Gavin Williams, and good luck!

Our girls' volleyball team had a good season this year. The team played well together and showed excellent sportsmanship. Other schools at last week's tournament commented on our girls' good behaviour and team spirit. What a great reputation for our school!

Special thanks to Mr. Waitson and Mrs. Graham for their dedication, which required weekly 8 am-practices and after-school games.

Mrs. Graham's class is selling Easter candy to raise funds for the trip to Ontario Place and the Planetarium on April 18.

Last week we had our kick-off for our read-a-thon, to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis. We will be involved in many reading activities over the next few weeks, ending with a book fair in May.



Another Birthday's Not So Hard To Swallow!

Happy Birthday, Irene!
Love, all your friends at
The Tanner.

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Green Thumb Gardening

Fertilizer facts

All fertilizer packages display three numbers, indicating the percentage of specific nutrients included. Nitrogen is always first, phosphorus in the middle and potassium last. Nitrogen promotes green, leafy growth. Lawn fertilizers are usually high in this nutrient. Too much nitrogen applied to a flowering plant will overstimulate vegetative growth at the expense of flowers. Nitrogen is water soluble and is not stock-piled in the soil. It is leached out of the soil by rain and watering and will have to be given to the plant on a regular basis. Phosphorus encourages root development, flower formation and seed development. As such, transplant fertilizers and fertilizer for flowers and fruits are higher in the middle number. Potassium (the last number of the three) promotes strong branches and stems as well as resistance to low temperatures—the "body builder" of the plant world.

When application directions are followed carefully, fertilizers will promote healthy, vigorous plants that can withstand the invasion of insects, diseases and the rigours of winter.

Once the frost is out of the soil in the spring you can begin applying fertilizer. When you begin is not a critical as knowing when to stop fertilizing. If you fertilize too late in the season, new growth doesn't have time to harden off for the winter. These plants are at a disadvantage getting through the winter without damage. Usually mid to late August is the last time fertilizer should be applied (depending on the fertilizer you are using).

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre & Landscaping, Hwy. 25, one mile south of Acton (853-2480) will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace.

We are 'honoured'

MCKENZIE-SMITH NEWS

BY AMY YEATMAN

Last week at M-S we took the time to congratulate not only those who participate in extra activities around school, but those students who have an 80 per cent or better average in their first term report card.

Many students accepted "honours awards" and they deserve a big congratulations.

Next week we will be handing out honours awards for the second term report cards.

We were also honoured with a performance by "The Great Illusionist," who also performed at Acton High Friday. He was outstanding!

The Wizard of Oz is coming together, with rehearsals almost every day! The play takes hard work and tons of dedication. Every person who contributes is important!

The whole cast thanks Mrs. Raymond, Mrs. Trotter and Mrs. Bowen, who are there every day with smiling faces and hope that this play will take off with flying colours.

Kate Hendry top student

ROBERT LITTLE NEWS

BY GALEN KERR, AIDEN STANLEY & ANDREA DINGWALL

We interviewed Kate Hendry, our Student of Excellence this year. Kate likes to play soccer and this is her third year in piano lessons.

She likes music and reading in school, especially mysteries. She thinks it is neat to be the Student of Excellence.

Kate is involved in many after-school activities including: R.O.K. (Reaching Other Kids), cross-country, track and field and vol-

leyball. Kate's teachers, Mrs. Denny and Mlle. Angle, think that she has done her best work, is a responsible student who gets along well with other people. Also, they say she does lots of community activities. Congratulations Kate!

Recently at Robert Little we had a fund-raiser to raise money for the school. We sold New York cheesecake and ready-to-bake cookie and muffin batter from MacMillan's. Classes who sold the most won a pizza party. The winning classes were Mr. Speed's and Mrs. Clevely's classes.

St. Joe's students 'jaded'

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS

BY MARY PAT O'MEARA & STEPHANIE VIDIC

The Separate School Board awarded our school the Blue Planet Award! We are happy to receive it.

Some of our environmental club will be going to Ontario Place to receive the award during Earth Week. Our school is almost a "jade" school. Last year we gained the "green" school status and now we're close to "jade." This means we are all aware of our responsi-

bility to save and preserve our planet.

This week, Mrs. Caverley's class sold popcorn and held raffles to raise money for their trip to Rocky Ridge Ranch.

Student teams are preparing for the upcoming "Think Bowls" and the "Battle of the Books."

Students are also busily rehearsing for our spring production, *Tribute to Broadway*. Details will be released soon.

During Lent we are collecting "Pennies for the Poor." So far we have over \$100.

Acton seniors get fit at St. Alban's

ASSIC ALERT

If you are a senior and you would like to tone your muscles, join the group at St. Alban's Hall, every

Thursday, from 10 to 11 am.

This program is designed for those looking for light, easy exercises without stress or strain.

For further information, call Sue

at ASSIC, 853-3310.

We would like to thank volunteers Brendan, Pat, Mary, Ellen and Fran, who gave of their time during ASSIC's recent Tax Clinic.

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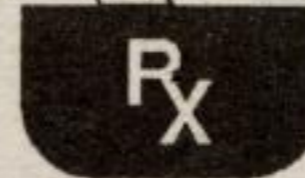


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