

Education

School boards, Region offer tips to deal with student bullying

The Halton District School Board, the Halton Catholic District School Board and The Region of Halton have joined together to recognize the Third Annual Bullying Awareness Week, November 14 to 20.

Bullying Awareness Week is a joint initiative of The Family Channel and Bullying.org Canada.

"It's Cool to Care" is this year's slogan to raise awareness that, although bullying occurs, bystanders can make the difference. Through TV programming, the media, schools and community partners will be spreading the message that bullying is NOT acceptable in our society and everyone has a responsibility to address bullying.

What can peers do?

- Watch out for others who are alone; invite them to play with you.

**Don't Stand By!
Stand Up!**

- Remember the golden rule; "treat others the way you would like to be treated".

- Let a trusted

adult know what is happening.

- Don't Stand By! Stand Up!

What role can adults play?

- Talk to your child; be a good listener.
- Encourage your child to talk about their feelings.

• Encourage your child to join social groups or organizations that meet his or her interests. This will boost your child's self-confidence and develop his or her social skills. Confident children with social skills are much less likely to be bullied.

• Encourage your child to tell an adult that they trust. Explain that tattling is telling to get someone in trouble. Reporting is telling when someone is in danger of getting hurt.

• Trust your instincts; if you think your child or youth is being bullied, have an open discussion with him or her. Reinforce that he or she does not need to keep bullying problems a secret.

For more information about Bullying Awareness Week and how you can make a difference, log on to www.bullying.org



Playground improvement at Park School

Park School's yard received the finishing touches last week as Karl Stenssen, senior vice-president of Sheridan Nurseries used the ceremonial shovel to plant the last tree at the school playground, following significant upgrades and improvements. On hand to help were (from left) Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette, Park School principal Kathy Clarke and Lisa Cieplucha, who shared project management duties with Sanja Vago, who was unable to be present.

Photo by Ted Brown

Parents invited to seminar on Postmodern Youth Culture

The Georgetown parents of Toronto District Christian High School presents Understanding Postmodern Youth Culture, 7:30 p.m. at the Georgetown Christian Reformed Church, 11611 Trafalgar Rd.

Are you finding it harder to raise good kids in a culture of chaos? Parents and youth workers need to take a closer look at this world of "anything goes" to find some solutions. This informative seminar will be presented by Youth Culture Specialist, Paul Robertson of Youth Unlimited. Free admission.

Literacy North Halton helps adults with their reading, spelling, writing, basic math or computer skills. Call 905-873-2200 to register for small group classes or for one-to-one tutoring.

Models wanted: Earn high school volunteer hours by sitting ... for the Palette and Pencil Guild's Portrait/Still Life Drawing art club, 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the cottage, in Cedarvale Park. To set a date, call Rita Ladjankys, 519-853-9226.

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