

# Students' thoughts are with soldier

Continued from pg. 1

Included in the letters students sent to Ruggle are questions about his tour of duty, as well as telling a bit about themselves.

Dear Captain Ruggle,

We are the Grade 4 class at G.D.C.S. We heard you were a student here and wanted to write you, as we are learning how to write friendly letters. We hope it will remind you of home. Since you've been gone, the main street has been improved. We have been wearing red on Fridays to support our troops. We pray for you too! Thank you for teaching us about patriotism. We hope this letter brightens your day! God be with you.

—Love, Grade 4 Georgetown District Christian School

Dear Captain Tom Ruggle,

We found out that you had come to Georgetown District Christian School and I thought that was so neat. Did you become a Christian when you were young? What was your favourite colour? Would you prefer the weather snowy or hot? I hope you are safe.

—Love, Lauren Trudeau

Dear Captain Tom Ruggle,

This letter is from your old grade school Georgetown District Christian School. I am in grade four. I would just like to say your faith has changed all of us in Georgetown. Which street did you live on? Who was your best friend? Which street did she or he lived on? Did he/she have a pet? What was her/his favourite colour? What was your favourite colour? I hope you write back.

—Tara Godfrey

Dear Captain Tom Ruggle,

This is Jessica van Ravens in Grade 4. You went to my school, Georgetown District

Christian School. Have you always wanted to be a soldier when you grew up? We are praying for you. What was the best thing at G.D.C.S.? What teachers did you have when you were a kid?

—Your Friend, Jessica van Ravens

Dear Captain Tom Ruggle,

Hi. I am Aaron Zomer. I am writing because I am in the same school as you were, Georgetown District Christian School. Thanks for fighting for Canada. How long have you been in the military? Do you miss being a child? I love being at G.D.C.S.

—Aaron Zomer

Capt. Tom Ruggle is a staff officer, serving in Kandahar air base, reporting to the commanding officer to keep him apprised of what's happening outside the air field.

"He spent a couple weeks with the Welsh Regiment," said his father Rev. Rick Ruggle, "and they were working outside the airfield at Kandahar, which is the base in Afghanistan. He's been home for a week and a half, but leaves again (today) for another eight months."

"When he returns this time, he will be spending less time on the air field and more time outside," continued Ruggle. "He claims it's less stressful out on patrol— when he's on the base, he works from dawn to dusk, whereas when outside (the base) they have time to take some breaks."

At this time, the Canadian Battle Group is formed out of Quebec, but the next round will be formed from Ontario.

Rev. Ruggle said when that group goes over, there will be more local troops heading for Afghanistan.

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