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# COMMUNITY

## Teacher of the Month

# E.W. Foster teacher kind and helpful, say students

By Stephanie Thiessen  
 CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

**Y**ou know you're doing something right when a student nominates you for Teacher of the Month three years after being in your class.

That was the case with 12-year-old Emily Wolstenholme, who nominated her Grade 4 teacher, Heather Anderson of E.W. Foster Public School, for the honour along with a dozen other former students.

"I'm sure that I can speak for all of the students she has ever had when I say we all love her," Emily said in her nomination letter.

"When you had any problem whatsoever she would come and help you as soon as you asked. She always has a smile, a hug and a kind word for everyone she sees."

With such high praise, it's no wonder the *Champion* selected Anderson as March's Teacher of the Month.

Comments from the other nominators were equally complimentary.

Joanne Funnell said Anderson made even routine assignments fun, and said she particularly enjoyed her music classes.

"She was one of the best teachers I have ever had," Joanne wrote.

Kelsey Courvoisier said Anderson had the ability to always make her students smile.

"She has an awesome sense of humour," she wrote. "Her smile always lit up the room."

### Organizes many events

Emily explained that when she was in Anderson's class, the teacher organized a choir and winter musical for the students in grades 1 to 3, and a choir and spring musical for the students in grades 4 and 5.

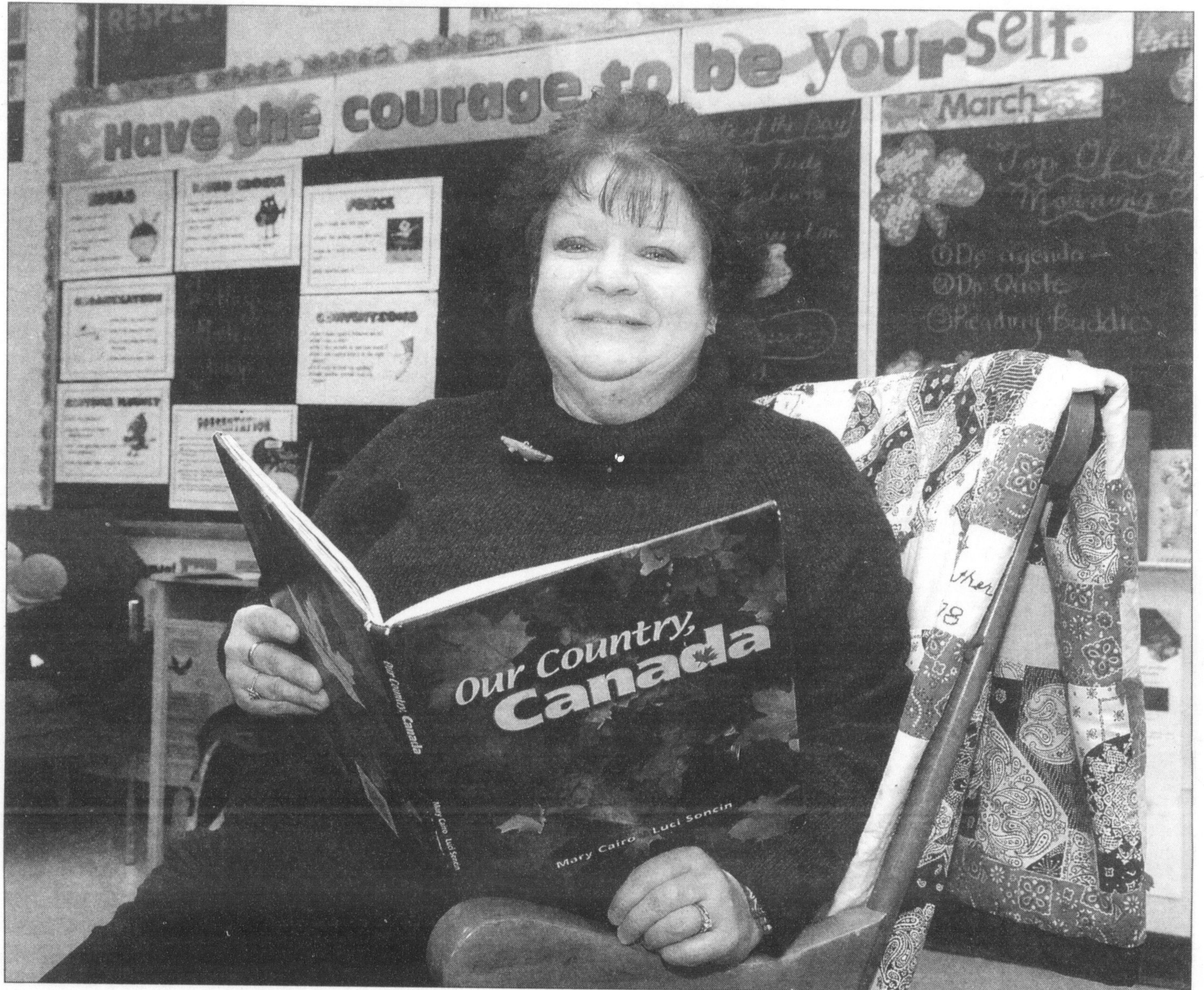
"They all turned out splendid," Emily said.

The other nominating students are Kaylin Epp, Dana Hamilton, Katherine Thomson, Ashley Young, Erica Hiscock, Chantal Hatton, Danielle Tremblay, Brianna Davidson, Nicole Brough and Mitchell Verch.

Anderson teaches a grade 4 and a grade 4/5 class and has been in the profession for 27 years. She has 52 students between the two classes to whom she teaches language, math, social studies and drama.

"I love my job," Anderson said, explaining it's incredibly rewarding when students visit her three or four years after they've left her class to tell her what they're up to.

Anderson said it seemed only natural to become a teacher. Growing up, there were



**BELOVED TEACHER:** E.W. Foster School's Heather Anderson is all smiles after being named The Champion's Teacher of the Month for March. GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

always younger kids around the house because her mom ran a daycare, and a love of children was passed from mother to daughter.

Anderson learned a lot about being a teacher as a result of her own experiences in grade 4, but not for the reason you might think.

"I learned a lot that year not to be like that with children," said the long-time Milton resident.

Although imparting knowledge to her students is important, Anderson said there's something more important that she leaves with them.

"I hope they're better people — more tolerant, kinder, those kind of values," she said,

adding, "I don't think they'll remember (the subjects) I taught them."

The mother of a 22-year-old son, Anderson said becoming a parent made her a better teacher. She was able to see her students through two sets of eyes — those of a teacher and a mother.

"This one kid is the most special person in the world to that one parent," she said, explaining knowing that gave her a new dedication to her students.

Although kids don't change much over time — a kid's a kid — Anderson said she sees more students having to shoulder difficult loads these days such as parents who divorce.

"It's hard to watch the child suffer," she

said, explaining a student's home life has a huge impact on his or her school performance.

With a classroom that's becoming more and more multicultural as Milton grows, Anderson said students have a great opportunity to learn about different ways of life.

And that learning's not limited to her students — she's learning a lot too, she said.

Teaching grade 4 students, who are mostly nine years old, is a pleasure because they're eager to learn, Anderson said.

"They like everything you do — even math," she said, chuckling.

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### Programming Schedule - Tuesday, March 6 - Monday, March 12, 2007

Tuesday, March 6	Wednesday, March 7	Thursday, March 8	Friday, March 9	Saturday, March 10	Sunday, March 11	Monday, March 12
8:00am - 1:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00am - 1:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00am - 12:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00am - 1:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00am - 1:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00am - 10:30am Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00am - 1:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA
1:00pm SportsZONE Live	1:00pm Halton Hills Council (cc)	12:00pm Swap Talk	1:00pm Halton Region Council	1:00pm The 2007 Georgetown Hockey Heritage Awards - Bob Hooper	10:30am TVCogeco Sports: Halton HS Hockey Finals	1:00pm Halton Hills Council (cc)
2:00pm - 6:30pm Plugged In! EXTRA	3:00pm - 7:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	1:00pm Halton Hills Council (cc)	3:00pm - 8:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	3:00pm - 8:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	1:30pm - 6:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	3:00pm - 8:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA
6:30pm Optimist TV Bingo (Live)	7:00pm Simply Halton	3:00pm - 8:00pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00pm The 2007 Georgetown Hockey Heritage Awards - Bob Hooper	4:00pm TVCogeco Sports: JrA Hockey - Playoffs	6:00pm Halton Hills Council (cc)	8:00pm SportsZONE Live
7:30pm Plugged In!	7:30pm Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00pm Living Healthy	9:00pm Halton Region Council	7:00pm - Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA	8:00pm - Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA	9:00pm The 2007 Georgetown Hockey Heritage Awards - Bob Hooper
8:00pm Auto Experts (Live)	8:00pm Swap Talk	9:00pm Halton Region Council	10:00pm - Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA			Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA
9:00pm Halton Hills Council (cc)	9:00pm Halton Hills Council (cc)	11:00pm - Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA				
11:00pm - Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA	11:00pm - Midnight Plugged In! EXTRA					