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Selected Area's

Guardian Angels wins Battle of the Books

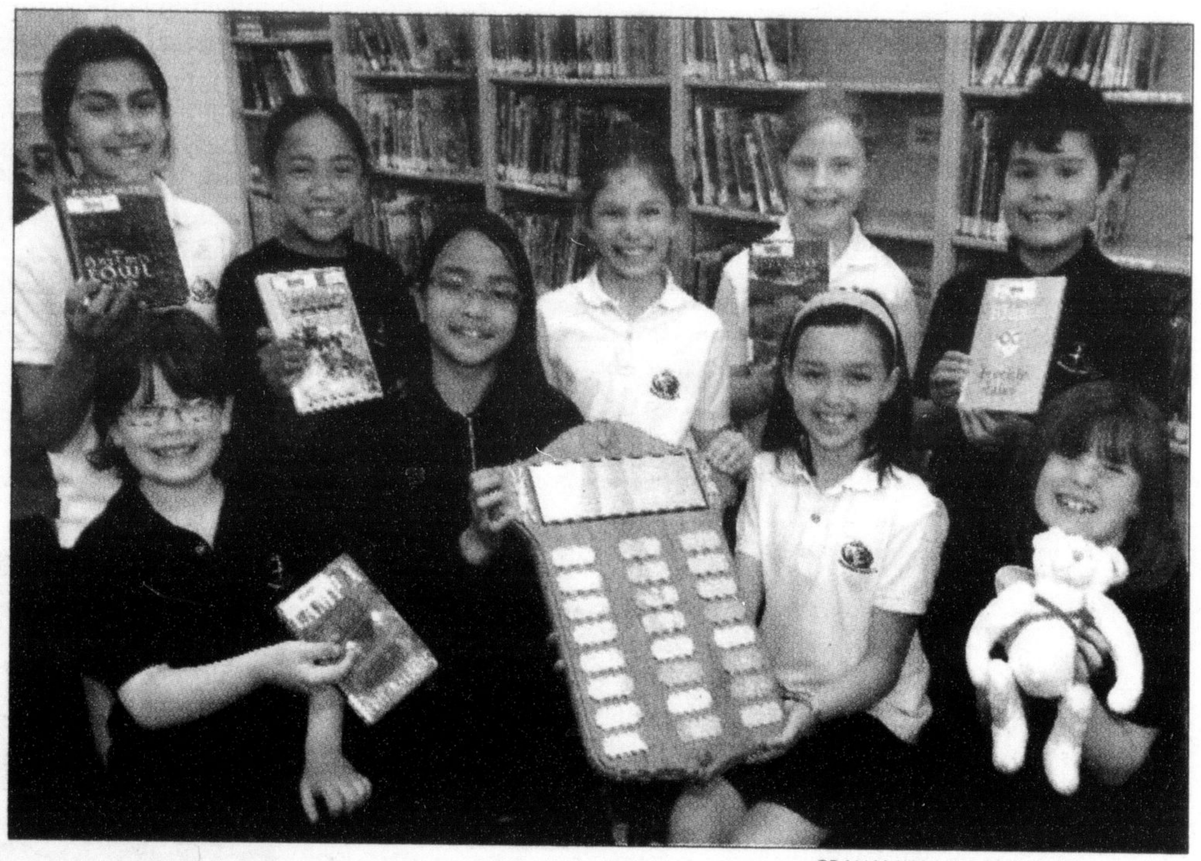
A Milton school emerged the victor in a recent Battle of the Books competition that saw bookworm pitted against bookworm in a fight for literary supremacy.

The nine-student junior team from Guardian Angels School won the 2009 Halton Region Junior Battle of the Books May 7, beating out teams from Oakville, Burlington and Halton Hills.

"They were just amazing," said the team's head coach and librarian at Guardian Angels, Laurie Mandarino, adding the students sacrificed lunches and recesses to prepare for the event. "They really worked hard this year to win."

This is the fifth year Guardian Angels has participated in the competition — entering a junior and a senior team each year since the school opened — and the first year it's won, making the victory particularly sweet, Mandarino said. The team was made up of students from Grades 3, 4 and 5.

Each community held its own competition and sent the winning team to compete at the regional event.



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

PROUD CHAMPIONS: Guardian Angels students — including (front row, from left) Nicholas Cabral, Lea Batara, Julia McKenna and Grace Dennis, and (back row, from left) Anny Meheshem ,Julianne Magalona, Sophie Jurus, Lauryn Hartjes and Paul Cory — display their Halton Region Junior Battle of the Books trophy.

Students were quizzed about books and authors from an approved list that includes Canadian and award-winning literature, Mandarino said.

The students prepared by reading and studying the authors and books, which include the popular Harry Potter series.

This year, more than 50 students tried out for the junior team at Guardian Angels.

"The popularity of the team is due in great part to Mrs. Mandarino's leadership and dedication to foster in students an avid interest in classic, new and popular books," said Angela McKenna, a proud parent of one of the team members.

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