



— Photo by Mary Rowsell

“Le Royaume des Petits”

Nursery school pupils David McIlhagga and Shawn Harvey ham it up for the camera.

By Suzanne Schroeter

Russell and Embrun are extremely fortunate to have a top-notch nursery school for our 4-year-olds. Perhaps not all of us are aware of this excellent service which is free except for a \$25. Charge per term for door to door bus transportation.

Le Royaume des Petits was set up in September 1974, with funds provided by the Municipal and Provincial governments. Operating out of an unused, bright room adjacent to the LaPalme Nursing Home in Embrun, it quickly attracted local children. This

year fully half of the 48-child enrolment is from Russell. This is broken down into 4 classes which attend the nursery school every other day for half a day.

The half-day program includes Free Play (i.e. water play, painting, colouring, dress-up, blocks, puzzles, games and exercises); Circle Time with songs, stories, and a snack; followed by Outdoor Play, weather permitting. English-speaking children are exposed to the French language in a casual manner during informal discussions and games.

Most importantly, teacher Suzanne Lemieux and her assistant Francene Gregoire have established a quiet, but very friendly atmosphere at Le Royaume.

The room is sunny and attractively decorated. The materials are neat and clean.

It is evident children attending Le Royaume des Petits are gaining much from the leadership of the teachers, from the materials and from the socializing experience.

Le Royaume seems a very happy way to introduce a child to school. For more information call 443-3696.

Essay Contest

The Castor Review is sponsoring an essay contest to foster writing among youth.

The Review editorial staff will choose one winner from each of three categories based on entrants' ages: 8 to 10, 11 to 13, 14 to 16.

Winners will receive a \$5 cash prize and copy of The Chief signed by both Russell resident and author Thomas W. Van Dusen and the Right Honorable John G. Diefenbaker. One runner-up in each of the three

categories will also receive the book.

The three winning essays will be published in the Review.

Entries should be a maximum of 250 words, typewritten if possible, on any subject. An essay on some aspect of the Holiday Season is one idea.

Entries should be mailed to the Castor Review, Box 359, Russell, Ont., before Jan. 6. The Entrant's age, address, phone number and school must be included.

Card of thanks

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our friends, relatives and neighbours for all the cards, flowers, donations to the Heart Fund and in Memoriams, and for the kindness and sympathy expressed to us during the passing of a dear husband, father, and grandfather, Grant Wolff. Special thanks to Rev. Leonard Woolfrey and Mrs. Leila Twiname.

Nellie Wolff and family

New old-time musicians

Lorne Wade has an idea that'll be music to the ears if realized. The ebullient Russell dry goods merchant wants to organize a band to make the sweet strains of the likes of Souza a regular happening in Russell.

Lorne feels the mellow tempo of "Sailing Down The River", "Strawberry Blond" and "Tennessee Waltz" should be more than just a memory.

"The younger people got me to adjust to their type of music, I think its time they adjusted to mine", laughed Lorne.

Lorne is looking for piano, violin, guitar, banjo and accordion players to be part of an old-time music group.

"Musicians who are interested in easy listening, something beautiful, something old, are what we're looking for," he said.

"You can go back as far as you like - 'The Sidewalks of New York' - the good dancin' music." And you can't have old-time music without dancin'. The group also needs those who would rather tune to fine music than play the tune.

Lorne hopes old-time dances could be held regularly in Russell if the new group gets off the ground. Those interested can call him at 445-5663 or 445-2183.

All you need "is the love of music straight from the heart."



New old-time musicians jam it up

CASTOR CUPBOARDS

In this issue the Castor Review launches a new feature designed to exhibit the culinary skills of area residents. Our first recipe is Christmas Bread, as prepared by Joyce Boyd of Russell. It was previously published by the Ladies Curling Club of Russell.

Christmas Bread

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 oz. pkg. glace pineapple slices, diced
- 1/4 oz. pkg. glace cherries, halved
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 3 tbsp. vegetable oil

Sift together flour, baking soda and salt; add brown sugar and mix thoroughly, breaking up any lumps of sugar; add fruits and nuts. Combine beaten egg, buttermilk and oil; add combined liquid ingredients to flour mixture, stirring until flour is just moistened. Do not beat or over-mix!

Turn batter into greased 9 x 5 inch loaf pan; allow loaf to stand at room temperature for twenty minutes. Bake at 350 degrees for 60 minutes.

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