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Family Literacy Day gives students and staff plenty to write home about

Family Literacy Day on Jan. 27 has been celebrated by children and adults across Canada for the past five years.

"This special day communicates the important message that the reading and learning activities we engage in as a family contribute to the development of good communication skills," explained Glad Park Public School teacher/librarian Carolyn Reesor. To mark the occasion, staff and students at the school were

involved in a full day of activities focusing on literacy.

"Mystery guests from our community came to read to each class, alphabet soup was served at lunch, parents were invited to attend a variety of workshops and many other reading and writing activities took place during the day," said Mrs. Reesor. A special assembly was held for all students at the end of the day.

Local guests included Mayor Sue Sherban, Dr. Janice Li, Stouffville

hockey coach Chris Burkholder, fire chief Tim Beckett and Bruce Stapley of *Whitchurch-Stouffville This Month*. Toronto Rock lacrosse team captain Jim Veltman and Double Iron Man competitor Dean Hachey also attended the celebration.

Policing Centre plans cleanup

Stouffville Community Policing Centre has a new project for downtown Stouffville.

This spring, a group of volunteers will spend one Saturday removing graffiti from the downtown core. SCPC chair Ruth LeBlanc said the organization's mission is "to make Whitchurch-Stouffville a safer and better place to work and live by urging residents of all ages to get involved."

In May, SCPC will host a Teen Appreciation Day with barbecues, basketball and a dance. "I am inviting any teenagers to come out and get involved with the planning," said Ms. LeBlanc. "It's their day and we want the kids to know we appreciate them."

She also noted that Boyd's Sports has donated the rink area behind the store for ball hockey when the hockey season ends. "Kids can come into the GO station where sign up sheets will be available for teens from 13 to 19."

For information on SCPC programs, or to volunteer, call 905-640-4014.



Glad Park students dressed as characters from Robert Munsch's "Stephanie's Ponytail" during Family Literacy Day. Left to right: Kelsy McCuckin, Kristin Lock, Paige Lidster, Lauren Smith.

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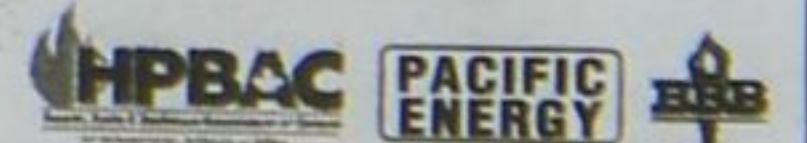
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