

Sweet's Corners School



Irene Mukomunene

Once again this year the students at Sweet's Corners have participated in the Cansave sponsorship programme overseas. During the week of Valentine's Day, the students have been earning money by doing chores at home and generally being helpful, with the funds collected being used to support our foster child, Irene Mukomunene and her family in Kenya. Irene sends letters to us several times a year, bringing us up to date on her family and school activities. In her last letter, she told about the coins used in her country, including some pencil rubbings of coins which showed the pictures on them. She enquired about our monetary system and asked students writing to her to send some pictures, if possible. She also included examples of her native language and her translation into English of those words. Her letters are always colourfully decorated with pictures she has drawn and coloured.

A Valentine tree has been set up in the main hall of the school where students hang a valentine when they have brought in their Cansave donation. Mrs. Cheryl Tompkinson, one of our Intermediate teachers, has written a song called "Our Cansave Song" which has been played and sung daily as part of our opening exercises. The main thrust of the song is that loving involves sharing, a message which seems appropriate for Valentine's Day. Through the efforts of our young people and the generosity of all those concerned we hope to be able to meet our annual commitment to this project. The Valentine tree and Cansave newsletter was looked after by Mr. John Truyens, our librarian.

Professional Activity days at Sweet's Corners Elementary School were held on January 30 and 31 with all teachers being involved in a variety of workshops, seminars and interviews. A session on working with gifted and talented children was presented by George Turcotte, a teacher and graduate student from Kingston. Immediately following his presentation, our Director of Education, Mr. Wayne Tompkins, spoke on the same

topic with the emphasis being on the importance of identifying special needs and abilities. Kindergarten teachers had a special workshop on Early Identification of Learning Needs, Junior teachers spent a morning studying Language Arts Guidelines and our full staff plus some visiting teachers from other schools participated in a workshop conducted by Mr. Doug Thake, the Junior Resource teacher, on Project Teach. "Teach" as it is commonly known stands for "Teacher Effectiveness and Classroom Handling" and involves teachers in developing effective, efficient classroom strategies. Our workshop

was mainly an overview of a much more comprehensive course which Doug offers many times throughout the year for groups of approximately 21 people. This course has proven valuable for others such as aides, coaches and parents. The teachers who have taken the full course have very high regard for its content and its instructor.

The teachers in the Exceptional classes held workshops in Behaviour Management on the same days.

February 12 was an exciting day for a large number of our Intermediate students as they journeyed to Calabogie Peaks for the annual ski trip. For many of those involved it was the first time for skiing, so the lessons provided at the site were of great advantage. Howard's bus left the school at about 8:00 a.m. and returned close to the supper hour. The event was organized by Mr. Len Vincent, who was assisted on the trip by Mr. Dave Hudson, Mrs. Jolene Hopwood and Mr. John Truyens, teachers at Sweet's Corners School. Parents assisting on the trip included Mrs. Betty Murray and Debby Kyes.

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

On January 31, the annual North Leeds Elementary School Basketball Tournament was held at Rideau District High School. In the boy's division Sweet's Corners won the trophy by winning all of their games. All of the teams played four games. Sweet's Corners' scores were as follows: 27-14 vs South Crosby, 17-14 vs Beverley, 17-9 vs Wolford and 19-2 vs Frankville. Team standings were Beverley - second, South Crosby - third, Frankville - fourth and Wolford fifth. Sweet's Corners' team consisted of Captain Dave Hudson, assistant Byron Gamble, Tim Barnes, Ricky Moulton, Russell Moulton, Cameron Morris, Steven Mainse, Sam Douds, Cameron Mainse, Brian Bennett, Hal Moulton, Eddy Ubdegrove. The top three scorers were David Hudson with 36 points, Byron Gamble with 30 points and Tim Barnes with 6 points. Our team's win was due, in great part, to the excellent coaching of Mr. Dave Hudson, one of our Intermediate teachers.

On the same day, the Sweet's Corners Girls Basketball team participated in a tournament, also at R.D.H.S. In spite of our girls' best efforts to bring home a trophy, they placed second. The girls played four games, losing only one game to South Crosby by one point. The score was 4-3. Mr. Len Vincent, our Phys. Ed teacher, was the coach. Participating teams placed as follows: first, South Crosby, second, Sweet's Corners, third, Beverley, fourth, Frankville, and fifth, Wolford. Our congratulations to South Crosby's winning team.

Submitted by Malcolm Morris and Nancy Tackerer

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