

Charlton P.S.

THE CHARLTON CITIZEN



December Issue

The Charlton Newsletter is published by the Charlton Leadership Team. Every month there will be a new edition featuring work by Charlton students for Charlton students. We will endeavor to provide our readers with a variety of new and interesting reports, so keep checking back every month for exciting news about our school. If you'd like to be in our newspaper, please see our leadership team or your homeroom teacher. We hope you enjoy our student-written newspaper. We look forward to your feedback!

Get To Know the Charlton Staff: Mrs. Wilks

The Leadership Team will be interviewing different members of the Charlton staff each month in a new segment of the Charlton Citizen called Get to Know the Charlton Staff!



If the halls and classrooms of Charlton Public School could be transformed for one magical day into the places and activities it's teachers loved most, you might expect to find Mr. Kermally on an ice rink playing hockey for the Maple Leafs, or Mr. Kim coaching some national sports team or Mr. McNaughton climbing a mountain to the beat of a great Wii dance tune..... but did you know that Ms. Wilks would be galloping through the hallways on a horse?! No? Well, it's time to learn more about our favorite librarian, special education teacher and unknown until now, avid equestrian. Toronto native Ms. Wilks grew up in the Don Mills-York Mills area, attending York Mills Collegiate High School until Grade 13. When Ms. Wilks first discovered her passion for teaching she decided to enroll at York University, with a teaching major in history/geography. Later, she enrolled in another program at the University of Edmonton, Alberta and obtained her Bachelor of Education. Her first appearance in Charlton Public School (not on a horse!) was as a supply teacher teaching Grade 3. However, in September of 1994 Ms. Wilks began full time teaching at Charlton, specializing in the primary grades. Then, in 2009 she completed her special education qualifications and started helping out in literacy and math for the intermediate division. Outside of being a devoted librarian, teacher, and an encouraging member of the Charlton staff, Ms. Wilks has a full life! With two sons, Adam and Joshua, a daughter Shayna, and three grandchildren, Ms. Wilks is surrounded by a loving family. And, as the introduction to this article announced, something interesting about Ms. Wilks is her love for horses. An equestrian at heart Ms. Wilks started riding at a young age, attending camps such as camp New Moon and Camp Winnebago. Eventually she was instructing and giving lessons. Some of Ms. Wilks favorite activities— when she is not enjoying visiting and riding horses - include going to see live plays such as Les Miserable, listening to Bon Jovi and going to concerts. Next time you walk by the library, don't be shy! Maybe you have something in common with Ms. Wilks or maybe you have some questions, or maybe you want to learn more about what it feels like to ride off into the sunset! Ms. Wilks is a friendly, one of a kind teacher, brightening our Charlton community!

By: Mushkie

This edition of the Charlton Newspaper is brought to you by

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A Winter Holiday Story

It was the week before December break and three friends named Ashton, Neema, and Kayla were looking forward to the winter holidays. Ashton was looking forward to decorating the Christmas tree his dad was going to buy. He even got to pick out his favorite ornament. Kayla was looking forward to finally get her own menorah for Hanukkah and Neema was looking forward to her favorite cousins that were coming to celebrate Kwanzaa with her family. Finally, after much anticipation, the school bell rang on Friday afternoon and the three friends got their backpacks on and hurried out of school so they could get home and get ready for the holidays! Just as they left the doors of school building a cold gust of wind blew Ashton's hat away.

"Oh no, that's my favorite hat!"

My grandma gave it to me as an early Christmas present!" Ashton cried, devastated. Suddenly another gust of wind blew hard and almost swept them off their feet.

"Oh, I hope we can get home in time," shivered Kayla, but they could no longer see which way was forward or back. The three friends were lost in a blizzard! They were starting to get scared and seriously cold.

"What are we going to do? My cousins are coming for Kwanzaa and I only get to see them this time of year!"

Neema was on the verge of tears, but just then Ashton spoke up, "Don't be upset guys! We can still celebrate! I know it's getting dark and we can hardly see anything but at least we're not

alone!"

"Yeah, we just have to get back to the school. I think I can see it from here" said Kayla loudly, above the wind.

"B-b-b-ut no one is at school and the building is probably locked!" called Neema, sounding frightened.

"I'm sure we'll find someone," said Ashton hopefully. The cold was really kicking in now and they had to start walking or they would freeze right where they stood. So the three friends headed through the blizzard in no particular direction hoping they would find the school..

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The Volleyball Team (Girls)

The intermediate girls' volleyball team of 2013-2014, is a supportive, hardworking, determined group of phenomenal players. We tried our best at every practice and every competition, encouraging each other on. During our tougher moments, we did not give up and kept cheering on for each other. We placed first in all exhibition tournaments, scored second at area qualifiers and did a fantastic job placing 4th out of a total of 17 schools at area finals. We were steadfast as a team and worked tremen-

dously well together, making different cheers to motivate one another. All in all, an enormous thank you goes out to the coaches who gave up their own time to help coach us and make the team of who we are today. They gave us hope when we felt down and boosted up our confidence, helping us on and off the court. It was an amazing season and an amazing team made up of, Michelle, Kalki, Katherine, Gabrielle, Angela, Alexandra, Amy, Gladelyn, Kelly, Eden, Kaylie, Vivian and the coaches, Mr. Kim, Mr. Goron and Mr.

Kermally.

The Volleyball Team (Boys)

The intermediate boys' volleyball team of 2013 – 2014 did tremendously well this volleyball season after hours of practice and hard work. After 3 exhibition tournaments, in which the boys did extremely well, they placed 2nd in their area qualifiers and advanced to the area finals, which they played incredibly in and placed 3rd out of 17 teams. The entire team put an enormous amount of effort on training to become stronger, and they intimidated every

team they played, and soon became known as the team with remarkable net play and an amazing offensive power. Something that made this season very overwhelming was the fact that many of the boys had never played volleyball in their life, and that they continued to push themselves until they unleashed their potential to become the best. This volleyball season was an astonishing one, and everybody is extremely proud of the way the boys played this year.

We couldn't have done this without the help of the coaches and our fantastic teammates; Daniel, Jahisan, Eddy, Bjorn, Minseo, Zachary, Leon, Andrew, Kabisan, Wyatt, Mr. Kim, Mr. Goron, and Mr. Kermally. Go Cheetahs!

Helping Hands! (Philippines)

The Philippines are islands full of spirit, joy and culture, a community that makes the world a better place. But, what would happen if a wicked force came and killed thousands, and left the rest to be striving for their survival? Typhoon Haiyan wreaked havoc across Micronesia and Vietnam, but left Filipinos with devastation beyond comprehension, earning it the infamous title of one the biggest mass destructions of the decade. This cyclone was rated as a "Category 5 SUPER Typhoon, as it killed 5,260 innocent people, and this

is not counting the hundreds that are still missing! It was unexpected and absolutely underserved for such a beautiful nation, and the world quickly, from the moment it started until now, started to selflessly lend a hand, whether it being sending first-aid forces, or getting citizens to donate a few dollars from their



saving to a cause that couldn't be more wholesome. Charlton Cheetahs also played a huge part in this help, by extending their "helping hands" and donating money from our own savings. Overall, our school worked hard, and in such a small amount of time, we were able to not only reach our goal of \$600 dollars, but nearly double it as we passed the \$1000 mark. The Philippines are a nation that is "waterproof" and with the help of their spirit and the worlds helping hands, they will be able to rebuild, and cover up the loss and destruction, although the lost victims will never be forgotten, and will always remain in our hearts.

Check It Out!

Check out our new newsletter board next to our helping hands. It has all the information about our next and previous newsletter.

We have some art work that people have worked on such as the students in Mr. Barlow's class, Ms. Rawji's class, and lastly there is Mr. Kim's class!!!



Want to Know How to Stay Healthy?

Some students in our grade 6,7 and 8 have worked on projects about healthy eating. Please come and check it out on the bulletin boards around the upstairs area of our school.



Picture here!

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"Oooh what is that over there?" exclaimed Kayla. She was pointing somewhere in the distance. Ashton and Neema peered in the direction that Kayla was pointing but they didn't see anything.

"Don't you see the light, guys? It kind of looks like a burning candle, don't you agree?" Kayla asked. The others looked thoroughly confused and kept squinting their eyes to see where she was pointing. But they could not see this light Kayla was talking about.

"Come on guys, we need to find where that light is coming from!" Kayla urged on the others but they just looked confused. Nevertheless they were cold and any shelter would be good at this point so they followed Kayla toward this mysterious light she talked of. Some time passed and no-one but Kayla saw the light.

Ashton was starting to doubt that there was any light at all. "Kayla, I think we're lost there isn't any...." Just then Ashton stopped mid sentence. He scrunched up his eyes and saw in the distance a bright light almost like a shiny star.

"What is it?" asked Kayla, shaking Ashton who was staring at the light.

"I don't know it kind of looks like... no it can't be! I think it's a star.... almost like the ones that go on the top of the Christmas tree?" Ashton sounded as if he was in a trance and he and Kayla kept walking towards the light.

"Hold up guys, what are you two going on about?" called Neema, but Ashton and Kayla kept walking so Neema followed looking skeptical. Just then Neema saw something, too. She rubbed her eyes. "It can't be...Fynn? Is that you?" She quickly turned toward the other two who stopped in their tracks. "Guys, I think that's my cousin up ahead but why is she here? And why is she glowing?"

Now Ashton and Kayla were the confused ones.

"What are you talking about Neema? That's not a person, it's a glowing Christmas star ornament" exclaimed Ashton

"No! It's a menorah candle," cried Kayla.

"Guys, it's my cousin for sure I see her right there - she's waving to me!" Neema waved to something in the distance.

They all disagreed with each other and could not decide what it was they saw. Just then, the wind started blowing really hard and the glowing light started to fade. The three friends sprinted as fast as they could toward the disappearing light. Then, almost instantly, the wind stopped and the snow began to clear away. They could see the school right ahead of them. With a sigh of relief they walked up to the doors - but waving from inside was a surprise! Waiting in the doorway was Ashton's father holding the brightest Christmas star ornament you ever saw! Next to him was Kayla's mom, and she was holding out a brightly lit brand new menorah just for Kayla! Lastly, right here, were Neema's parents with Fynn, Neema's favourite cousin! The three friends ran towards their families, smiling and laughing and very relieved to be out of the snow and out of the cold. Ashton, Kayla, and Neema would never forget their journey through the blizzard and in the end what kept them going was what they most looked forward too during the holidays - family and tradition!

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