



Withrow Holiday Carol Sing 2016

Please feel free to join us on :
Tuesday December 20th and
Wednesday December 21st for holiday carolling.

We have changed the time to 9:10 - 9:30 in the morning as well, we have changed the location to the gym.

We welcome all parents, guardians, grandparents and family members to come and join us.

Sarah Parker and Katie Sebestyen



PALS

I think being a PAL is one of the most interactive and fun things at our school. Being a PAL opens up all kinds of opportunities. First of all, by interacting with younger kids who are playing with you, you make new friends. Also being a PAL is very fun. You play fun games while bonding with smaller kids. Finally, being a PAL helps the kids you play with, because some of them don't have someone to play and create a bond with. Being a PAL is a great experience and is very rewarding.

By Gillian



TPS – Chopped 55

This year we are strengthening our relationship with the Toronto Police Services. The TPS has been involved in the school with the Toronto Police actively participating with our grade 5/6 classes in the Double Nickel Ninja Warriors to go through obstacle courses. As well, a small number of students were selected to participate in the Chopped 55 program where school cooking teams partner with a Police constable captain competing with other schools. On November 24, Withrow won the group competition and the individual competition. Congratulations to all involved!. In the new year we have the TPS coming to talk to the students about safety including internet safety, personal safety and building relationships. We are looking forward to this on going positive relationship with our school.

Withrow's Winter Concert

On December 14 @ 7 pm

City Sounds – les sons de la ville

Withrow's 2016 Winter Concert
le concert hivernal de Withrow

Featuring...

la salle de Mlle Nickels
la salle de Mme Boujos
la salle de Mlle Wong
la salle de Mme Anamali
Ms Rashid's Class
Ms Brollo's Class
la salle de Mme Claire
la salle de M. Roberts
la salle de Mme Cronin
la salle de Mme Sebestyén
USchool Ukulele Ensembles
Withrow Orff Team
Withrow Junior Choir

Wednesday December 14, 2016 @ 7:00 pm

Withrow Public School Gymnasium

Doors will open at 6:45 pm

Artwork by Margaret, Lia and Auggie

The concert is on Wednesday December 14, 2016 @ 7 pm.

We ask for students to arrive at 6:45 pm. We ask for families and performers to wait outside the school at the Bain entrance. We will open the doors promptly at 6:45 pm to assure safe supervision and entry of all performers and guests.

The concert will begin at 7:00 pm and will be about an hour in length.

All students will be dismissed at the end of the concert (around 8:00 pm). Students cannot be picked up before the end of the concert. We want to ensure that *all* of our young performers have the best, fullest, and most supportive Withrow audience, so please ensure you and your child can attend the entire concert.

Please let your child's teacher, Ms. Parker (Junior Choir and/ or Orff Team), or Mme Mundell (Ukulele Ensembles) know if your child and you are unable to attend the concert on Wednesday December 14, 2016.

The following classes and ensembles are performing: Ms Rashid (Grade 1/2), Ms Brollo (Grade 1/2), Mlle Wong (Grade 2), Mme Anamali (Grade 1/2), Mme Claire (Grade 3/4), M. Roberts (Grade 3), Mme Boujos (Grade 2/3), Mlle Nickels (Grade 2/3), Mme Sebestyén (Grade 5/6), Mme Cronin (Grade 5/6), Junior Choir, Orff Team, and the Beginner and Advanced Ukulele Ensembles.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AT WITHROW

Toronto District School Board's Vision of Special education is based on principles of: Fairness, Equality and Inclusion. The key component to TDSB's approach to special education is the belief that all students in the community, including those with special learning needs, should be welcomed and receive their education "to the full extent possible" at their local school. This philosophy of inclusion is the basis of the Community-Based Resource Model we use at Withrow Ave. Our school is staffed with special education teachers including a Methods and Resource Teacher (MART), a French Resource Teacher a Junior English Resource Teacher and a Home School Program (HSP) teacher who provide direct, indirect and withdrawal programs for students.

In- School Team (IST) Meetings

When a teacher is concerned about a student academically or in regards to learning/social skills, the teacher implements specific strategies to support the needs of the student. The next step can be to refer the student to the In-School Support Team (IST). This meeting takes place within the school and usually involves the classroom teacher, the Methods and Resource Teacher and the Principal. The purpose of this meeting is to review the strategies that have already been used in the class to support the student and develop an action plan involving additional intervention strategies. Once the strategies recommended at the IST have been implemented for a period of time there is a review of student progress. If more support or information is required a referral to the School Support Team is made.

School Support Team (SST) Meetings

The SST meeting is attended by school administrators, the MART, parents, as well as professionals from Special Education, Psychology, Social Work and Speech- Language Pathology. This larger team has more expertise and experience to help support the student. During the SST there is an open discussion about the student's strengths and needs. There are a range of recommendations that this committee can make based on the student's profile. In some cases further information is needed and a referral for professional assessments is recommended. In other cases the development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) might be the next course of action. Parents involved are always invited and encouraged to attend SST's at our school.

Sources:

www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/SpecialEducation/Processes.aspx

TDSB Special Education Plan 2016





ONE WARM COAT®



In October and November, class 342 organized and ran a coat drive at Withrow. We went to New Circles to drop off our coats and volunteer some of our time. New Circles is a community resource for people who can't buy new clothes, usually newcomers to Canada. As a school, we were able to get 11 big bags of coats that we brought to New Circles. Many people benefited from these coats for winter.

When we got to New Circles, we organized the coats and put them on racks. Then we went into the shopping area with the coats. As soon as we entered, there were people taking coats off the racks to buy them. We left the coats there and we helped organize other parts of the store. The people running the store gave us jobs to do around the store.

We learned many things including, many people need these coats to survive the winter, that we should be grateful for all we have and think about what others don't have and how to help. We should know how helpful we were on this trip but more importantly why we helped. We helped because we know that we can't take advantage of what we have, instead share our things and help others.

Withrow Cares

This year, with our increased awareness of Aboriginal issues and focus on the Canadian First Nations we have chosen to support **two charities**:

1. Help send **Inuit Care Packages to families in the North** and
2. **Club Amik**



Inuit Care Packages to the North:

As you may know, food in the northern part of Canada is quite expensive. A go fund me page was created and this year's goal is to raise \$10,000. Although this is not a registered charity, we hope that you will consider helping out this wonderful initiative. If you are interested please see the link to the go fund me page or last year's news article:

<https://www.gofundme.com/feedingcanada2016>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/christmas-care-packages-north-1.3380260>

Club Amik:

Club Amik is an Aboriginal Literacy Initiative providing books and magazines to children in Ontario's North. Club Amik is a registered charity. The charity provides books and resources to the Nishnawbe Aski Nation to approximately 35 communities. Please see the website for more information.

<https://www.clubamick.ca/about/>

New Trees Planted



Last week 10 new trees were planted. Dead trees will still need to be removed in the spring.



Please check out the Withrow Athletics Board or Mr. Tarvit's website for updates on all sporting activities and events.

sites.google.com/site/mrtshpeandwithrowathletics/



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Phone: 416-393-9440
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Beverley School Volunteers

We are Grade 6 students at Withrow Public School and are volunteering at Beverley School. We are very excited. Our first visit to Beverley was on Friday November 25th in the morning. We have 8 visits scheduled throughout the year.

We hope we will learn as much from the children at Beverley as they will learn from us.

Sincerely,
Withrow-Beverley Volunteers

*Gillian, Mia, Chloe, Phoebe, Riley, Grace, Amelia, Maxine
Landon, Erik, Max and Zain*



One of the students shared: "My greatest experience was when they smiled and showed me they were happy or that they had fun. It was very rewarding to see they were having fun"

We are on the web! Check us out:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/withrow/Home.aspx>

Follow us on twitter @TDSB_Withrow



During the past month, Withrow's We Club has been learning about food insecurity in our community and so we organized a food drive. For the past 3 weeks, classrooms collected non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables, pasta, spices, and baby food. Thanks to your generosity, we will be able to make a significant donation to Eastview Community Centre's food bank. We are thrilled to support this community organization once again. Thanks for all of your support! Tomorrow is the last day to bring in food. Pick up is slated for Friday.

Staffing Changes

We were just able to hire a new secretary to replace Emily. Helen Saroglou comes from two schools, Queen A and Church Street. We are very excited about having her here at Withrow. Helen was able to start on November 14 and we are glad to have her here at Withrow.

We would like to congratulate our new Head Caretaker Eric Tran on getting the position at Withrow. We are very excited about having Eric join the Withrow Team. He will be starting on Monday.



Visiting the VETS



On Monday November 14, room 343 went to Sunnybrook Veteran Centre. The class went there to give them postcards and thank them for their service. When we were there, we took a tour of the centre. We saw places like a photography room where the residents could print pictures of the war and take photos. Our class most enjoyed the snooze room because it was a place where they felt calm but it also had a bunch of cool lights and bubbles. Next we gave our postcards to the veterans. We also talked to them and they told us stories about their lives and the war. They told us jokes, poems and some would sing and dance. We sang our song and they really enjoyed our visit. But most of all, our class enjoyed going and we're excited to go again next year.

Library and Learning Commons

French Book Fair

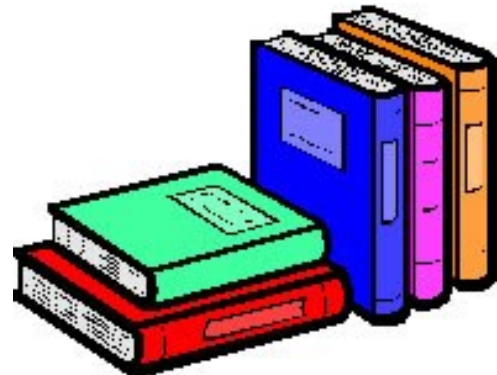
Thank you to everyone who supported the French book fair that was held at the beginning of the month. Our total sales for the four-day event were just under \$4400, leaving us with net sales of almost \$4100 once the taxes were removed. With sales of this size, Scholastic gave us a commission of 60% of our earnings in free product. In other words, we received \$2400 worth of new books for our school library!

Thank you to the student-librarians, teachers and parents who gave up some of their time to work at the book fair or to help set it up. Special mention goes to Anne Taylor and Carolyn Robarts, parents who volunteered at the fair every day. It wouldn't have been possible without such a great team effort.

Overdue Books

Overdue notices were sent home last week with those students who have had their library books for more than two weeks. Thank you to everyone who has been encouraging their child to take responsibility for these books by either searching high and low for them or by paying the fine for lost books. Students with two outstanding books are unable to borrow new ones until their accounts have been cleared.

Jane Mundell, Teacher-Librarian



The ARTS at Withrow

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Arts Committee for getting together and planning this year's performances for the school.

We had \$6000 to look for various performances that would embrace various artistic forms here at the school.

We would like to thank our Home and School/ School Council for their generous allocation towards the ARTS at Withrow.

Here is the breakdown of performances:

On February 6 – **Cadence** – An A Cappella Time Machine – an afternoon performance for grades 4/5 6

On February 14 – **Little Red Theatre** – THE COAT – for K, grades 1- 4 - we have two performances – one French performance in the am and one English in the pm.

On March 9 – **Little Pear Dance Company** – Tales of Goddesses and a Painter – two performances for the entire school.

On March 27 – **The Roseneath Theatre** – Birds of a Feather – we have 2 performances.

This performance was donated by a parent, Laura Mergelas. The second performance's cost was matched by the school .

On April 7 - **The Shoestring Opera** – The Magic Flute – for grades 4/5/6 – an am performance

On April 26 – **The Shoestring Opera** – Hansel and Gretel – for grades 1/2/3 – a pm performance

