December 9, 2016

Hello Westwood Parents,

Our first full week of December has begun with a flurry of activities and wonderful learning experiences. December is the character trait of Kindness and Caring, and there has been a palpable spirit of kindness, caring and giving in our school. Mr. Harris’s 7/8 E class has launched many initiatives on a daily basis ranging from kind messages posted on every locker to greeting all students as they enter the school in the morning. We acknowledge and appreciate their efforts that set the tone as we head into our “Random Acts of Kindness” week. In other school news....

On Saturday, December 3, our first-ever Westwood Robotics Club participated in the First Leg League Robotics Tournament at Runnymede Collegiate. We are so proud of their participation and strong preparation heading into the tournament, and we are even more thrilled to share the news that the students won the INNOVATIVE SOLUTION AWARD! Congratulations to the Robotics Club members and to Ms. Huebel and Mr. Pantioras for all their efforts in preparing them for the tournament.

Last night, our annual Holiday Concert took place and our school was filled with the festive sounds of the season with performances by the Westwood Choir, the Percussion Ensemble, and the Senior Band. Thank you to the nearly sixty students who shared their gift of music with the proud parents and family members in the audience. Thank you to Mr. Grieco who worked so hard with the students to help them hone their skills and prepare for the concert. We also thank Mr. Fritch who volunteered so much of his time to work with the percussion ensemble, and to Ms. Slawek who provided the piano accompaniment. Congratulations to everyone for a superb winter concert! Moreover, thank you to the School Council members, from the bakers of the baked goods and treats to the organizers of the Bake Sale and Cookie Decorating fundraiser held in conjunction with the Winter Concert. We extend a special thank you to Ms. Jenifer Albert for all her hard work in organizing the successful fundraising initiative. A reminder that candy-grams (25 cents each) are being sold during lunch hour next week to support the Grade 8 Graduation Trip. As well, beautiful Westwood toques will be sold for $15 from Monday through Wednesday next week with proceeds going to School Council for school needs.

Lastly, the Grade 8 students have taken home letters regarding a chocolate fundraiser which will help to offset some of the cost of the Graduation trip. Please see letter attached for more information.
Upcoming events:

December 15: School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.
December 20: Grade 8 Students Trip to Raptors Game
December 22: Activity Afternoon (1-3 p.m.): Choice of Dance, Games Room, Movie (Loonie donation for activity of choice)
December 23: Last day of school
December 26-January 6: Winter Holidays
January 9th: Return to School

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Have a wonderful weekend.

M. Sprack and S. Kim