

December 10, 2013

BYRNE CREEK STUDENTS ROCK GINGERBREAD LANE

Byrne Creek students recently baked, created and decorated their way to 1st and 2nd place in the Hyatt Regency Hotel's "Gingerbread Lane" gingerbread contest. Chloe Sison and Sylveina Siu took 1st place while Aya Jimenez and Stephanie Yu took 2nd place. There were 24 entries from across the Lower Mainland. The students won scholarships, training sessions with the Hyatt's chef and a meal for 8 at the hotel.

SOUTH REIGNS AT TELUS BASKETBALL CLASSIC

Burnaby South's Senior boys Rebels won the Telus Basketball Classic, one of the most prestigious high school basketball tournaments in BC. And it was a nailbiter, South's Rebels edging Churchill's Bulldogs 77 to 75. One of the key features of the tournament is the scholarship awards. Among these is the Quinn Keast Foundation "Most Complete Player" Award and Scholarship. It was won by Burnaby South's Taylor Smith, whose father is both a coach and a teacher at South. Last season, Taylor averaged 21 points and 4 assists in the playoffs, but more importantly, off the court, Taylor volunteers at basketball clinics where more than 500 children benefit from his mentorship.

MAGIC IN THE AIR

The Parent Advisory Council of Confederation Park Elementary School held their annual Fine Arts Show on Saturday, November 30 and what a magical event it was. The gym was transformed into a hip art gallery complete with sparkling snowflake decorations, mood lighting and jazz music. Parents, staff and friends alike enjoyed the live and silent auction and more than \$13,000 was raised for the school.

JINGLE ALL THE WAY

Three elementary schools annually host a Jingle Bell Walk to help those in need. It involves the generosity of neighbours who are given advance notice of the day that students will be coming by to pick up donations of food, clothing or toys that they leave on their doorsteps.

- At Lakeview's 7th annual walk on November 21, more than 70 parent volunteers handled the 111 food boxes for the food bank. Additionally two vans full of clothing and toys were donated to Edmonds Community School.
- On December 6, Ecole Westridge Elementary "jingled around the hood" collecting donated goods and leaving an invitation for each donor to attend the Westridge Appreciation Tea & Winter Concert.
- And Ecole Brantford Elementary's 10th Annual Jingle Bell Walk happens on December 13 - hopefully under sunny skies as the other two have been.

Thanks to the efforts of all the student, staff and parent coordinators, and to the community for their generosity, the Food Bank shelves will be filled this Christmas!

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CHRISTMAS WISHES

CTV visited Stride Avenue Community School the end of November to film a show that will run the week before Christmas. The show is called "My Christmas Wish", and Stride was one of five Lower Mainland schools chosen to participate. In September, all grade 3-4 students wrote a "My Christmas Wish" letter. The letter writer that CTV chose, "wished for a bike." Not only did he receive one – but so did the entire class! Thank you Westwood Cycle and CTV for making Christmas Wishes come true.

PHILIPPINE RELIEF FUND EXCEEDS GOAL

Through a campaign that was district-wide and student driven, Burnaby Schools have raised \$44,066.69 to aid the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The majority of these funds have been given to the **Canadian Red Cross**, and it will be matched by the federal government.