

School Page

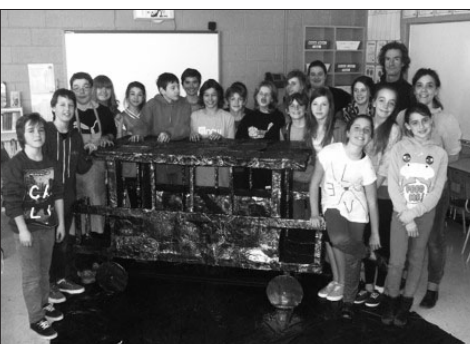
Sutton Elementary

Sutton School – The Place to Be

By C. Canzani

As December descends upon Ecole Sutton School, and the mountain begins to turn white in preparation for the ski season, we're amazed at how much has already happened in our school environment.

We came back to school in the fall to the wonderful surprise that our school had won the Essor Regional Recognition Award, for an art project called the Tricycle Project that we had completed in the spring. This project was an incentive to have artists, the community, and the school working together and was led by artist and teacher, Isabelle Grenier. The theme was "our heritage" and was done with students from Grades 4-6. The students worked with various artists, once a week for a month and then their works of art were displayed in an installation outside of the John Sleeth Centre.



Art is alive and well at Ecole Sutton School. In addition to the Tricycle Pro-

ject, our school also enjoys a project called, "Boreart," where we work with different local artists at Galerie Arts Sutton every year and host a vernissage (public showing) of our students' work. This year students will be working with Marie Chapelaine and the theme will be, "Games of Childhood." Students will be learning the art of making paper dolls. Students in Grades 3-6 will also be doing a watercolour workshop with Christine Battuz in the near future.

We're also very proud of Sutton School's athletes who participated in soccer and cross-country running this fall. Our Grade 6 girls brought home the trophy in cross-country, and our "A" team in soccer managed to place third overall, under the direction of our gym teacher, Patrick Laplante. We're anxious to see how they'll fare at next week's basketball tournament.

Ecole Sutton School has also developed a very special partnership with some of the older residents of our town through our homework program. We began this project in 2011, through the Centre d'Action Benevole de Sutton, which helped us set up our program. At that time we had eight volunteers, and now in 2014, we are up to 18 volunteers. The tutors meet with their student once a week from October to May and it doesn't take long before we notice the strong bond of attachment running between our students and volunteers.

It's a very good way for our students to get help academically and to create a link between two very different generations, helping them to understand one another better.



The environment is also an important part of education at Sutton School. In addition to our composting program, we also work with local environmentalist, Isabelle Gregoire, who teaches us about the local flora of Mount Pinnacle, and takes us on hikes where we identify animal prints. Isabelle also works with our students to help in the preservation of our local wild garlic. Students plant the wild garlic and then check on its progress at times during the year.

You can see the results of one of our projects, which is a calendar displaying the work of our students at this link: www.montpinnacle.ca/calendrier2015/index.htm. This was a project of identifying the flora of Mount Pinnacle.

Our younger students enjoy going to Auberge and Spa West Brome, where they work with gardener, Mireille

Poirier, planting the garden in spring and helping with the harvest in fall.



As you can see, Ecole Sutton School is a happy, bustling place to be. Our days are filled with learning, in every sense of the word, from sitting and doing calculations in math, to climbing a mountain to learn about wild garlic, to creating masterpieces with talented artists, and working hand in hand with our dedicated volunteers.

SADD presents microwave to Baluchon Elementary in Mansonville



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

On Sunday, some of the youth from the Students Against Destructive Decisions Mansonville board of directors presented a new microwave as a donation from the SADD group to improve the hot lunch program at the school.

This is the second year in a row that SADD has gifted the two local elementary schools with a new microwave oven, at the school's request.

Baluchon School secretary Anne-Marie Bouffard and teacher Alexandra Bruneau received the donation on behalf of the school prior to Sunday's visit

from Santa Claus with parents and students gathered in celebration of the season.

SADD's Natasha Charby spoke on behalf of the board and she was accompanied by members Kira Nichols and Alexandria Charby.

The youth presented the donation while sporting their new SADD sweaters given to them by the members of the Former Youth Involvement group at a Christmas celebration the night before.

SADD Mansonville strives to eliminate destructive decisions and to inform youth and their parents through workshops and sessions on subjects including drugs, impaired driving, suicide and a variety of other subjects.

The SADD board meets weekly at the Missisquoi North Youth Centre on Fridays from 6-7 p.m. Any youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who want to assume a leadership role and have some time to volunteer each week should contact the Youth Centre to find out about joining the SADD group.

To contact the Youth Centre call 450-292-4886 or visit the website at www.cabmn.org



NORMA CLIFFORD

Three members of the SADD board presented a microwave oven to Baluchon School in Mansonville on Sunday, just before the annual visit by Santa Claus.