

School Page

Waterloo Elementary

Waterloo school gets their hands dirty

By Catherine Canzani, Principal

Waterloo School has been in the midst of their pottery-making program for the last few weeks. Students have been involved in this project for several years and have become excellent potters under the watchful eye of pottery teacher, Qita Reindler.

Students from grades 2 to 6 are involved in the program, and thanks to the generous donation of a kiln donated to us by Brian Herman, we are able to both glaze and fire our pottery right in our school. Students make a variety of projects such as bowls, cups, spoon rests, soap dishes and beautiful Christmas ornaments, which are both given as Christmas gifts to students' families as well as being sold at our Christmas concert to raise some funds to keep the program running.

Pottery making is an expensive program and selling our works alone would

never generate enough income to keep the program running. Waterloo School is so blessed to receive generous donations from the Godbout Foundation as well as from the Waterloo School Trust Fund.

It is such a treat to watch our students so intent on their work. Everyone knows the routines and procedures and it is a very quiet workspace as students are focused on their works of art. Qita pulls up one student at a time and guides their hands through the process of creating on the potter's wheel. It's a sensitive process – one slight of hand and the project needs to be re-started. Other students sit at their tables working on their individual pieces with the help of our art teacher, Laura Teasdale.

We are looking forward to showcasing our students' creations at our up-coming Christmas Concert. Our pottery program is truly worth getting our hands dirty for.



Staying connected to volunteers is a priority in Potton



THE SCOOP
MABLE HASTINGS

Most community organizations will tell you that without the hard work and dedication of volunteers most groups and programs would either fail or at best, merely get by. Volunteers are one of our greatest resources and are essential to the success and continuity of many programs and projects in a community.

With this in mind, the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre has hired a dynamic duo to filter, touch base and support its abundant and diverse bank of active volunteers. Some volunteers give of their time on a weekly basis while others volunteer at certain times of year. The Partage/Share good bank is a great

example given that many of their volunteers most active during the holidays when the Christmas food baskets are prepared and distributed. On the other hand, many volunteer drivers are called upon multiple times per week.

For Volunteer Coordinator, Sarah Jersey and her co-worker, Debra Harding who have taken on the new position one day per week (every Wednesday) at the CAB, it has been a real eye opener.

"I have been volunteering at the CAB for along time and have also been employed at the CAB's youth centre for several years and I honestly had no idea how many volunteers our organization has," shared Sarah Jersey. "Some work with the intellectually challenged, others with seniors, some with the youth and the list of possible volunteer involvement goes on and on..."

Debra Harding loves people and is finding the filtering process that involves a face to face sit down and the filling out of forms, a real joy. There is always a hot cup of coffee or tea awaiting the volunteers and just touching base with them has been rewarding.

"The form looks long but is actually quite painless," said one volunteer. "It made me realize how much I have been



Debra Harding and Sarah Jersey are Coordinating volunteers at the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CAB) in Potton

able to do to help the community and that made me feel good."

Jersey and Harding are creating a volunteer binder that includes the forms, a photo and all the data needed to feed into a data base in the computer which is their next step after all volunteers have been filtered. The intent is to be better able and equipped to support the volunteers and the things that they enjoy doing while meeting the needs of the organization and community.

For more information about the CAB or to volunteer, contact Sarah or Debbie on Wednesdays at the CAB Main Office at 314 Principale in Mansonville or give them a call at 450-292-3114.

To those in all communities who give of their time, the CAB salutes you! As the "day of the volunteer" quickly approaches on December 5, volunteers everywhere are recognized and thanked for their kindness.

COURTESY