



Issue #3

Newsletter



On Monday November 4, 2024, our grade 6 and 5/6 groups (52 students) were treated to a wonderful walking tour of Kahnawà:ke. The students visited the Kahnawà:ke Welcome Center, took a tour of Saint Francis Xavier Mission, walked around Kahnawà:ke behind the church, had lunch at Mohawk Trail Longhouse before returning to school.

This outing was preceded by several visits from Mr. Stacey and Mr. Del Guidice to the classes.

This was a fantastic activity made possible through the planning of Ms. Della Valle and funding from the Native Grant Measure.



Remembrance Day

On Thursday November 7th, Harmony hosted our annual Remembrance Day celebration. We were fortunate to have included veterans Mr. Martella, Mr. Cholette, Mr. McCabe, Ms. Crawford, Mr. Stacey, M. Martin. Ms. Peace, Mr. O'Connor, and Ms. Rushby. Our ceremony also included invited guests Ms. Malowany, Mr. Stacey, Mr. Del Guidice, Mrs. Hogan and Ms. Keenan representing our MP Brenda Shanahan. Student MC's Sophie and Eddy did a fantastic job along with all of our student presenters and choir singers. Thank you to Ms. Della Valle, Ms. Descombes for planning the event and honouring our servicemen and women. Also a huge thank you for the PPO for the terrific lunch they made and their time volunteering to serve our invited guests. This would not have been possible without all your time and support.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Did you know that Ms. Heather has lived on a farm for most of her life?

Did you know that Mme. Milena has a cat named Lulu?

Did you know that Ms. Rachelle is an alumnus of Harmony Elementary School?



Volleyball Tournament

What's more exciting than a sports tournament? If you ask our grade 5 and 6 athletes who represented Harmony on November 22, 2024, they would probably say nothing could beat it. Our teams played terrific matches displaying both their skill and sportsmanship. Thank you to Ms. Rachelle and Ms. Cait.



Cycle 3 Bake Sale

Our cycle 3 students held a bake sale on November 28th and 29th. Student council members worked the sales table. There were so many delicious treats being sold. Members of the PPO were instrumental in making sure that the sale went without a hitch. The event raised over \$1090 for Chateauguay Food Bank.



Assembly for Tina

November 27, 2024 marked an end for Harmony Elementary. Our caretaker Ms. Tina worked her last day and transitioned to her well-deserved retirement. Ms. Tina first started working at Harmony in 2011 and then became our full-time caretaker in 2020. She has been an invaluable resource in our community for many years. Her love of the children will always stand out. There were much tears shed that day. Stay Safe.



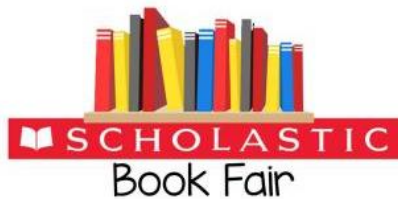
Fallen leaves lying on the grass in the November sun bring more happiness than the daffodils.

Cyril Connolly



The PPO ran a successful Fall Raffle in November. There were prizes donated from many different members of our community. Hockey tickets, spa treatments, gift cards, party packages, and so much more.

The drive help raise over \$11000. This money will be used by the PPO when they run various student activities. The PPO also has created a fund that will provide play structure for the students. Thank you to everyone for your support.



The Harmony Parental Participation Organization (PPO) also organized the Scholastics book fair in November. On November 28th and 29th, during the parent-teacher interviews, the book fair was setup in the gymnasium and in the hallway. This event allowed students, parents, and staff to purchase books and related items for themselves, the classroom and even do some Christmas shopping. The total sales amount almost reached \$7000. This means that Scholastics will be giving the PPO an amount equivalent to 50% of the profits in scholastics dollars to purchase items for the school. Thank you and well-done PPO.

Parent Teacher Interviews

On Thursday November 28th and Friday November 29th, Harmony held our first parent-teacher interviews. The evening and morning sessions saw many parents take advantage of the opportunity to discuss their child's academic progress.

If you were unable to attend but wish to speak to your child's teacher, we encourage you to reach out and set up an appointment.



Ms. Giannetti's Kindergarten and grade one class wrote letters to Santa this month. Both classes took a walk to the mailbox to mail the letters themselves. With the help of Christmas magic, Santa will definitely receive these letters on time!



It all started with bare trees drawn on cardboard and some holes. November 19th was a beautiful day for a leaf hunt. K5A and K5B had a mission to find as many leaves as possible to make their bare tree trunks into beautiful trees. They ended their adventure with fun at the park. What an amazing activity!

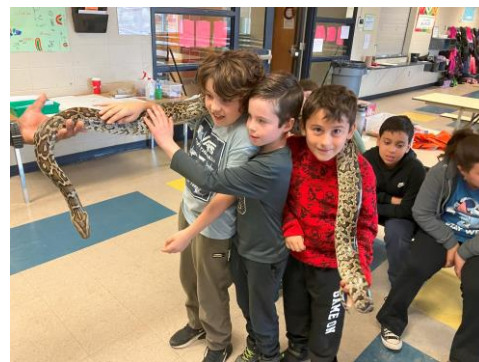


**ALL GENUINE LEARNING COMES
THROUGH EXPERIENCE**

John Dewey

More from the classrooms

On November 11th, Harmony Daycare got a visit from Reptizoo for their Pedagogical day. The children got to see, hold, and learn about different reptiles ranging from lizards to snakes. Fun fact: Snakes and lizards use their tongues to smell.



Many visitors have graced our classrooms to talk about their professions and expertise. These are excellent opportunities for the students to see, hear and ask questions to learn the many opportunities open to them.



Harmony started our tutoring program in November. Students were recommended for the program by their teachers.

Session 1 started November 25th and will run until December 20th. Session 2 will begin January 13th and end February 7th.

Pet Therapy at Harmony

We are very fortunate to be able to provide a Pet therapy program for our students. Au bout du Museau was hired (with Mesure money) once a week until the end of the year to provide emotional support and anxiety management amongst other resources. A wonderful dog named Lola is brought in for the sessions. Students were recommended by the staff and permission forms were sent home.

The sessions are run in 4-week groups with new recommendations for each group.

Upcoming events in December

December 2nd Student Coalition meeting at HSB

December 2nd PPO meeting 6pm

December 6th Geordie productions at Harmony

December 4th -16th Toiletries Drive

December 20 ELF DAY hosted by the PPO

December 21st to January 5th Holiday Break

January 6th PED day