Our goal >>>
The Not Another Newsletter, Newsletter
The aim of this newsletter is to showcase all the fabulous things our kids do through the Wyndcroft Non Sibi philosophy. The community service committee aims to make sure each child participates in a community service project at school, raising their understanding of what philanthropy means. Our desire is that this newsletter is a means for us to share what we do to help our children live and embody Non Sibi and we hope it helps our fellow parents in some way. Please send anything you’d like to include in this newsletter to Lori Cavanaugh at loricav717@comcast.net.

*The thoughts and views in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent those of the school.

In this issue >>>
- Hearts & Hands of Wyndcroft: Highlights of This Year’s Community Service Events
- BucketFillers: The 2013 Auction Team
- Lorax Corner: WE Speak for the Trees

Living ... Not for Oneself

Non Sibi
A Parent Organization Publication

Hearts & Hands... of Wyndcroft

The Community Service endeavor at The Wyndcroft School strives to make an impact through local, national and international organizations. It has been said many times, “our students are the luckiest children in the world”. In turn, we try to teach them that giving back is an important and worthy deed. This year, some of the Community Service projects were similar to years past, and some were with new organizations. We and the teachers chose projects we felt the children could relate to and understand why they were doing it. Each Lower School grade participated in a project that benefitted the local community, while the upper school held their own projects to assist local and international charities. The entire school had the opportunity to participate in several school-wide projects.

Early Childhood & Pre-Kindergarten visited and sang to the residents of the Keystone Villa in Douglassville. The children also shared a snack with the residents, gave them flowers that they made along with goodie bags containing tissues, hand sanitizers and snacks. The residents just love seeing the children.

Kindergarten visited and sang to the residents at the Manatawny Manor Nursing Home in Pottstown. They made cards with butterflies and sunshine stickers for the residents and gave them some reusable shopping bags and tissue packets, which we know everyone needs these days. We have learned that hand sanitizers may not be the best gift for the residents, due to allergies and sensitive skin.

1st Grade supported the Get Well Gabby organization this year. This is a local foundation supporting childhood cancer research and children with cancer. Gabby was a girl from Phoenixville who died of a rare brain cancer. She would have been in 1st grade this year. Our 1st graders wrote letters for book donations, collected books for children in the hospital, and wore Crazy Hats one day at school, for additional donations to Get Well Gabby.

2nd Grade collected school supplies for a new school opening in Berks County, The Hogan Learning Center. This is a private academic facility for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The children sorted and counted all the items, from pencils to globes. They filled 5 boxes full, plus the 5 globes. Jim Hogan, the head of the school was very appreciative of their efforts. As you can see in the pictures, there was quite a bit of fun going on the day they packed things up. We look forward to helping them next year!

3rd Grade decorated white shopping bags for “The Clinic” in Phoenixville. The clinic serves over 800 patients per month with free or low cost medical care. Clients can use these festive looking bags to fill with needed items they may have trouble acquiring on their own. The class also got toothpaste, sunscreen, soaps and much needed socks to fill these bags for the patients.

2nd graders packing school supplies for The Hogan Learning Center

Gavin Reigner chats with a Villa resident
4th Grade created comfort cards and donated stuffed bears for hugging to the Pottstown Police Department. Children who come to a police station can find comfort in hugging a cute stuffed bear, with a friendly homemade card attached. It helps make it not so scary a place to be, and they are able to keep the bear.

The 4th graders then had a visit from Pottstown Police Chief Richard Drumheller, and Officer Mike. They talked to the children about how they are helping out at the police station. This year, the upper school selected an international charity as their recipient. Our French teachers, Madame Fauth and Madame Risell, asked our committee to support the country of Haiti that students have studied in their French classes this year. The FEED organization is the Fondation pour l’Épanouissement des Enfants démunis de Paulette. It provides a daily lunch program, tuition, uniforms and supplies to the schools in the village of Paulette, Haiti.

A bit of history—For the past seven years, the Community Service Committee of the WPTO has sponsored a dance-a-thon for the upper school students. These dances have been raised over $18,000 for local, national and overseas charities. This year, having had so much fun last year, the kids again chose a zumba theme.

On April 12th, under the direction of their fearless leader and zumba expert Mrs. Whitmore, 50 upper school students zumba’d for 2 hours straight, with nary a break for drinks and snacks. They had fun dressing in their colorful zumba outfits, and I think it gave the adults some inspiration to zumba as well! We thank those children who really worked extra hard in support of FEED by soliciting donations from friends and relatives to collect a total of $2006.

We did three school wide projects this year. Our first project was Pink for the Cure. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. On October 12th, students wore pink to raise funds for the fight against breast cancer.

Wyndcroft raised $1075 for Susan G. Komen for the Cure Organization. The second school wide project was our annual holiday food collection to benefit the Pottstown Cluster Outreach Center. The entire school collected 642 pounds of food, and over 300 toys and clothing items. We also delivered 12 turkey coupons and the Student Council chose to donate their proceeds from the Upper School BWB, $532.00, for additional purchase of turkeys and food items for the holiday food baskets which the Cluster distributes.

The third schoolwide program was Read for Ronald. During the month of February the students collected pledges and donations, and more importantly they READ. Our students raised $3837.59. In the 11 years Wyndcroft has been participating in the program, students have read a collective 81,000 minutes and raised over $49,000. Reading and helping others, what a great way to be Non Sibi.

On behalf of the Community Service Committee, a huge thanks to everyone for making this year so successful. From students, classroom coordinators, parents, teachers and staff, it takes everyone; it can’t be done alone, and you all did a great job. The dedication that Wyndcroft brings to helping the community gives us our motto “Non Sibi” its true meaning... Not for One’s Self.

**Bucket Fillers**

*Non Sibi Person of the Month*

The 2013 Auction Team--Wyndcroft in Paradise: Dana Mullaney, Amy Rovi, Cheri Shubbar and Bill Woodruff, and their indomitable leader Susan Rutherford, gave countless hours of their time to ensure the success of the auction this year. From the initial theme selection to the last decoration put away at Rivercrest, they were there. As you know, this is all done for the good of the school, and helps enable our children to then go forth and make a difference. We get out what we put into our school, and it really shows with the success of the auction. A brief, busy, but fun time--friendships forged, coffee consumed, decisions made and plans implemented. Many other contributors, from donors to purchasers, pavement pounders for items to wrappers whose creative efforts are unmatched, put forth their time and effort as well, to make sure our children can learn and grow to the best of their abilities. Thank you for your dedication to Wyndcroft.

**Lorax Corner:** WE Speak for the Trees

Did you know that consumers and businesses are no longer able to throw away electronic devices with the trash? The Pennsylvania Covered Device Recycling Act (CDRA) is now in effect (since Jan 2013). This means that covered devices such as computers, laptops, computer monitors, televisions and tablets will no longer be taken away by trash haulers, unless the municipality has a curbside electronics collection program that ultimately sends the devices to an electronics recycler. This law allows to:

- Reduce waste in landfills
- Derive economic benefits from precious metals found inside electronics
- Elimination of heavy metals in the environment
- Encourage environmental stewardship

The law also requires that manufacturers provide for the collection, transportation and recycling of these devices by establishing one day events, permanent collection programs or mail-back programs for consumers. This is offered to consumers at no cost. In addition, manufacturers must register their brands with the DEP and attach brand labels to those devices. You may find more information on registered manufacturers at www.dep.state.pa.us keyword: Electronics Recycling

If you currently recycle your electronics through your county or municipal electronics recycling program, make sure they accept that type of electronic device before taking it for dropoff.

Additional recycling information is available from county recycling coordinators, whose contact information can be found on DEP’s website, keyword: recycle, or through the Recycling Hotline at 1-800-346-4242.

**Thank You from the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities**

The Wyndcroft School received a heartfelt thank you letter from “The Cluster” for the financial donation from the Upper School Bat Wing Ball proceeds and Holiday Cheer items. They write, “In 2012 we continued to see record numbers of individuals seeking food resources and assistance with keeping their families warm and clothed. We would be challenged to meet all of those needs without the support of friends like you. Thank you”.

**Thinking Ahead**

Beginning in September: We would like to institute a “Cluster Item of the Month”. We want to work with them to provide whatever needed item they choose, on a monthly basis. There will be bins placed in a couple of strategic locations in the school. Place contributions there as you wish. Further information will be available in the new school year.