



January 10, 2010

SUCCESS STORIES DECEMBER



Recognition of Student/School Success

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) extends congratulations to the following students/groups for these outstanding examples of success for December:

Kaleden Elementary



Kindergarten Class singing:
Penguins on Parade

Penguins at the North Pole? There must be some mistake. And a film crew, too? Ready!, Set! Action! Here comes a parade of smiling penguins, as they wave their sunglasses at the busy Hollywood film crew. A publicity stunt? Do these pesky penguins really think they can replace the elves and reindeer at the North Pole ... on the busiest night of the year? Join the mayhem and merriment as a cast-load of Arctic (and Antarctic) characters (played by students in Div. 1) discover their special talents to make holiday happenings come true!



Christmas characters played by students in Grade 4/5 (Division 1)





Grade 1/2 students (Division 4)
singing: It's a Tough Job Bein' Me



Grades 3 /4 (Division 2)
students singing:
A Positively Pesky
Population of Penguins





Grade 2/3 (Division 3) students
Signing: Christmas Can Be Easy



Naramata Elementary

The December Super Stars Assembly took place on Monday, December 6th. Following the new theme of "Growing", the following students were honoured for their "growing" efforts, talents, and kindness. Students received a certificate to take home and a small trophy to place on their desk for a week. The trophies have been kindly donated by Okanagan Awards Plus (Tony & Jodi Trovao).



1. Div. 1 (Gr. 4, 5) Avery Barnett, Casey Carriere, Martha Pace
2. Div. 2 (Gr. 2, 3) Tanner Miller, Ryan Paulhus
3. Div. 3 (Gr. 1, 2) Elizabeth Moschini, Diego Wood

Congratulations to the three teams from the Robotics Club who participated in the RoboCup (dance challenge) at the Okanagan College in Kelowna on December 3rd. All three teams performed extremely well during the competition and displayed excellent sportsmanship towards their fellow competitors. The students were up against very tight timelines but they were able to work together to create spirited and entertaining performances with these robots. The RoboCup teams included the Black-Eyed Rattlers team (Sage, Grace, Martha, Desiree, Meg & David), the Naramata Venom team (Casey, Avery, Theo, Ana, Finn, & Hannah) and the Robo Rattlers team (Jeniah, Felicia, Maceo, & Kai). A huge thank you goes to Miranda Halladay, Tracey Barnett & Joanne Smiley for all their hard work preparing the teams for this competition and to all the parent drivers.

The Robotics Club will continue in mid-January. And this year's PAC carnival will feature a Science & Technology theme where students will present their RoboCup performances.



Parkway Elementary

Quite a few exciting events took place at Parkway Elementary during December - the last week of school in 2010!

Two Kindergarten classes enjoyed a wonderful Teddy Bear Picnic. The Bears were great! Thank you Mrs. Tucker and Ms Brown.

What a great week for the Breakfast Club. The students and parent volunteers had a great time and the food was delicious!

Christmas Character Day took place - it was very colorful! The outfits were great and they even had a visit from Santas Claus!! Ho Ho Ho!

Columbia Elementary

Last week the school hosted the Holiday Shopping Extravaganza for all of the students. Staff and families in the community donated gently used treasures that were then organized for the sale. The response was very generous and every class had the opportunity to come and shop at the event co-hosted by staff and parent volunteers. Prices were very reasonable 5, 10, 25 cents. The idea is that every child has the opportunity to buy gifts for their family. The students were so excited and had such a great time buying new-found treasures for their families. They were so proud of their shopping. One staff member didn't have a lot of items to donate so she instead raided her change jar and made sure that every child who may have forgotten to bring money or didn't have any also had some money to shop with. The sale was a big success and over \$400 was raised. This money has since been donated to the Be an Angel campaign supporting the Feed the Valley food bank and the Okanagan Boys and Girls Club.

Penticton Secondary

Congratulations to Grade 11 Penticton Secondary student [Katie Kearney](#) for being this year's recipient of the Okanagan Soroptomist's Violet Richardson award. The program honors young women between the ages of 14 and 17 whose volunteer efforts include: helping other disadvantaged girls; fighting drugs, crime and violence; cleaning up the environment; and working to end discrimination and poverty.

For her efforts Katie will receive \$500 to put towards her Africa trip this summer. As well, her name has been forwarded to the provincial Soroptomist level where she is eligible for a \$1000 award.

14,000+ cans of food were collected for the Salvation Army Food Bank on Dec. 10. Penticton Secondary and Princess Margaret students shared in this amazing night, this year hosted by Penticton Secondary.

Pen High students raised over \$800 in the Penny Wars! This money goes to provide Christmas hampers for families in need. Combined with their other fundraising projects, students and staff provided 25 hampers for Penticton families in need this holiday season.

The Pen High blanket drive that took place during November and December collected over 200 blankets. These blankets will be distributed in Penticton and Vancouver along with the plastic mats for the homeless that have been put together by a small group of students.

Skaha Lake Middle School

Dec 2

Mr. Brunelle delivered grade level cyber-bullying presentations using an award winning video resource from Vernon Secondary School film class.

Dec 7

Winter Band Concert - SLMS had 3 concert bands, 2 jazz bands and their choir performed to a packed gym!

Dec 9 -10

Three staff attended the Sound Grading Practices conference in Portland, Oregon put on by the Assessment Training Institute.

Dec 17

Skaha Lake Middle held their annual "Tug of War" competition. The school is divided into 3 multi-graded houses: Hammerheads, Great Whites and Tiger Sharks with the Hammerheads coming out on top in this event. There will be many more events planned including school-wide and lunch time intramural to accumulate points towards the "Shark Cup".



Summerland Secondary

Heather's Ayris Acting 11 Class donated all of the money that they received during their performance in December to the Summerland Food Bank. The students made the decision as a group to donate \$250.00!

Uplands Elementary

Uplands was filled with Christmas spirit this holiday season! On December 10th the PAC organized Santa's Workshop. Families brought in items, in advance, from home to contribute and then students had an opportunity to shop for gifts for family members that were very reasonable (i.e. 25 cents each). The fundraising from this event in combination with generous contributions from staff went towards providing groceries/gifts for seven Uplands' families in need this Christmas season. Many thanks go out to Tracy Foremen and Iris Say for coordinating Santa's Workshop, to families for their contributions and to the staff.

On December 16th, Uplands' students put on an entertaining performance titled, North Pole Musical. Many thanks go out to all of the students, staff, each class and parent volunteers for making the performance possible. A very special thank you to their talented music director, Mrs. Salting, Ms. Street and her grade 3 class for their amazing acting and singing! Both the afternoon dress rehearsal and evening performance were very well attended. Uplands' also thanks Wendy Hyer, Tom Schimmer, Larry Little, Ginny Manning and Shelley Clarke for going out to Uplands for the performance! Christmas crafts, performing for senior citizens and Tots to Teens plus collecting food items for the Salvation Army brought further cheer for the Christmas season.

