

GOLDEN STAR 2017

The Excellence in Public Education Committee met in April and we were pleased to award 5 Golden Star Awards and the Legion Golden Star Award.



Committee Members

- Steve Bailey
- Val Dyer
- Doug Edgar
- Charan Gill (Chair)
- Caroline Malm
- Louisa Sanchez
- Margaret Sutton

2017 Winners

- The Awards celebrate the working together of public school students and seniors in their communities.
- The 2017 BCRTA Golden Star Recipients are:
 - Arrow Heights Elementary School, Revelstoke
 - Belmont Elementary School, Langley
 - Fraserview Learning Centre, Mission
 - Muheim Memorial Elementary School, Smithers
 - Quilchena Elementary School, Richmond

Arrow Heights
Elementary School
Revelstoke

“Mt. Cartier Court Garden Partnership”

Teacher: Amber Thompson

Presenters: Stefan Cieslek and Doug Edgar

- Grade 3 and 4 students are involved in a gardening partnership with seniors living at Mt Cartier Court.



- The prize money will be used for gardening tools and equipment for observing and measuring plants, and insects. Purchasing a composter is also part of the plan.

Students use skills from math (designing of garden beds, measurement – area and perimeter, science (learning about seeds, pollinators), language arts (writing letters and poems for the seniors' enjoyment), social skills and an appreciation of what seniors have to offer.



Above (left to right): Sharon Givens of the B.C. Retired Teachers Association, Andrew Clark of Mount Carleton Court, teacher Andrew Thompson, and Doug Edgar of the B.C. Retired Teachers Association. Right: The Burtis and Heather Carter show off the seeds they grew in the garden at Mount Carleton Court.

Garden collaboration gets Golden Star Award

Alisa Cooper
Reporter

The grade 3/4 class at Arden Heights Elementary was awarded on Wednesday for their work building a garden at Mount Carleton Court.

"We really appreciate what the students and what the residents of Mount Carleton Court have been doing," said Doug Edgar, the past-president of the B.C. Retired Teachers Association, before presenting the class with the Golden Star Award and a \$1,500 cheque for their efforts.

The students received the award for building several garden beds and growing vegetables with the residents of the seniors' own facility.

Together, they developed several garden beds, chose what vegetables to grow, and planted the seeds. The results of their ef-

forts were on display as they were presented with their trophies — boxes of lettuce were growing in the gardens and the students proudly showed off the herbs they grew.

"Gardening speaks to everybody and we get to watch things grow and flourish. We're relationships we made," said Andrew Clark of Mount Carleton Court.

The garden was spearheaded by Jane Johnson-TED of the Local Food Initiative, who approached teacher Andrew Thompson with the idea of the collaboration last year. The program was taken over by Kristina Moffatt this year.

The students would go to Mount Carleton Court every second Thursday and they were responsible for watering

up the garden beds and deciding what to plant; they learned about seeds and plantations. "They planned and mapped out how they wanted their plants to grow," said Thompson.

The program was one of five in B.C. to receive the Golden Star Award out of 18 that applied. The award recognizes pro-

grams that encourage the interactive students with seniors.

"We tried to see a cooperative vision from the students and residents of Mount Carleton Court," said Edgar.

Thompson said they would use the award as credit for the kids and give a certificate.

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REVELSTOKE REVIEW

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Asphalt plant - 3
Sewage stink - 4
Carbon levy - 4
Tourism Revelstoke - 5
Street fest: Lucette - 8
BVI March of Silence
Bruce Thomas exhibit
Petting zoo - 13

Family Fishing Day - 16

Gold star garden



Students check out the garden they planted with the residents of Mount Carleton Court after receiving an award from the B.C. Retired Teachers Association last week. For more, see page 5.

Belmont
Elementary School
Langley

“Woodworking in Grade 3”

- Students learn how to use a variety of hand tools.
- The prize money will be used to purchase materials to build woodworking benches that can also serve as classroom tables. Any remaining money will be used to purchase wood, supplies and tools for student projects.

Teacher: Jason Proulx
Presenters : JoAnn Lauber and Annette O'Connor





Senior volunteers share their knowledge and experience with students in a safe, richly creative environment



Seniors provide suggestions on how to overcome problems that may arise



Completed projects are proudly displayed at the school before final installation in students' back yards or in community gardens.





Mother's day flower
made by: Talia
Hockey stick made by: Talia

Fidget Toy made by:
Mason

Fraserview Learning Centre Mission

“Lifetime Learners Partnership”

- Grade 7 – 12 students work with seniors attending the Lifetime Learners Program
- Students and seniors support one another through various program components such as the knitting group, tech time mentorship, gardening and special events such as Remembrance Day assemblies, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.
- Students at FLC learn the importance of giving back to seniors in their community. Seniors teach values, empathy and the art of conversation.

Teacher: Sandra Norum
Presenter: Caroline Malm



The prize money will be used to enhance the learning environment for students at Fraserview Learning Centre through the purchase of program supplies.



Muheim Memorial Elementary School Smithers

“Meadows and Muheim Buddy Program”

Teacher: Liliana Pesce

Presenters: Donna Steeves and Elaine Thompson

- The students of Muheim school meet twice a month with seniors at the MEADOWS, an assisted-living senior centre located two blocks from the school.
- Prize money will be used for art supplies, IPAD for seniors, bus costs to visit local museums and to purchase journals that students can use with seniors to share stories.

“Meadows and Muheim Buddy Program”, Muheim Memorial Elementary School, Smithers



Activities such as reading, laughing, playing, listening to stories, sharing experiences, celebrating occasions, singing and dancing foster social and emotional well-being of all participants.





The children bring an element of youth, family and laughter to the elders in the town and the seniors can sometimes be surrogate grandparents for some students.

Quilchena
Elementary School
Richmond

“Forming Grand Pal Relations”

- Grade 6 and 7 students visit with seniors living at the Gilmore Gardens Retirement Home
- Together, they write poems, share stories, make memory bracelets, plan a garden and most importantly formed friendships

Teachers: Andrew Livingston and Kevin Vines

Presenters: Gordon Smith and Charan Gill



You make our hearts strong
Inspiring, caring and we'll always
Think of you so gratefully
You've helped us be
The very best we can be.
We tend our garden carefully
Show respect for you and me
And community; so welcoming
We read and write and solve
Our problems grow and they evolve
Graciously
You will be
The very best we can be.

The assembly is a student-led celebration





The 2017 Legion Golden Star Winner

W.L. Seaton
Secondary School
Vernon

“Vernon WW1 Veterans - No Stone Left Alone”

French Immersion Social Studies 11 students

- researched the history of local WW1 veterans.
- worked with local seniors to locate and lay poppies at the graves of the veterans they researched.

Teacher: Yvonne Fiala
Presenter: Stefan Cieslek



BCRTA Celebrating Seniors & Students



