

PCA Middle School Reaching Beyond

On Tuesday, February 3, 26 students and 9 parents from the Middle School *Beyond Us* team brought warm clothes and sleeping bags donated by the Junior and Middle School families, and food and Bible verses to share with *neighbours* who were experiencing homelessness on the streets of downtown Toronto. It was a very cold evening. We had to look in places where our friends would be able to find some warmth without getting "kicked out." Three of the groups only found 5 or 6 friends each, but each one they met was very grateful to receive the help.

One group went to a very popular "hang-out" for our friends but found no one - it was too cold. As the students watched with one parent from across the street, two of the parents brought the clothes to a very grateful shelter and then distributed the food to thankful friends just outside.

Clothes that weren't distributed were given to Toronto Chinese Community Church's Out of the Cold program. The program hosts 30-50 friends on Sunday nights through the winter with dinner, hot showers, activities and breakfast the next morning.

Team members commented that they were so cold after only one hour on the streets and wondered how our friends could survive overnight. Jesus commanded us to love our neighbours and declared that those who mourn are blessed. May we all mourn for the things that break God's heart and continually find ways to love those in need.



The Middle School *Beyond Us* Team

Mission Trip 2015

On February 7 – 14, a group of students and teachers participated in our annual Senior School Mission Trip – this year to Wikwemikong on Manitoulin Island. In partnership with Daystar Ministries, our team ministered to the aboriginal population through participation in community service projects and running afterschool programs. In doing so, and by sharing from their own walk with the Lord, they effectively conveyed the message that there is a God who loves them deeply.

Wikwemikong is one of the ten largest native First Nation communities in Canada. Situated on the eastern end of Manitoulin Island, Wikwemikong is home to a vibrant aboriginal community with a rich history dating back to the mid 1600s. Since 1998, Shirley Hamilton and her team at Daystar Native Outreach have been ministering to the people of Wikwemikong. Their dream is seeing godly Native leaders raised up to show the people in their communities that there is a God who loves them – a God who loves them personally, deeply and passionately.

Thank you to Dr. Philip, Mrs. Tam and Miss Mok for training the team and leading them on this vital initiative. As always, the long-term and eternal benefits of the project are immeasurable.



The 2015 Senior Missions Team

The PAC Presents a Successful Information Seminar

On Thursday, February 26, our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) sponsored a seminar, involving a number of our “in-house” experts, on the challenges and the privileges of instructing and leading children and youth in the ways of God.

The seminar, entitled “*How to Build up a Steadfast Faith in our Children?*” featured Dr. Alex Philip speaking on “*How to Cultivate Compromise*”, and Mr. Dean Westacott and PCA parent, Mr James Lam, speaking on the “*Key Role of Parenting in Nurturing Vibrant Faith*”. This was followed by a panel of speakers, comprising the Vice Principals of the Junior School, Middle School, and Senior School, and the Director of the Early Learning Center speaking on “*Effective Ways to Inspire Faith in Different Age Groups*”.

The seminar underlined again the great advantage our PCA students have, in that both teachers and parents share the same objectives and adhere to the same values. Peoples Christian Academy takes seriously its responsibility to nurture children in the faith and to consistently reinforce the teachings of the home and the church.



PCA Staff members share at the PAC Parenting Seminar

Harlem Globetrotters Visit PCA

On Wednesday, February 4, PCA's Junior School and Middle School were blessed to welcome members of the famous Harlem Globetrotters to a special school assembly.

Buckets Blades and *Sweet J*, the two Harlem Globetrotters, gave a wonderful presentation as they challenged our students to make a difference in the school and in their lives each day through the ABC's of Bully Prevention -- Action, Bravery and Compassion. Buckets and Sweet J were gracious, kind and thoughtful and expressed a couple of times how grateful they were that we provided this opportunity for them to speak to our students. Middle School Vice Principal, Mr. Westacott, said, "It was an absolutely wonderful day for our students, staff and the school."

We deeply appreciate World Vision for providing this opportunity for us. In response to the World Vision initiative, our PCA students made a \$500 donation to their children's relief program.

Genevieve Barber, World Vision Manager of Marketing Communications and Public Relations, commented on the event, "Today was so wonderful and affirming in many ways. Thank you for helping us with the event. But even more so, thank you for investing in those incredible kids. We were really impressed with everything. Personally, I'm blown away by the donation. Thank you for thinking of us that way."



From left, Miss Guy (Junior School Vice Principal) and A. Ghobrial (Grade 8 student), and from right, Mr. Westacott (Middle School Vice Principal), M. Zhuang (Grade 8 student) and Genevieve Barber, pose with Sweet J and Buckets Blades.