

School News from the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario

School: St. Francis de Sales, Smiths Falls
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St. Francis de Sales Donates Locks of Love for Young Patients

Smiths Falls, ON – St. Francis de Sales Catholic School Council Chair Loraine Fenn and Junior Kindergarten/Grade 1 teacher Kristy Angel are hoping to inspire others in their Catholic school community to follow their lead. They have each donated an 18 inch pony-tale to the *Locks of Love* organization.

Locks of Love collects donated pony-tails to be made into wigs for children who have lost their hair through cancer treatment and other medical conditions. The recipients cannot afford to purchase their own wigs, which often cost more than \$3,000. "I am thrilled to help out in any way I can," said Ms. Fenn who has donated before. "I know my children and their friends realize the sacrifice I'm making and why I'm making it. If it inspires others to do the same, then I'm quite happy."

Donors to the program are showing others that appearances are superficial. "My hair will grow back," said Ms. Angel. Both ladies had their pony-tails cut off in front of the student population at an assembly. Students showed their support with loud applause and cheers as the hair came off.

The pair will send their donation, along with any others they collect, to the organization sometime in November. Students, teachers and parents are welcome to join in the effort (students wishing to participate will require the permission of a parent or guardian). It takes between four and six pony-tails to create one wig.

Ms. Angel believes the end result makes it all worth while. "It's a wonderful way to help these children. They really deserve and need to feel good about themselves again."

St. Francis de Sales Principal Derek Haime said the entire school is behind Ms. Fenn and Ms. Angel's efforts. "This is an excellent example of how people can be called to serve as disciples of Christ. We are very proud of the devotion that Ms. Fenn and Ms. Angel have for this campaign and the children it helps; it is truly commendable. Everyone here at St. Francis de Sales is extremely proud."

Ms. Fenn is only the beginning of the parental involvement in this campaign. Hairdresser Elaine Bourne, from The Hair Gallery in Smiths Falls, is providing the haircuts for the donors. Ms. Bourne has two children who attend the school and is pleased to help out. "I only wish my hair was longer so I could donate too. But since it's not, I felt this would be a great way to lend a hand."

To find out how to help out with the St. Francis de Sales Locks of Love Campaign, please contact the school at 613-283-6101.

For more information and interview opportunities, please contact CDSBEO Communications Officer Bob Perreault at 613-258-7757 ext. 206 or 613-859-0678 (mobile).

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.

Attached Photos:

St. Francis de Sales Locks Fenn.jpg - Hairdresser and parent of two St. Francis de Sales students Elaine Bourne, helps Catholic School Council member Loraine Fenn make a donation to the Locks of Love Campaign.

St. Francis de Sales Locks Angel.jpg - Hairdresser and parent of two St. Francis de Sales students Elaine Bourne, helps St. Francis de Sales Teacher Kristy Angel make a donation to the Locks of Love Campaign.

