

# West St. Paul School



BY: AURORA, NYAH & CONNOR

We Day was at the MTS Centre and there were 16,000 people there. We Day was all about equal rights for everyone - Human Rights. We Day was first started by Craig and Mark Kielburger. Craig Kielburger learned all about child labour when he was twelve years old. He thought "that's crazy!" He thought that no one his age should have to do that. He and his brother started an organization called Free the Children. It started with a little school group of 11 people. People started to get really passionate about it. Even people that he thought wouldn't get involved did.

We Day was about inspiring us to make a change and make a difference in the world. Anyone can make a difference. One person is enough. We can do it! Don't think you can't do something. If you think about it, you can do it! The thirty seven West St. Paul students who attended We Day and Miss Yeo and Mr. Rempel believe we can make a difference.

Spencer West was our favourite. (Nyah and Connor) He had no legs; he lost them when he was five years old. He was really talking about if you put your mind to anything, you can do it. His message was so powerful. He's accomplished so much and he has no legs! He gets around everywhere on his hands. He's so amazing that he is going to climb Mount Kilimanjaro this summer. He has written a book called "Standing Tall".

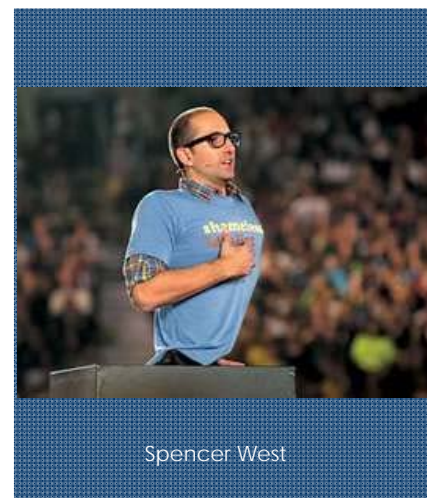
Michel Chikwanine was my favourite. (Aurora) He did the vow of silence. His whole presentation was done with cue cards . . . no speaking. He told us his story about playing soccer with his friends, then he was taken by soldiers. They cut his hands, put gun powder and cocaine on his cuts and they made him shoot his best friend. He was forced to be a child soldier. He escaped into the jungle by himself when he was 5. It was absolutely unbelievable to see his story. 16,000 people in the arena, absolutely silent.

We did a vow of silence at our school on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Some classes did it all day (lunch was tough); some classes did it for a whole class, some for just a few minutes. It's amazing to think that sometimes kids have no voice in their communities.

Other speakers were Al Gore, Mia Farrow, the Kielburger brothers and Hannah Taylor. Hannah Taylor is only seventeen and she has her own Lady bug Foundation that supports homeless people in Winnipeg and is working to stop poverty. Then there were lots of performers as well. Hedley, Sierra Noble and Sean Desmond and Neverest all performed. Everybody knew the We Day Dance. It was cool to see the whole place dancing at the same time.

I felt like it was a great honour to be at Winnipeg's first We Day. (Aurora) It was the most amazing experience I've ever had (Nyah). I felt it was a huge honour to go. (Connor) We hope that we all continue our work in supporting Human Rights through things we do here at school.

We hope we can go to the next We Day!



Spencer West

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Hayden L.'s poster *Children Know Peace* was selected by the West St. Paul Lions Club as the winner from fifty other posters submitted to the Second Annual Fall Supper at the Sunova Centre on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Hayden's original poster has been sent by the West St. Paul Lions Club to the Mid-West District Lions convention in Bemidji, North Dakota. Entries will be received there from Lions Clubs from across western Canada and the northern United States. Hayden's poster will be on display during the convention and a grand prize winner will be chosen from those entries.

Hayden will be receiving a plaque from the West St. Paul Lions Club.

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*The staff and students of West St. Paul would like to wish you and your family a joyous and restful holiday season!*

## Last Minute Concert Instructions

**CONCERT TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

**Wednesday Dress Rehearsal 12:00 p.m.**

**Thursday Dress Rehearsal 9:00 a.m.**

❖ **Please note time change. This has been done to accommodate our Morning Kindergarten class being part of the dress rehearsal.**

If families are coming to a dress rehearsal, please park between the south gym wall and the parking lot.

### Parking

We will be directing parking. We have a system that works well for 220 cars in our lot. Please follow the directions of the students who will be directing traffic. If you can walk, please do so.

Handicap Parking will be along the gym wall. Please call the office if you require Handicap Parking.

Students will be supervised in their rooms. Please enjoy the whole concert and pick them up in their classrooms at the end of the performance.

### Construction Update

The lift is in and ready to use. The elevator is here and they are working daily on the mechanical room to get it running. The new stairway to Red River Hall is complete. The new flooring is in. The painter began to work today. We are almost done!

We are hoping that after the holidays, we will be able to use our new foyer and get back to our regular patterns of moving around the school.

### Pancake Breakfast

Please be reminded that December 22<sup>nd</sup> is our annual Pancake Breakfast. We are asking families to send a reusable plate, cup and fork for your child in a labelled Ziploc bag. Wear your pyjamas and come hungry. The first class will be served at 8:15 a.m. Entertainment will continue throughout the morning. All donations will be to support the Santa for Seniors program at Middlechurch Home.

Thank you to all those parents who have offered to cook sausages, make pancakes and serve at our breakfast. If you could help out with the cooking that morning, please call the school and let us know.