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MPS goes waste free

By Submitted
Posted 6 hours ago

The "Waste Free Lunch Challenge" is an elementary school program that is run for one week across Ontario and is aimed at engaging young children in waste management practices. It was run the same week as "Waste Reduction Week in Canada", Oct 17-21, and over 600 schools across Ontario, including Madawaska Public School, enrolled this year. Any participating school had the opportunity to enter to win \$1,000 for their school.

In the weeks leading up to the event, students learned ways they could pack nutritious, garbage-less lunches, such as packing their food in reusable containers instead of using baggies and plastic wrap, bringing fresh fruit which already comes in a container ready for the compost, and using refillable water bottles for toting drinks rather than using drinking boxes. Members of the Green Team spent time after each lunch hour during the week to sort waste into compost, recycling and garbage. They then weighed the sorted trash and the results were sent into the "Waste Free Lunch Challenge" organizers.

The students learned a few valuable lessons from their hard work: that recycling and composting are easy and great ways to divert garbage from landfill; that some students throw out good food; and that waste free lunches tend to be healthier and cheaper than pre-packaged, processed lunches.



Hayley Kuliack, left, Tessa Kew and Alex Burley were dedicated trash sorters at Madawaska Public School last week during the Waste Free Lunch Challenge.

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