



CAT ~ news

A tri-annual publication from the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada
Office of Education

The Pillars of Society



Teaching is the most important profession in the world. Teachers pass on knowledge and values to children, preparing them for responsible citizenship and purposeful living. Without teachers, there would be no doctors, lawyers, pastors, engineers, tradesmen, nurses, civil servants, no growth and development. It was George Bernard Shaw who said that the sole hope of human salvation lies in teaching.

Yet, the most important profession in the world does not get the recognition it deserves. Graduates from universities do not want to become teachers anymore; they are choosing to become anything but teachers. Why? Teachers are not given the respect due to them; they make great sacrifices and are poorly remunerated; society demands much of them, but gives back little.

We need to elevate our teachers. We need to make them feel valued. We need to recognize that our teachers are engaged in a "high and noble work," and that without them the world would stand still. Let us give teachers the status, support and recognition they deserve. This is perhaps the most effective way to improve education in our conferences. Let us focus on the outstanding contributions teachers make to us individually and collectively. Let us recognize their importance, not once a year during Teacher Appreciation Week, but all year round. We must recognize that they are the pillars of a sound and progressive society, that they form the cornerstone for the stability and sustainability of our church and its mission.

So let's take time to thank our teachers for their commitment to educate our boys and girls into becoming responsible citizens and supportive church members; let us thank them for preparing our boys and girls for their future careers; let us thank them for imparting values and a knowledge of God to our children, thus

shaping their characters for lives of love and service to God and humanity.

Teachers, your greatest reward comes not in the form of material things, but in the form of appreciation for a job well-done. To know that you have made a difference in the life of a boy or girl is the greatest reward you can get. So do what you do with enthusiasm and joy, knowing that your noble work never goes unnoticed by God. He will richly reward you.

Forest Witcraft penned the following words which put the work teachers do into perspective: "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different, because I was important in the life of a child."

Dennis Marshall
Director of Education

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." --Albert Schweitzer

"Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well." --Voltaire

"There is more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than for bread." --Mother Teresa

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Featured Thankful Schools

AVALON ADVENTIST JUNIOR ACADEMY

This summer at Avalon Adventist Junior Academy two classrooms were switched. One of these included the school's computer lab. The job of setting up the computers in a different room meant the tedious task of getting up into the ceiling and rerouting some wires and making alterations to others. A second challenge was cleaning out the old outdated computers that had been piling up as new ones had been purchased over the last few years. A mountain of computers, monitors and keyboards came out of hiding to be sorted and moved out or stored. It seemed that one particular volunteer spent more time than anyone else with this project, and though we have Robert Daffurn and Stirling Smedley to thank for their time and expertise, parent volunteer Peter Oickle deserves a really big hug of gratitude from our staff and student body for his patient persistence in getting the job done!



QUEBEC CONFERENCE CELEBRATES

August 27, 2008 was an especially joyful day for the Quebec Conference. At long last, a bilingual Seventh-day Adventist school opened its doors to seven precious students, from Kindergarten to Grade 6. A cherished dream of the members of the St. Georges Church had finally become a reality. The excitement and enthusiasm expressed on the faces of the parents and students alike, was also evident on the faces of the administration.



The Christian Adventist School of Beauce will operate under the umbrella of GREAVES ADVENTIST ACADEMY. The president of the Quebec Conference, Pastor Dragan Stojanovic, the Superintendent of Education, Pastor Emile Maxi, and the principal, Dr. Julia Falla, were present to share in this memorable event.



May God continue to bless the work that is being done on His behalf, in schools, churches and mission fields.

SOUTH SIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

South Side Christian School is very thankful for the two portable buildings that will be added on to our school. They were obtained at no cost except moving, setup, and site restoration. Currently our grade nine class shares a room with a Sabbath School class at the Red Deer Church. The addition will allow the grade nine class to be a part of the school. We will also have room for a separate kindergarten classroom, a larger library and more storage. The Lord has truly blessed our school.

PARKVIEW ADVENTIST ACADEMY

We are having a great year at Parkview Adventist Academy here in Lacombe, Alberta. Our enrolment is up for the third consecutive year. Last year we closed with 107 students and this year we are currently caretakers of 116 vivacious, energetic teenagers. Isn't life grand! Heidi Lehmann is back from sabbatical teaching math and science, Landon Saylor has joined us for science and religious studies, and Angie Bishop is teaching social studies and serving as vice principal. They have helped formulate a very dynamic synergy on campus. All in all our school spirit is fantastic. Our sports teams are getting ready for a tour to Walla Walla over Thanksgiving break. Please keep us all, faculty, staff, students and parents, in your prayers as we educate our young people for eternity.

WINDSOR ADVENTIST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We have been having problems with our photocopier lately. It seemed that no matter how careful we were, the paper jammed. The quality of the school newspaper was deteriorating with dark spots on some pages. The whole process was becoming frustrating. Then, a little more than a week ago, a parent asked us after school if we would like a used photocopier. I simply asked, "What kind?" (As if that really mattered, as long as it worked!) The next morning we had a Xerox copier sitting in our hallway, a gift of the landlady of the person who had asked us. This was no simple machine. It had multiple trays, duplexing and collating ability, something our older machine lacked. The best part? It works and the copies are clean. What a gift! What timing! Are we thankful? You bet. How is it that things come just when you need them the most? God is good!



North American Division News

DIRECTOR VISIONING/PLANNING SESSION

The North American Division (NAD) plans to hold a two-day vision/planning session for their union directors utilizing professional facilitation to develop strategies that will build Adventist education. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 5&6, 2009.



NAD WEBSITE REVISED

The NAD education website will have a new design that will include things such as increased graphics, more front page stories, three primary graphical navigation links for parents, teachers, and administrators; RSS feeds, etc. The launching of the new web-site is scheduled for November 2008. We are encouraging teachers and other educators to visit the NAD web-site to stay in touch with new developments in Adventist education.



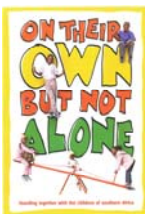
KIDSVIEW

The expanded first issue of KidsView which came out in August 2008 was a smashing hit. Very colourful and attractive in its design, KidsView features student writing samples and new materials on missions and church history/Ellen White. KidsView is available to all schools in North America for students in grades 3-6. If you wish to have more copies for your school, please contact Brandy at bperkins@sdacc.org.



ON THEIR OWN BUT NOT ALONE PROJECT

The Nhlengelo project has been a success. Earlier this year students across the NAD were engaged in a fund-raising project to feed school children in Africa whose parents died of HIV/AIDS. The "On Their Own, But Not Alone" mission fund-raising realized \$100,000, surpassing its goal of \$85,000. Schools in Canada contributed \$12,000.55 (USD) to this project. We say thanks for a job well-done!



MISSION: MALUTI

The second phase of our African Project is called Mission: Maluti. The goal is to build a school for Adventist students who are now being educated in a school building that is inadequate and unacceptable. We encourage



every Adventist school in Canada to take part in this fundraising activity. We need to raise \$16,000 of the \$250,000 USD for this project. Please contact Brandy to register your interest.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA

The online Encyclopaedia Britannica contract has been renewed for another year. This fantastic resource is available to all schools at no cost to the individual school, so make sure that you take full advantage of it. Please contact Brandy at bperkins@sdacc.org if your school is not on this programme.



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE

The NAD Office of Education is interested in developing an Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) program. A recent survey in Canada indicated that we have 9 ECEC (daycare) programs operating in our schools or on church premises. Betty Bayer, Associate Director of Education, has been appointed as co-ordinator for the ECEC programme in Canada. For further information on ECEC, you may contact Betty at bbayer@sdacc.org



ASDASA+ & MARKETING SUM²IT

ASDASA+ is scheduled for February 15-17, 2009. Who should attend? All Adventist educational leaders—school principals, Union and Conference office of education leaders; PLUS secondary religion teachers and academy chaplains. The SUM²IT (Marketing meeting) is February 18-19, 2009. Who should attend? Academy and elementary principals, marketing/recruitment directors, pastors, teachers, superintendents, Conference and Union personnel. Contact your local superintendent or boarding academy principal to see if you can go.

SCIENCE SUPPLEMENT

All schools should have received the **NAD Essential Science/Health Update, Grades 5-8** (folders and CD) designed to supplement the current science textbooks while new SDA textbooks are being written. If you did not receive a package, please contact us.



NEW KINDERGARTEN MATERIALS

We are so pleased that **Jacqueline French-Bedward** (Crawford Adventist Academy) and **Dionne Long** (Coralwood Adventist Academy) have agreed to field test the new NAD kindergarten materials this year and to represent the SDACC at the training session for these materials in Dallas from November 2-5, 2008.

SDACC News



2009 K-12 TEACHERS' CONVENTION

Our Canada-wide teachers' convention is 10 months away and plans are proceeding smoothly. We have exciting workshops with most of our presenters in place. Those having family members attending the convention were required to make a deposit of \$50 USD per person by September 1, 2008. If you have not done so as yet, please contact Brandy immediately. The initial air fare deposit for your invitees (\$300.00 USD) is due November 21, 2008.



HOLY LAND STUDY TOUR

The Israel/Jordan tour was an outstanding success.

Twenty-one (21) persons from across Canada, including six teachers, had the privilege of "walking where Jesus walked" and experiencing the Bible come alive. Some of the highlights of our visit were:



sailing on the Sea of Galilee, having communion on the Mount of Olives, enjoying a devotional moment at the Garden of Gethsemane, visiting the Garden Tomb, floating in the Dead Sea, visiting the Museum of the Holocaust, viewing with awe the Dead Sea Scrolls, beholding the wonders of Petra, visiting the Temple of Diana, going to Nazareth and Bethlehem, visiting the Western Wall (the Wailing Wall), walking the 1-km path through Hezekiah Tunnel in water reaching just below the knees, and visiting Masada, the last stronghold of Jewish resistance against the Romans in the Second Temple period.



FIRST WEEK SCHOOL ENROLMENT

We continue to experience a decline in school enrolment. First week enrolment for this year is 3,474 students compared to 3,478 last year. Over the past six years our enrolment has declined by 250 students. How can we reverse this trend? If your school is experiencing a noticeable decline in enrolment, and you have an idea of what the problem is and how it can be reversed, we would like to hear from you. Please contact: dmarshall@sdacc.org with your ideas.

PEEL ADVENTIST SCHOOL DESTROYED BY FIRE

On the morning of July 4, when Ontario Conference officers and 8000 church members were enjoying the worship service at the Ontario Camp Meeting held at the International Centre near Pearson International Airport, news came of the burning of the Peel Adventist School. Nothing was left of the school, but miraculously the school records were left unscathed. When Principal, Mrs. Manuela Terencio was asked to explain how the files were saved, her response was: "It's a miracle; only God could explain this." Peel Adventist school is temporarily housed in a new and spacious facility of the Immanuel Christian Reform Church in Caledon, Ontario.

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Every year the SDACC Office of Education recognizes the contribution of outstanding educators in our system with two awards: The Excellence in Teaching Award in recognition of the work of exceptional teachers, and the Excellence in Educational Administration Award, in honour of outstanding school administrators. These awards consist of a plaque, a certificate and a cheque for \$500.00. This year's Excellence in Education Award winners are: Aurora Adap, Crawford Adventist Academy, ON; Anita Angulo, Chinook Winds Adventist Academy, AB; Michelle DeSilva, College Park Elementary School, ON; Audrey James, Crawford Adventist Academy, ON; Lee-Ann Leming, College Heights Christian School, AB; Fran Wilson, Peel Adventist School, ON; Alastair Atherton, Parkview Adventist Academy, AB; and Teca Cousins, Greaves Adventist Academy, QC. The winners of the Excellence in Educational Administration Award are: Julie Bancarz, Mamawi Atosketan Native School, AB; and Lee Richards, Cariboo Adventist Academy, BC. We extend our warmest congratulations to our outstanding educators.

DL UPDATE

To date, we have received 33 surveys in response to the June *Messenger* article. The B.C., Alberta, and Maritimes DL schools are up and running with increased enrolments over last year. The SDACC is hosting a Moodle (course management) site to facilitate the programs in Alberta and the Maritimes, and our Elluminate (virtual classroom) license covers an unlimited number of users until January 15. This would be a good opportunity for face-to-face classroom teachers or schools to try out this "virtual classroom" for free (could be used for evening extra help sessions, online meetings, etc.). Contact Betty (bbayer@sdacc.org) if you would like further information on either Moodle or Elluminate.

SDACC News



Thank a Teacher



Most of us have seen the bumper sticker with its understated tribute to teachers: "If you can read this, thank a teacher." And most of us can probably name a teacher or two who inspired us, by example and word, to pursue teaching as a career. I can think of several.

My Grade 1 teacher in an Ottawa Public School . . . Betty Farrell. Not only did she send work home for me when I was sick for a couple of days (knowing I would be anxious about falling behind), but she handwrote a personal note on fancy personalized stationery (which I'm sure I still have in a box in my basement). I remember Ralph Janes, then principal at Toronto Junior Academy and our Gr. 4 math teacher, laughing at the rather corny jokes my brother used to enjoy telling him. And Earl and Alvena Dunhill who took us camping to the Black River and invited us home for homemade pizza and strawberry pie (a recipe I continue to use every spring!). And Dennis Winter who played so enthusiastically with us during Gr. 8 recess at College Park Elementary that his "comb-over" drooped and had to be fixed before (or just after) the bell rang.

And then there was high school. I remember Paul Hoar cracking jokes in a fake Italian accent to lighten the stress of Gr. 9 Math. And Lillian Patrick stopping a Gr. 11 Math lesson to insist that nodding students stand up and take several deep breaths at the open window. And Ralph Kneller calling everyone else in the class by their last name, but calling me by my first. And Jo Koehn for directing "The Revolt of Mother" for a Saturday night program at Kingsway . . . a performance that made me want to take English from her the following year. And Gary Lafoy who, by example, inspired us to play hard but fair and to participate in extracurricular as well as curricular activities. And Leona Alderson who, while teaching us life skills, encouraged our "sewing circle" gossip, understanding our need to vent and ever ready to inject a word of counsel when appropriate. And Gerald Wasmer for teaching Biology with a parrot on his shoulder.

And in university, Edith Stone's witty but dry sense of humour, Merlene Ogden's cake shaped like Thoreau's cabin in the wilderness, Richard Ritland's knack for quoting sources by page and paragraph

and his ability to pull a book off his shelf and turn to the exact spot he had been quoting.

As I reminisce, I am almost surprised to realize that what I remember most has very little to do with reading, writing, or arithmetic. Somewhere along the road, I must have learned the curriculum that these teachers were being paid to teach me, but the impact of their personal lives and their care for me as a developing human being stand out far more. The lesson is even more sobering for me when I talk to my students from years past and listen to them remember little things about me that I had long forgotten. Like me, they too remember less about the subject I tried so hard to teach them and more about the little things that were not part of my lesson plans.

How thankful I am for my teachers who modelled Christ's love in their interactions with me. How thankful I am for my son's teachers who cared and continue to care for him as a whole person as he faces the challenges of today's world. And how thankful I am to God for inspiring our early church leaders to establish church schools that continue to nurture and train students for time and eternity.

"Life is short. Live. Love. Learn. Leave a legacy." (Steven Covey)

Betty Bayer
Associate Director of Education

**IF YOU CAN READ THIS,
THANK YOUR TEACHER**

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life.
It turns what we have into enough, and more.
It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity.
It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.
Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.
~Melody Beattie

"Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I may not forget you."
--William Arthur

Teaching Tips/Ideas



USING GAMES TO TEACH (both teacher and students will be thankful for the change of pace!)

Who Wants To Be A Winner?

Type or write questions from the unit you are working on. Cut them apart and put them in a small box. Then divide the class into two teams. Each team gets three options, each of which can be used only once during the game: pass, ask a friend on your team, ask the whole class. Write these on the board behind each team. When the team uses an option, erase it from the board.

The first player on the team chooses a question from the box. S/He then reads the question (out loud, perhaps) and decides whether to answer or choose an option. If the student passes, the player whose turn it is next can have a chance at answering the question. When all the options are used by a team, the players must try to answer their own question even if they're not sure. When all the questions are gone, the game is over.

Teams get one point for each correct answer and the team with the most points wins. Don't forget, of course, to ask the player, "Is that your final answer?" (submitted to Teachnet by Kathie Anderson, 1st grade teacher, Sioux City, Iowa)

Jeopardy

The Jeopardy game format provides a simple and excellent way to review material in any subject area. Most of the templates use PowerPoint, and it is a simple exercise to type in your own questions using the templates provided. Hundreds of Jeopardy games have already been created by teachers in various subject areas at a wide variety of grade levels and can be accessed easily on the web. Just google "jeopardy" and your subject area. Below are several links to get you started.

<http://www.jmu.edu/madison/teacher/jeopardy/jeopardy.htm> (from Educational Resources for Teachers)

http://www.hardin.k12.ky.us/res_tech/countyjeopardygames.htm (lots of available games by the Teachers of Hardin County School District on many different topics can be found here!)

<http://www.techteachers.com/jeopardytemplates.htm> (From TechTeachers - This is a collection of sites that have jeopardy games to review concepts in all content areas. Teachers have used a jeopardy template, added content and posted the presentations for other teachers to use. Most of these are created in PowerPoint)

Blank Template from EdWeb (EdWeb provides a blank template to download and use)

Jeopardy Using Excel (Same Game – Different Software. Template and Instructions from the Internet4Classrooms website)

PowerPoints by VickiBlackwell.com (Vicki Blackwell's Guide to the Internet for Teachers – fun things here! Jeopardy templates and much more)

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson306.shtml (Hundreds of review ideas and games including Jeopardy in the classroom from Education World's Website)

<http://www.csun.edu/~vceed002/ref/games/> (games for the Science Curriculum including Jeopardy and Taboo, Bingo and many more!)

Homeworkopoly

<http://www.teachnet.com/homeworkopoly/>

A downloadable board game that is played throughout the year to encourage students to do their homework every night.

Wordsplay (online game similar to Boggle)

www.wordsplay.net

A handy wordplay online activity that students who finish their assignment early can do to expand their vocabularies and hone their word and observation skills.

A THANKSGIVING ACTIVITY IDEA - TREE OF THANKFULNESS

What a nice way to celebrate the holiday season... have your family members and friends add leaves of thankfulness to the tree.

You need:

- Bare Tree Branch
- Tacky Glue
- Yellow, Orange, Red, Green and Brown Construction Paper
- Scissors
- Container
- Clothes Pins
- Markers



Instructions:

Cut leaves out of construction paper. Have family members write what they are thankful for on the leaves. Glue the leaves to the branch using a clothespin to keep it in place until it dries. Keep extra leaves for visitors to add to your tree.

Professional Development/Resources



EDUCATION HEADLINES

(Focusing on appreciating technology in the classroom!)

Schools fight losing battle against cell phones

Since their arrival in schools, cell phones have been a source of annoyance, concern, and even scandal in cases involving a small number of Utah students, reports the Salt Lake Tribune. But while school administrators experience occasional heartburn over how creatively students might use their cell phones, some believe the time has come for teachers and school staff to work with technology used by students, not against it.

Read the article: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/around-the-web/index.cfm?i=55302>

Survey: Nearly every kid a video gamer

A new national survey from the Pew Internet & American Life Project illustrates just how ingrained video games have become in youth culture--a phenomenon with important implications for 21st-century learning.

Read the article: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=55252>

eInstruction to give away over \$75,000 in Classroom Technology in the Second Annual Classroom Makeover Video Contest

Three teachers will win an interactive classroom makeover including yet-to-be released products. The contest is open to all primary and secondary teachers and students in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand and Australia and is not limited to users of eInstruction or Interwrite Learning products.

For details: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/tech-solutions/all-press-releases/index.cfm?i=55259>

Computerized Whiteboards Improve Classroom Learning, Study Suggests

Still wondering about whether or not an interactive whiteboard is worth the investment?

Have the new data projection technologies allowed students to learn more effectively?

This article is a quick one-page summary which begins by describing how interactive whiteboards work and goes on to summarize a recent study that suggests how they can transform teaching.

Read the article: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/09/080904082744.htm>



WORDS OF THE DAY

beneficence \buh-NEFF-i-suhns\, *noun*:

1. The practice of doing good; active goodness, kindness, or charity.

2. A charitable gift or act.

Lord Jeffrey told Dickens that it [*A Christmas Carol*] had "prompted more positive acts of **beneficence** than can be traced to all the pulpits and confessionals in Christendom since Christmas 1842."

-- Roger Highfield, *The Physics of Christmas*

Beneficence is from Latin *beneficentia*, from *beneficus*, kind, generous, obliging, from *bene*, well (from *bonus*, good) + *facere*, to do. One who, or that which, is characterized by beneficence is *beneficent*.

evanescent \ev-uh-NES-unt\, *adjective*:

Liable to vanish or pass away like vapor; fleeting.

The Pen which gives. . . permanence to the **evanescent** thought of a moment.

-- Horace Smith, *Tin Trumpet*

The accidentally famous. . . may write books, appear on talk shows, and, in so doing, attract even greater public attention. This type of celebrity status, of course, is brittle and **evanescent**.

-- Lawrence M. Friedman, *The Horizontal Society*

Evanescent is from Latin *evanescere*, "to vanish," from *e-*, "from, out of" + *vanescere*, "to disappear," from *vanus*, "empty."

DUDE LISTEN TO THIS! (DVD)

"In his groundbreaking book, *Boy Writers: Reclaiming Their Voices*, Ralph Fletcher took an expedition into the murky and sometimes dangerous world of boys and writing. He examined what inspires them and what shuts them down, and delved into ways teachers can do a better job of nurturing boys' wonderfully quirky contributions. Ralph's new video, "*Dude, Listen to This!*," explores the issue face to face as he meets with a group of boys who voluntarily give up recess time each week to meet and talk about their writing.

"Dude," you may ask, "how does that happen?"

"*Dude, Listen to This!*" thoughtfully examines the exuberance, sly humor, and surprising sensitivity of boy writers. It unearths important issues surrounding this topic and provides solid examples of the ways educators can become more adept at understanding boys and meeting their needs. An extensive workshop guide accompanies the DVD, including questions for discussion, classroom extensions, handouts linked to the DVD sections, and student work."If you would like to view a clip from this DVD, go to: <http://www.stenhouse.com/video.asp?movie=boywriters.wmv>



The Back Page

THE HAND OF A TEACHER: A THANKSGIVING STORY

Taken from www.myfavoriteezines.com

At first it sounded like a Thanksgiving story, but the more I reflected on it, the more appropriate it seemed for any time of the year. The way I heard it, the story went like this:

Thanksgiving Day was near. The first grade teacher gave her class a fun assignment -- to draw a picture of something for which they were thankful.

Most of the class might be considered economically disadvantaged, but still many would celebrate the holiday with turkey and other traditional goodies of the season. These, the teacher thought, would be the subjects of most of her student's art. And they were. But Douglas made a different kind of picture. Douglas was a different kind of boy. He was the teacher's true child of misery, frail and unhappy. As other children played at recess, Douglas was likely to stand close by her side. One could only guess at the pain Douglas felt behind those sad eyes.

Yes, his picture was different. When asked to draw a picture of something for which he was thankful, he drew a hand. Nothing else. Just an empty hand. His abstract image captured the imagination of his peers. Whose hand could it be? One child guessed it was the hand of a farmer, because farmers raise turkeys. Another suggested a police officer, because the police protect and care for people. Still others guessed it was the hand of God, for God feeds us. And so the discussion went -- until the teacher almost forgot the young artist himself.

When the children had gone on to other assignments, she paused at Douglas' desk, bent down, and asked him whose hand it was. The little boy looked away and murmured, "It's yours, teacher."

She recalled the times she had taken his hand and walked with him here or there, as she had the other students. How often had she said, "Take my hand, Douglas, we'll go outside." Or, "Let me show you how to hold your pencil." Or, "Let's do this together." Douglas was most thankful for his teacher's hand. Brushing aside a tear, she went on with her work.

The story speaks of more than thankfulness. It says something about teachers teaching and parents parenting and friends showing friendship, and how much it means to the Douglasses of the world. They might-

not always say thanks. But they'll remember the hand that reaches out.

TEACHER HUMOR

Taken from www.teachersfirst.com

First graders were given the beginning of these cliches, and asked to provide their own endings. The results are often better than the original! Take a look...

- If at first you don't succeed.....go play.
- Don't put all your eggs.....in the microwave.
- It's always darkest before.....Daylight Savings Time.
- An idle mind is.....The best way to relax.

SUKOKU PUZZLE

Taken from www.puzzles.about.com

9				2		
8		2	9			
2	5	8			9	
	7		8	9		6
		6		2		
6		7	1		5	
	5			3	7	4
			4	8		5
		6				3

Dates of Importance

CTBS/CCAT Testing	September 29-October 17, 2008
ON Teachers' Retreat	October 19-21, 2008
Alberta K-12 Board	October 26, 2008
AB Principal's Council	November 7, 2008
Education Council Executive	November 19-21, 2008
SDACC K-12 Board of Ed.	November 23, 2008
NAD Union Directors Visioning	January 5-6, 2009
Education Council Executive	January 28, 2009
CUC Interview/Banquet	January 29, 2009
ASDASA (Portland, OR)	February 15-17, 2009
NAD Marketing Seminar	February 18-19, 2009
Education Council/In-Service	March 4-6, 2009
SDACC K-12 Board of Ed.	March 8, 2009
Alumni Awards Foundation	March 19-21, 2009
SDACC Teachers' Convention	August 17-21, 2009

Dates are subject to change. Please confirm with your local conference.