

The **countdown**
is on...



...can we count you in?

Building her future Capital Campaign

St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School is rich in all of the things that money cannot buy – history, culture, a sense of community, and exceptional teachers.

Working together and through the donations of our School community, we are able to improve our physical assets and enrich the lives of our students. As a charitable organization, your support is essential to our growth.

Time is running out! Have you contributed?

In just under six months we will be completing the final phase in our master building plan. There are still ways for you to contribute.

Many SMLS families have already reserved their place on the Pathway of Dreams - a permanent and historic piece of artwork recognizing all donors who have made a minimum pledge of \$10,000 (\$2,000 each year for 5 years) or more, to the capital campaign.

Each stone on the pathway represents a financial commitment that helps us to build for the future and fulfill dreams. Its installation in the dining hall will serve as a reminder to students of the support behind them on their educational journey.

Please take time to consider your place on the Pathway.

Can we count you in?

It's easier than you think!

All levels of contribution are important to the *Building her future* capital campaign.

Visit the SMLS website to make a donation online or to find out more about your donation options. A pledge remittance envelope is also enclosed with this newsletter.

Each donation will be recognized in our Annual Report and acknowledged according to contribution level. The SMLS website – www.smls.on.ca – showcases all donations over \$5,000.

Putting your name on the Pathway of Dreams is easier than you think. Consider one of the following three options:

- Pledge \$2,000 for five years
- Direct your United Way donation to the School
- Consider a gift of securities and pay no capital gains



A minimum pledge of \$10,000 made by December 31, 2011 will ensure your place on the Pathway. Five year pledges will be recognized immediately for the full pledge value.

For more information contact Sally Dobie, Director of Advancement at 905-845-5830, x814.

Thanks to the contributions of donors to date, we are well on our way to fulfilling dreams that will continue to help build your daughter's future.

Dreams that include:

- Four new multi-purpose classrooms
- Reading nooks
- Senior Resource Centre
- Library seminar room
- Drama green room
- Dining hall
- Servery and kitchen
- Gardens
- and a new playground



Support the Educational Journey of a Lifetime.

Countdown to Completion!

September

Installation of brick, roofing and windows

October

Framing of walls

November

Completion of drywalling and landscaping

December

Completion of kitchen

January/February

Finishing touches

March

Occupancy of the new space by SMLS students

April

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATIONS!

Buck Productions'

Innovative Donation



Giving to St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School comes in many forms. For Sean and Jennifer Buckley "a cinematic representation of the spirit of St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School" is their innovative way of showing their support.

"Our entire family has been swept up in what truly is the educational journey of a lifetime at SMLS," noted the Buckleys.

"St. Mildred's has proven to be a school that under-promises and over-delivers in every aspect of their involvement with their students, and because of the contribution the School has made to our family, it has never been a question of *if* we would give back, but rather, *what* we can give back."

Sean Buckley is owner/producer/director of Buck Productions, a commercial and entertainment company, which has recently been honoured by *Realscreen Magazine* as one of the world's most influential production companies. He and wife Jennifer are also parents to three Millies and a future SMLS student.

The Buckley donation (estimated at a value of over \$50,000), will be premiered at the School's Watch Us Bloom Gala on May 6, 2011. The pair describes it as a "short powerful film" that they hope "will demonstrate what SMLS has always been – a place for girls to blossom."

The film will highlight the School's expansion project and will also showcase what the Buckleys describe as the "cornerstones" of the School – the important relationship between the faculty and the students.

While filming, Sean was especially moved by the confidence of the students at SMLS, and their ability to speak so proudly about their school. He added that he is also very excited about working with SMLS Senior Music Teacher Clay Tan, who will be providing the soundscape of the project.

"As parents, we feel that the most important investment we can make is in our children. We believe that one's character is defined by their respect for others and themselves, generated through confidence and a clear understanding of who they are. SMLS is a school that shares these priorities and values, and enables children to achieve their full potential in this way."

The importance of Buck Productions' donation is significant: the film will serve as a historical record of the School's expansion for the future and will recognize the impact of the expansion on the students of today and tomorrow.

"Physical spaces and surroundings play an important role in fostering the creative process, and what has impressed us is the way in which SMLS has gone about designing and executing the right space needed to create a positive and creative learning environment," the Buckleys added.

Innovative film - innovative donation. Buck Productions and Sean and Jennifer Buckley have demonstrated that contributing to St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School can be done in many creative ways.



"... it has never been a question of if we would give back, but rather, what we can give back".

-Jennifer and Sean Buckley

PHOTOVP 35mm VFB-501 PHOTOMP 35mm

RESERVE YOUR SEAT

Guests at the School's Watch Us Bloom Gala will be the first to preview the Buck Productions' SMLS film. Reserve your seat by contacting Gala Co-chairs Sandy Rosset at sandyrosset@cogeco.ca or Brigitte Szybbo at bszybbo@cogeco.ca.

2A 3 3A 2A 3

These are the Champions!

There is a group of volunteer parents making the grade at SMLS! Keeping parents up-to-date on the capital campaign and progress on Phase 4 construction is their main assignment. Their support as capital campaign ambassadors is achieving top marks. These are the Champions – Grade Champions that is!

Each grade in the Junior and Senior Schools has a volunteer parent who is available to answer questions related to the School's current capital campaign. Providing this link allows parents the opportunity to keep up-to-date on the campaign in an informal way.

S5 Grade Champion Cathy Kaczmarek agrees that there is a need to increase awareness about the School's expansion and "the great work being done."

Although weekly email broadcasts to parents, a construction blog on the main SMLS website – www.smls.on.ca – the My SMLS website, and campaign newsletters help keep parents informed, parents can count on their Grade Champion as a parent-to-parent resource, available to answer questions about the campaign.



"...it is important to help the School..."

-Dianne Lemieux, S3 Grade Champion, Parent Association President

**"...Now it is our turn."
-Kath Jordan, S4 Grade Champion**

Helping parents to understand the need for SMLS to raise money for the expansion is important to the success of the campaign. As an independent school, fundraising is essential to the school's growth.

"I am grateful for SMLS' past, am proud of its present, and believe in its future," noted Kath Jordan, a S4 Grade Champion, adding that "SMLS is what it is today because individuals in the past were generous enough to provide what my three girls are able to benefit from today. Now it is our turn."

Grade 4 Champion Nicole Kamanga described that her daughters are being provided with a "stellar education" at SMLS and that she is happy to lend her support as a Grade Champion because she believes that "...as SMLS grows, so do the opportunities available to all of our girls."

To ensure you are up-to-date, parents are encouraged to get in touch with the liaison for their grade. With the help of these volunteer champions, you can count on keeping current about the capital campaign.



Campaign Question?

If you would like to talk about the *Building her future* capital campaign with a fellow parent, a group of volunteers is available to help you. Connect with your Grade Champion using the list below:

Junior School

JK	Jacqueline Jowahir
SK	Carol Misek
Grade 1	Cara Garvey
Grade 2	Samantha Cheung
Grade 3	Nadine Gatti
Grade 4	Nicole Stewart Kamanga
Grade 5	Sharon Hotton-Cairns
Grade 6	Jasmine Haffejee

Senior School

S1	Suzanne Dickison
S2	Patricia Caza
S3	Dianne Lemieux
S4	Kath Jordan
S5	Catherine Kaczmarek
S6	Teri McMahon

**"...the better we make the School, the better we prepare our daughters for the future.."
-Cara Garvey, Grade 1 Champion**



Peter and Carol Willson, SMLS parents, volunteers and donors.

“We’ve always been believers in leading by example.”

-Carol Willson

Giving that Gives Back

Peter and Carol Willson lead by example. Strong advocates for St. Mildred’s-Lightbourn School, and the parents of two Millies, the Willsons have been significant contributors to the School’s capital campaign fundraising efforts, believing as Carol says “when you give, it gives back.”

As President of Willson International, Peter has not hesitated to lend his corporate support to the campaign as a major sponsor of both the School’s Golf Classic fundraiser and the bi-annual gala. Carol is a member of the SMLS Board of Governors. Together the couple have chosen to direct their campaign contributions in support of the athletic programs at SMLS.

“Because both of us are athletic, we see athletics and sport as an important part of raising our girls,” noted Carol, adding that they both believe that physical activity is a key component in the development of young women: an emphasis on health and wellness that is identified in the School’s strategic goals. Through support in this area students will develop essential skills to lead a healthy and active lifestyle.

“The single-gender environment provides the opportunity to create strong, intelligent women who aren’t afraid of participating,” stated Peter, “and athletics is just another piece of the puzzle.”

“With my business...we try to retain the best talent, and focus on more personal interaction and understanding. And I think the School does the same. They’re out there being progressive, but at the same time it’s a warm, inviting, supportive environment that allows students to be unique.”

The Willsons have always believed in the need to lead by example, and have chosen to give in ways that are “athletic and family-oriented” that engages their family, the School and their community.

“It’s so important to get the kids interested in philanthropy at a young age and to get them comfortable supporting the community,” noted Carol.

With the backing of committed parents like Peter and Carol Willson, contributions to the capital campaign are keeping construction of the new facilities on track for a March 2011 completion date. Following the March Break students will return to the School and be able to benefit from the new dining hall, kitchen, senior resource centre, student lounge, music rooms and new classrooms.

Donors giving their support will indeed discover as the Willsons have, that giving to St. Mildred’s-Lightbourn School definitely gives back - a world of possibilities for their children.

Time to Take Your Place in History

Thanks to the following donors, we are making history at St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School. Their support is helping to build new facilities for the School and a legacy that will be long remembered. These gifts are making a difference for the students of today and tomorrow. Be a part of it.



ST. MILDRED'S-LIGHTBOURN SCHOOL
The Educational Journey of a Lifetime
Day School for Girls - JK to Grade 12
1080 Linbrook Road, Oakville, ON L6J 2L1
905 845 2386 www.smls.on.ca
Charitable # 11919 1963 RR0001

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*Note: Names have been displayed in random order. List includes all campaign donors of \$5,000 or more as of September 15th, 2010.

You are in good company!