



## March Academy raises \$2,000 for Kanata Grandmothers

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BY EMC NEWS

EMC News - The students and staff at March Academy recently supported the work of Kanata Grandmothers Together with a very special fundraising project.

Kerry Armitage, the director of this small, independent school adjoining St. John's Anglican Church, became aware of tremendous needs in Africa during a recent trip and believed that her students could help through the school's annual project to aid the global community.

"Our challenge was to connect our students with the children of Africa," Armitage said. "After some brainstorming we realized that the answer was right in our building."

Kanata Grandmothers Together, a local group affiliated with the Stephen Lewis Foundation Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, regularly meets at St. John's Hall.

The Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign is comprised of grandmothers and 'grandothers' committed to help ease the heavy burden on grandmothers, orphaned children, and others affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa through fundraising, educational, and advocacy activities.

Armitage saw the connection between children and grandmothers "as a natural fit." The subject of cookies became the final element in the mix that resulted in the creation of "Grandma's Cookies," a unique fundraising cookbook.

Students submitted a number of their grandma's cookie recipes along with some interesting facts about their grandmothers.

Assisted by teachers, Krista Wells and Cathy Smith, as well as parent volunteer, Holly O'Sullivan, the children produced 200 cookbooks including recipes, wonderful anecdotes, and charming drawings. The cookbooks sold out very quickly and the students invited their grandmothers for tea to celebrate their success.

Margaret Conrad and Joanne Goodings, members of Kanata Grandmothers Together, also attended this special event and were delighted to be adopted as surrogate grandmothers by the students.

The children proudly presented the proceeds from their fundraising project, a cheque for \$2,000, to Conrad to be donated to the Stephen Lewis Foundation Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign.

This donation proves that the spirit of giving is alive and well at the March Academy. Kanata Grandmothers Together is very grateful for the support and generosity of these wonderful young people and their teachers.

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*Submitted*

Kerry Armitage, director of the March Academy and Margaret Conrad, representing Kanata Grandmothers Together celebrated the academy's successful fundraiser at a tea ceremony.