

Robert Munsch first visited St. Pat's in 2002

## ST. PAT'S GRADUATES FEATURED IN NEW ROBERT MUNSCH BOOK

Renowned children's author Robert Munsch is returning to St. Patrick School in Cobalt next week, and he's bringing along his latest published book. The new title, "I'm So Embarrassed", features two graduates from St. Patrick School in Cobalt.

This exciting tale has come about in large part due to the outstanding efforts of teacher Jackie Livingston. Mrs. Livingston and her Grade 4 class first wrote to Mr. Munsch in 1997 inviting him to visit their classroom. The following year, they tried again, sending him a book they worte called "The Great Zoodle Caper" which is now on the Munsch web site. In 2002, Mrs. Livingston followed up with a book called "How Could I Get to Cobalt?", written and illustrated by her JK class, along with the help of the Grade 7 class (the original Grade 4 group).

Her tenacity paid off when Mr. Munsch agreed to visit the school in 2002. The two students featured in the new book first met Robert Munsch during that visit.

One of the students, Andrew Livingston, was part of a welcoming committee that drove to North Bay to pick up Mr. Munsch at the airport. Andrew chatted about how his mother always embarrasses him in public. That conversation has now turned into an authentic published Munsch book called "I'm So Embarrased", which was released this summer. A second character it the book, Taylor Jae, is also based on a St. Pat's graduate, who won a contest to have Mr. Munsch stay with her family.

St. Patrick School Principal, Valerie Drury, is excited that Mr. Munsch is returning to the school with the new book. "We are proud to have our very own graduates as characters in a Munsch book," stated Drury. "We have a strong focus on literacy at St. Pat's, and this experience is a strong contributor to our student's love for reading. The community is invited to celebrate with us at our Open House and BBQ on Wednesday. Copies of the book will be available at our book fair, and Mr. Munsch has agreed to do a book signing."

Students at St. Patrick School in Cobalt are now taking part in an original writing contest prior to the visit. Each has been asked to write to their school principal to convince her that they should be allowed to go to the airport to pick up Mr. Munsch. Winners will be announced early next week.

Robert Munsch will take part in an assembly at the school and visit individual classrooms during the day on Wednesday and Thursday. A group of students from English Catholic Central School in New Liskeard and Holy Family School in Englehart have also been invited to take part in the event.

The community is welcome to attend the BBQ on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 pm to 7 pm.

For more information, please contact: St. Patrick School in Cobalt at 679-5575.

