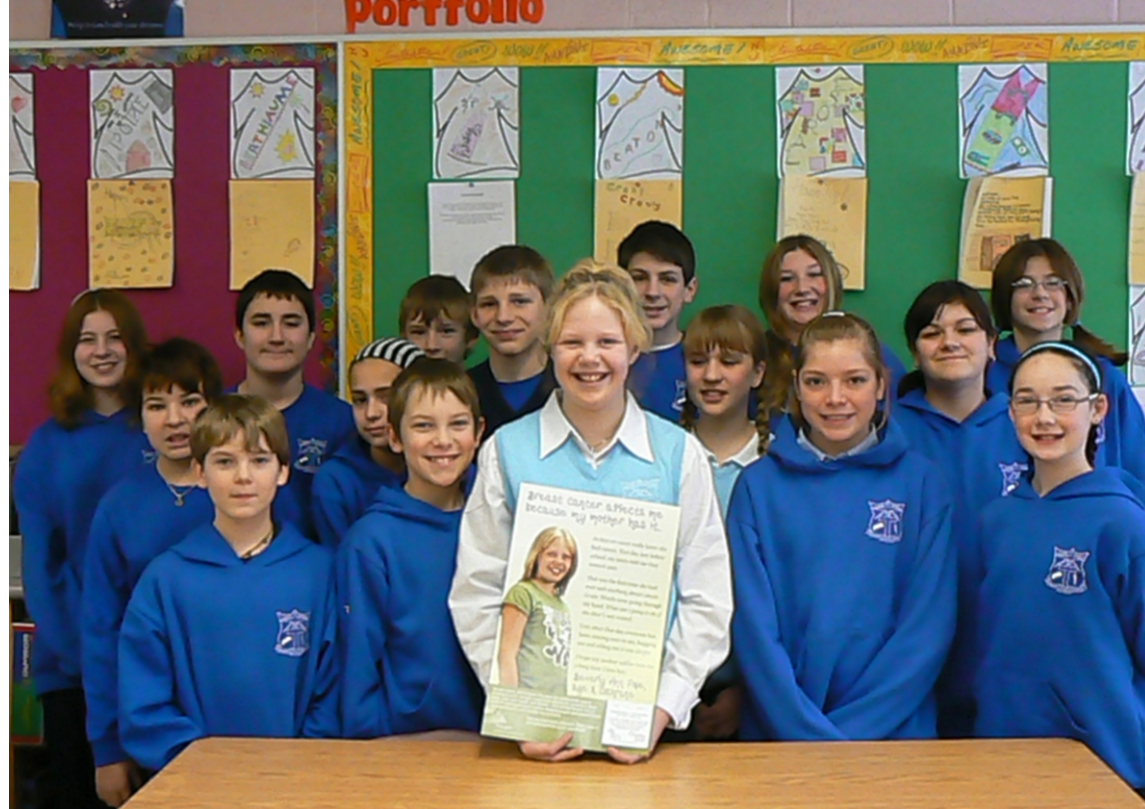


A Student's Personal Story On Breast Cancer Wins Writing Contest

Beverley, a Grade Seven student at Aileen Wright English Catholic School, recently had the opportunity to share how she has been personally affected by Breast Cancer. The Porcupine Health Unit held a Breast Cancer children's writing contest and Beverley was the English winner for the district. Beverley won an iPod and posters were printed with her picture and essay to help raise awareness around Breast Cancer and how it can affect family members.

*"I was really happy I won because of my essay. It means a lot to me to write about my mom and I wanted others to hear my story."
Beverley, Gr. 7*

Andrea Iserhoff, Principal at Aileen Wright English Catholic School, had this to add: "Participating and winning this contest has given Beverley confidence to deal with the challenges her family is going through."



Beverley receives support from her Grade Seven classmates

Beverley's Essay on Breast Cancer

Hello my name is Beverley and I am 11 years old. Breast cancer affects me because my mother has it. She also has bone cancer now too. At first we never really knew she had cancer. We never got the test back from the doctor right away so we were not sure. That day just before school my mom had told me that we weren't sure if she had cancer. That was the first time she had ever said anything about cancer to me. I got on the bus trying not to cry. Words were going through my head. "What is going to happen to my mom? Is she going to die? What am I going to do if she dies?" I was scared. I told my friend about it. She was trying to calm me down, telling me it is all right. When we got to the school I was walking down the hallway crying. We got to the class room and my teacher was outside. You see when I cry I get big red rings around my eyes. So my friend went up to the teacher and told her that my mom might have cancer. My teacher came right over and gave me a hug. I stayed inside all recess trying to find a prayer for my mother. So that is when I first found out about my mom and cancer. Ever since that day everyone has been coming to me, hugging me, and telling me it was alright. Now she had an operation and has been going away for treatments. We also have a health nurse coming to our house to change my mother's pic line. I miss my mother when she goes away. I have to stay at my best friend's house or my brother's house. I will stay there for more than three days while my mother has treatments in Sudbury. I know that Breast cancer can be cured, I know that bone cancer can't. I hope my mother will be here for a long time. I love her.

Beverley, Gr. 7 student, Aileen Wright English Catholic School