Marysville Students Give Back to Community During Holidays

Marysville Schools students are learning about what it means to give this holiday season. This includes giving back to the community in the form of helping those in need with physical items or by doing a service.

“Besides providing a strong academic program at Northwood Elementary, we feel it is also important to support the community and to have the students be a part of this as well,” said Northwood Principal Karen Wells.

This year, Northwood has collected over 600 pairs of socks for the Hope Center and several boxes of supplies that will be sent to U.S. troops overseas.

Wells and her staff utilize ideas from students when it comes to these types of projects, and the staff has been involved in “adopting” several families for the holidays.

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Creekview Intermediate has been involved in several community giving opportunities, including connecting 50 students to Blessings in a Backpack, a program that delivers food weekly to students in need.

Other programs at Creekview include the Shop with a Cop program, the NC4K program which helps support three families affected by cancer, and SAVE Promise students are creating 800 “YOU matter” holiday cards. Families have been selected to be helped by local businesses or churches to be provided support during the holidays as well.

The Mill Valley Elementary staff is buying coats, hats, gloves and presents for families at the school, there is a school drive for Blessings in a Backpack and two sisters (Kayla, fourth grade and Abby, second) are collecting craft supplies for Kinley’s Crafts for their local girl scout troop.

Raymond Elementary just completed an annual food drive to help restock the local food pantry. Third graders from the school organized and collected 1,753 items this year. The school’s staff combined with a local church to provide Thanksgiving meals to seven of its families and 15 students have been chosen to receive gifts for their families.

Edgewood Elementary will participate in Shop with a Cop and earlier this year raised money for United Way – the staff raised $1,900 and the students $600.

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Navin Elementary’s second graders held a “Socktober” event, collecting over 700 pairs of socks to donate to the Hope Center. The Decker fire station worked with the school to hold a “Pumpkin Drop” to raise money for The United Way of Union County, as well as the Blessings in a Backpack organization – the students raised over $1,400 to split between the two. The school also held an annual food drive to benefit Blessings in a Backpack.

At TRI Academy, an emphasis has been placed on different types of giving. Students and staff will put a note of gratitude in a stocking to share with others at the school on December 20.

“We wanted to be sure to teach kids that sharing kindness and hope is another way to give,” said Principal Ashley Thompson. “It doesn’t always have to be ‘stuff’.”

The Marysville High School National Honor Society does a PAW tree each year. Members buy and select Christmas gifts for students in grades K-12 who are in need. The Future Career and Community Leaders organization held a for-pay staff breakfast to raise money for baby blankets which they bought for the Pregnancy Care Center of Union County.

A group at Bunsold Middle School will be supporting Burgaw Elementary School in North Carolina.

“Burgaw was hit hard by Hurricane Florence this past September,” said Principal Michelle Kaffenbarer. “This academic team of eighth grade students, along with teachers, are making fleece blankets for each student in one third grade class.”

The Marysville High School National Honor Society recently held a poinsettia sale to raise funds. All members will be at the Care Train distribution day in December, to help distribute gifts to the community. A PAW tree will also be used in conjunction with Care Train to give gifts to needy children. Contributions will be collected for the Marysville Food Pantry.

Above: Navin Elementary 2nd graders held a “Socktober” event this year, collecting over 700 pairs of socks. Below: Navin also partnered with the Decker Fire Station to hold a “Pumpkin Drop” to raise money for The United Way of Union County and Blessing in a Backpack.

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The BMS student council is sponsoring a canned food drive for the local food pantry, too. Items were collected during the week of November 24.

The Early College High School National Honor Society recently held a poinsettia sale to raise funds. All members will be at the Care Train distribution day in December, to help distribute gifts to the community. A PAW tree will also be used in conjunction with Care Train to give gifts to needy children. Contributions will be collected for the Marysville Food Pantry.