

## **Wilton Manors Elementary – P3 Eco-Challenge 2015-16 Overall School Winner**

### **Category 4 - Community Involvement**

#### **A. Partnerships within the School Building**

As an IB World School, Wilton Manors embraces the Passport to Peace Program where attitudes such as Cooperation, Commitment, Creativity, Empathy and Enthusiasm are valued and evident in many of our initiatives. In this spirit, our student body, faculty and parents collaborated on a school based mosaic project, transforming the columns in our courtyard into representations of each of the attitudes and attributes of the learner profile that we embrace. The art club students worked alongside our Kindergarten and first grade students to help them as they worked on the mosaic. Not only was this the collaborative effort of our stakeholders, bringing us together in unity around a common goal, it will also preserve the walls and eliminate the need for painting in the future.

Two second grade teachers spearheaded a summer reading initiative that started with recycling books. All students, community members and Indian Trace Elementary donated lightly used books, creating a broad selection of titles and genres. Library books that had been removed from circulation were also added to the collection, resulting in a total of over 2000 books. Classrooms had scheduled times to browse the books and every student was allowed to select 10 titles from the collection.

#### **B. Service Learning Projects**

As an international school, we have always participated in international service learning as well as school and local projects. Wilton Manors students, faculty and student council have participated in service learning projects internationally in Chile for the past two years. Last year the student council voted to support a girls' facility in Chile that had broken and deteriorating playground equipment. Money raised from student council fundraising activities was earmarked to update that playground equipment. Photos of the refurbished playground and a video of thanks from the girls validated the decision to participate in this international project. Our student council sponsors an annual global beach clean up with a sister school in Coba, Mexico. Students and family members from Wilton Manors cleaned up Pompano beach on the same day that students from Coba cleaned up a beach in Tulum, Mexico. Focus of these efforts is to raise awareness about the importance of keeping our beaches clean and safe for all living things.

#### **C. Community Partnerships in School Activities**

In partnership with the local Kiwanis Club, student council reached out to the student body to collect and sort plastic bottle caps for the Caps of Love non-profit organization. Caps of Love receives payment for every tractor-trailer load of caps sent to the recycling plant in Kentucky. With the proceeds, wheelchairs are purchased for children with disabilities across the United States. We have reached out to other schools and groups to help us collect caps in greater volume so we can have a more global impact on the program.

In an effort to beautify the courtyard at our school, administration elicited the support of Home Depot, Lowes and Garden Works Nursery. Soil, plants and mulch were donated and manpower was provided. Members of the faculty and employees from Lowes worked together to prepare planters and complete the planting. Milkweed plants were provided so we could develop a butterfly garden. Students had the opportunity to observe each stage in the cycle of a Monarch Butterfly, a project that continues today. As a thank-you, each member of the student body signed a banner that was delivered to Lowes and is displayed at the location on Oakland Park Blvd. and Powerline Rd.

Waste management has become an integral part of our second grade curriculum. Students and teachers take an annual field trip to the landfill to raise awareness about the problems of trash disposal and pollution. Our students created clean up crews to pick up trash on school grounds. Students participated in the Monarch Hill Earth Day Celebration by entering our painted dumpster into their dumpster contest.

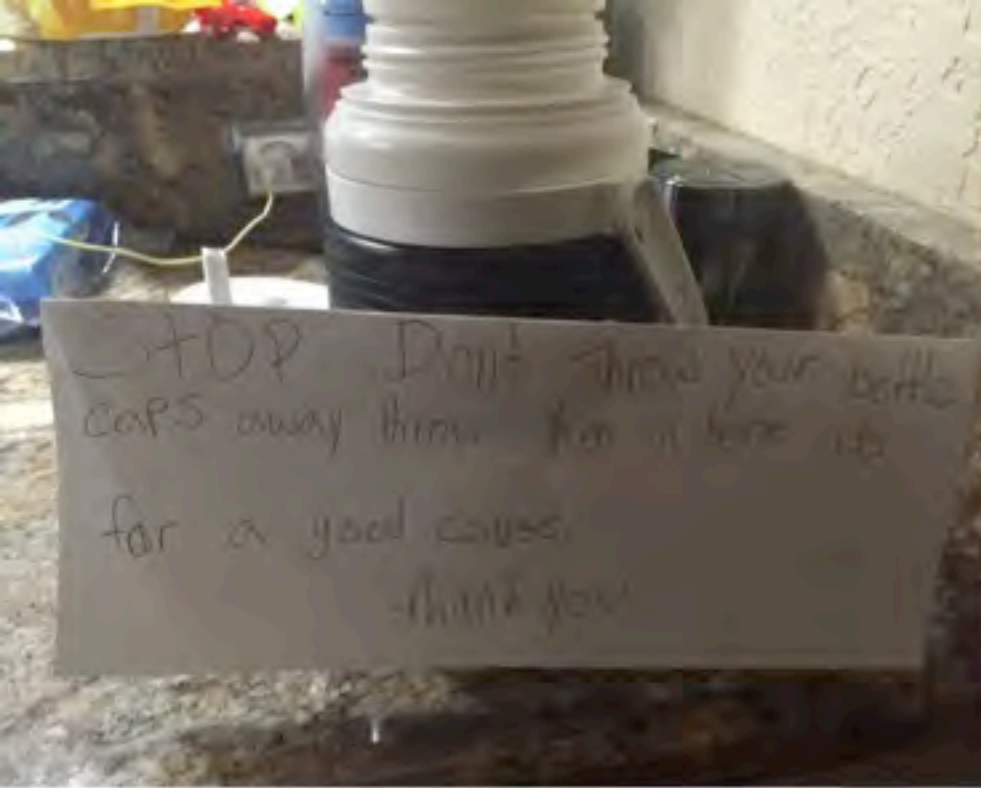
The Art Club and 5th grade students collaborated on the Emerald Award Stones given to the best environmentally friendly yards and gardens in Broward County. These awards are 20" diamond shaped cement stones with a clay ceramics logo hand created by students. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners awarded 6 Emerald Stones this year.



IV. Community Involvement: Lowes partnering with our school for school grounds enhancement.



IV Community Involvement/Service Learning: Students from Wilton Manors Elementary in Pompano Beach and students in Tulum, Mexico participating in a collaborative beach cleanup.



IV. Community Involvement/Service Learning: Taking action at home and at school for the "Caps of Love" service learning project



IV. Community Involvement/Partnerships: Our dumpster project with Waste management for Earth Day.

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Broward Water Matters Day

**Commit to Conservation**



Presented to

*Cindy Tkach*

Recognizing your outstanding professional and personal support

*Marty Kiar*

Broward County Mayor Marty Kiar





PLEASE, DON'T THROW YOUR BOTTLE CAPS AWAY! INSTEAD, SAVE THEM AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL SO WE CAN HELP CHILDREN BY RECYCLING THEM.

Wilton Manors Student Council and K Kids will be working with the Kiwanis to collect bottle caps for the "CAPS OF LOVE" non-profit charity.

The caps will be sorted by student council and K kids at their weekly meetings and sent to Bluegrass Recycling in Kentucky by "CAPS OF LOVE". Approximately 8 tons of caps will bring "CAPS OF LOVE" \$3,200 which will be used to purchase wheelchairs for children across the country. Thus far, "CAPS OF LOVE" has provided 22 wheelchairs for handicapped children in need and **WE CAN HELP!**

### WHY SHOULD YOU HELP?

- These caps cannot be recycled in our trash.
- We can keep unnecessary trash out of landfills.
- It won't cost us a dime.
- Even the shipping charges are donated.

**PLEASE HELP!**



[www.CapsOfLove.com](http://www.CapsOfLove.com)



# Summer Reading Book Drive

for  
Wilton Manors Elementary Students



We want our students to “Read, Read, Read!” over the summer! Our goal is to send 10 books home to each of our students for the summer. Research has shown that reading over the summer reinforces reading skills and prevents summer slide.

Please go through your personal libraries at home and collect any gently used books that you are willing to part with forever. We would appreciate gently used/good condition books for our students. If you find some books that you would like to donate please drop them off in the box in the front office or send them in with your child.

If you know of other friends and families that are willing to donate books to WME students please pass on the message!

Get the books to Wilton Manors Elementary and other book drop off centers in the community by May 14<sup>th</sup>!