

Best Buddies Chapter is established at St. Stephen

On September 21st, history was made at St. Stephen with our inaugural meeting of Best Buddies. Best Buddies is an international organization founded in 1987 that fosters friendships between students with intellectual disabilities and their peers.

St. Stephen Chapter co-presidents: Taylor Bulbrook and Sophie Girard

St. Stephen Chapter Staff Advisor: Mrs. Girard (bgirard@pvnccdsb.on.ca)

How does it work?

To take part in the Best Buddies Program, participants with and without intellectual disabilities agree to be paired with one another for one school year. The pairs are then responsible for contacting each other once a week by phone or email, meeting each other twice per month for a one on one activity and participating in school events during the school year. Our first social event, the “Meet and Greet”, will be a Halloween party at the school.

Who benefits from the program?

We all do! The friendships formed through the Best Buddies Program add a new dimension to the lives of all people involved. A Best Buddies program also helps to build acceptance among the participants and at our school.

How do I join?

Just complete the application. Once the application has been received by Mrs. Girard, the St. Stephen’s Best Buddies Chapter will work to matching you up with a Buddy.

Although the real reward will be your new friendship, community service hours will be granted for after school activities.

Applications for this school year are due to Mrs. Girard by Friday, October 15th.

For more information see Sophie, Taylor or Mrs. Girard or visit www.bestbuddies.ca

(source: 2011-2012 Best Buddies Canada Program Manual p. 37)

BEST BUDDIES[®]

