

A Special Christmas Thank You

by Gabi Tieman, Char-Lan High School, Standard-Freeholder, Wed. Dec. 19, 2007

Every year, the students of Char-Lan High School look forward to the holiday events that come during the final days of school. As books and work plans are put away, classes are replaced with student vs. teacher hockey games, pancake breakfasts, Christmas concerts and much, much more, which really give us all the feeling of the holidays before we all leave for our two-week break.

Of all these events that occur during this week, though, the most anticipated of all by not only the students, but also the staff, is the Christmas Crusader auction that takes place during the final hours of school before the holidays begin.

For the fourth year, this annual event gives students the chance to bid on prizes and gifts, which have been generously donated and bought, by the teachers and staff of Char-Lan, student and parent committees, and businesses in our community.

Although the bidding occurs with fake known as "Crusader Bucks" the auction is given a realistic feel from the talents of auctioneer Theresa Taylor who brings her skills of quick speech and humour to the students of Char-Lan, every year. With Theresa at the podium students cannot help, but become swept up in the bidding process as everyone joins in to try and top their peers' bids of bucks.

Crusader Bucks are given out in cheque form to the students to reward good behavior and spirit, which has been shown in the past months of school. Students earn these bucks through volunteering around the school, helping out at events such as St. Andrew's Day and the Christmas pageant, and even just for the spirit and enthusiasm each student shows, day in and day out, as they donate cans of food drives, dress up on spirit days and continue to show their pride for their school.

The students of Char-Lan would like to extend a huge thank-you to everyone who makes it possible to run this auction every year.

Without the help and hard work that is put in by all the teachers, staff, student/parent council, and spirit squad, this event would not be able to continue each year. Another huge thank-you goes out to all our local businesses who donate the prizes each year to our event and to Theresa Taylor who takes time out of her busy schedule to make this event extra special.