

## **MEDIA RELEASE:** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Catholic Education Centre** 420 Creek Street Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4 Telephone: 519-627-6762 Facsimile: 519-627-8230 Website: www.st-clair.net

Director of Education Dan Parr 519-627-6762, ext. 241 E-mail: media@st-clair.net

**Chair of the Board** Carol Bryden 519-627-8976

For further information regarding this release, please contact:

Christ The King Catholic School Laura Callaghan, Principal 519-627-6745

Supervisor – Communications and Community Relations Todd Lozon 519-627-6762 Ext. 243 E-mail: todd.lozon@st-clair.net

## CHRIST THE KING LENTEN PROJECT RAISES MORE THAN \$1,000 TO HELP PROMOTE EDUCATION IN AFRICA

Helping to raise awareness about the plight of former Sudanese child soldiers – that has been the goal of a Lenten project by students in Courtney Mellow's Grade 7/8 class at Christ The King Catholic School in Wallaceburg. Back in February the students began a partnership with the international charity GUA Africa, and its founder Emmanuel Jal.

"Our project has been a tremendous success," says Ms. Mellow. "Not only have we helped to raise awareness about GUA Africa, but we've also collected more than \$1,000 in a challenge of all St. Clair Catholic elementary schools. I am so proud of our students and the work they have done!"

GUA Africa helps ex-child soldiers from the Sudan get an education. Through the project, the students have helped to spread Emmanuel Jal's message that "...education is the pathway to peace ... and knowledge is power."

"Our students know that change can begin with one person," says Laura Callaghan, Principal of Christ The King Catholic School. "Together, these students have worked to inspire others to get involved, to make a difference and help to be the change that we all want to see happen."

The students built a website at <u>ctkcalledtoserve.weebly.com</u> which included updates on the project through a student blog and a message from Emmanuel Jal himself, congratulating the students on their work.

The students also built handmade schoolhouse piggy banks, which were sent to all Catholic elementary schools across the district. The piggy banks were filled with donations throughout Lent and returned to Christ The King last week.

A brief presentation about the Christ The King Lenten Project will be made by students in the Grade 7/8 class on Friday, April 24, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the school, 227 Thomas Avenue, Wallaceburg. The final tally for the fundraiser will also be announced.

Members of the media are welcome.