



Let's Make Spring Fling 2015 AMAZING!

Essex and Hawthorne schools will be holding our annual Spring Fling on Friday, May 29, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Last year, thanks to the help of many of you, it was a great success. The monies raised helped pay for new computers throughout the building for all students. This year, all proceeds will go towards improving our outdoor kindergarten play area and garden on the south-east side of the school.

We will begin the process by greening the space with edible trees to provide both shade and cooling. The goal is to create an environment where our students will learn to care for trees, find out about the value of native plants, attract pollinators with their plantings, and develop environmental stewardship. We will also be introducing some much-needed seating in the area, along with a sandpit and outdoor toys. A sample plan will be posted in the main lobby.

By now you are saying to yourselves, this sounds exciting, but what can I do? There are two main ways you can help make this garden become a reality, and make Spring Fling a great event for all of us:

Contribute to our silent auction and basket raffle: A new feature this year is our silent auction and basket raffle. We have already received some very generous contributions from local businesses, but if you know someone who might be willing to contribute a gift certificate, a weekend at the cottage, event or concert tickets, or a service, please ask them to donate to the auction. Hawthorne classes will be creating themed baskets, so watch for notices from class reps and teachers. Please contact Carol (Hawthorne) or Ana (Essex) at springflingeh@gmail.com.

Volunteer at the event: If you are planning on attending Spring Fling, why not spend an hour helping out? You can help with set-up and clean-up, bouncy castles, food stations, silent auction supervision, dunk tank, and face painting, to name just a few. Visit <http://springflingeh.com> to sign up, or contact the volunteer coordinators, Adriana, Heather, and Ruth, at springflingeh@gmail.com.