



Chalk Talk

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THANK YOU FOR SHARING CHALK TALK WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES!!!

Letter from the Editor

Dear Subscribers:

As the end of 2006 approaches, I'd like to take a moment to thank the thousands of readers of **Chalk Talk**. Many of you took a moment to write to me about how this newsletter has helped you to create interesting lesson plans on a range of topics from literacy and numeracy to environmental issues, diversity and the many Canadian historical perspectives. Your input has been invaluable and much appreciated. I'd also like to welcome the many new subscribers who have joined us this year.

I sometimes receive e-mails enquiring about who we are and why we do what we do. The answer is simple — for over 14 years, CoEd Communications has been dedicated to connecting Canadian teachers with high-quality, free, curriculum-based educational resources. We do it for you, the teachers, and for the important work done in the classroom to prepare and inspire our children to pursue and achieve their academic, career and life goals.

This year CoEd made great inroads into establishing an integrated approach which now provides teachers with print, electronic and web-based tools which should make it easier to access the many wonderful resources produced by some of this country's best public and private sector organizations. We will work hard in 2007 to make the **Chalk Talk** e-newsletter, **The Source for Free Teaching Resources** print and online publication, and our revamped website www.4edu.ca even more informative and valuable. Here's to a safe and great new year from all of us at CoEd to all of you!



[As always, we'd love to hear from you!](#)

Mary Kovack

'Tis the Season of the Heart

There was an interesting news story recently which I thought fit in nicely with the focus on love, family and caring at this time of the year. It was about a 65 year old Montreal man who had just received a new kind of [mechanical heart](#). Described as a man without a heartbeat, the man, his doctors and his family were all smiles. It reminded me of the adage, "Home is where the Heart is". But where, I thought to myself, does the Heart reside?



Night after night, television programming is filled with traditional Christmas movies — *A Christmas Carol*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *White Christmas*, and heart-warming favourites such as *E.T.*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Sound of Music*.

And every year there's a new crop of Christmas themed entries — *Love Actually*, *Elf*, *The Santa Clause* — tugging away at our heart strings, reminding us of how blessed we truly are.

Story after story centres around matters of the heart. Love makes the Grinch's heart grow ten times its size. The sentimental Tin Man needs the Wizard to give him a heart. E.T.'s red heart light proves that love is common to all beings in the universe. So where does the Heart reside? Everywhere — as the song says — "[Love is all Around](#) and so the feeling grows".



Quote of the Week
"I will honour Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year."
— 'Ebenezer Scrooge' from Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*



**Your CoEd Team
(clockwise from top centre)
David Benn, Lisa Kelly, Jane
Whittington, Nomia Dar, Jeffrey
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