Fighting childhood cancer one cup at a time

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

ARCHDALE — The evening of May 5 was cause for celebration, more so because of a joint humanitarian effort by students, teachers and families at Archdale Elementary School to raise money for a cure for childhood cancer.

According to fourth-grade teacher Kristin Kennedy, the Pantherfest celebration featured games, bounce houses, cake walks — and a lemonade stand with a purpose to fund cancer research.

Bailey said she was inspired to help when she learned the story of ALSF founder Alexandra “Alex” Scott. She held her first front-yard lemonade stand when she was just 4 with the mission to raise money for cures for all children battling cancer.

By the time of her death in 2004, Alex had raised $1 million and inspired a legacy of hope and cures for childhood cancer.

“My dog had cancer, even though it’s not the same as childhood cancer, it’s still cancer, so I was happy to raise money,” said Keri.

A few weeks ago, Kennedy’s class came up with a multitude of cross-curricular ways to raise money. They collaborated to make a video promoting their cause. Lemonade Links were sold at a cost of $1 each.

Students in Kristin Kennedy’s class at Archdale Elementary School combined their efforts to raise more than $2,800 to find treatments and cures for childhood cancer.

Some students wrote letters to area businesses who were generous in their response.

“Our lemonade chain for our classroom stretched all the way around the room,” said Mehik. “Each link represents one dollar that has been donated.”

Their goal was to raise $2,000 for childhood cancer research.

“Our grand total ended up being $2,874 — $900 more than we raised last year,” said Kennedy.

“The money donated will pay for research to find better treatments and cures for childhood cancer.”

“My favorite part of Alex’s Lemonade Stand was watching our lemonade chain grow every day with each new donation,” said Desiree.

McKenzie added, “All of the money we raised will hopefully find a cure for childhood cancer.”

“I am dedicated now to Alex’s Lemonade Stand,” said Joseph. “Even next year, when I go to fifth-grade and won’t be in Mrs. Kennedy’s class, I still plan on helping this great cause.”

“I hope our donation helps a child and their family,” said Daliah.

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