

# Canadian Author Sigmund Brouwer Visiting Alliston Union!

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

During the morning of Friday, March 24th, Canadian author Sigmund Brouwer will be speaking to Grade 3 to 6 students about reading, writing and the power of story.

Sigmund uses a mixture of story, music and video in his energetic and interactive "Rock and Roll Literacy" presentation and will offer fun and practical ways to get students motivated to put their stories down on paper.

Sigmund has recently released his latest book, "Innocent Heroes: Stories of Animals in the First World War" which consists of eight connected fictional stories about a Canadian platoon in WW1 and their connections to various animals and the role these animals played in the war. Each story is followed by a non-fiction section that tells the true story of these animals from around the world and of the Canadian soldiers who took Vimy Ridge. This book is timely as April 9th will mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle at Vimy Ridge.

While researching and writing *Innocent Heroes*, Sigmund worked closely with a group of Aboriginal high school students in Saskatchewan. These students provided important insight into Aboriginal culture and also helped shape one of the characters, Cree soldier Thomas Northstar in the book.

In support of Aboriginal students, Sigmund has set up a scholarship fund through Red Deer College in Alberta where a continuing part-time or full-time Aboriginal (Status, Non Status, Metis, or Inuit) student who has a passion for writing may apply for funding to support their post-secondary educational career.

In support of this scholarship and the importance of accessible education for all Canadians, we are asking Grade 3 to 6 students to bring in a \$1/\$2 to help support this initiative. All money raised will be donated to the "Sigmund Brouwer Aboriginal Authors Finding Their Voice Scholarship". We believe this is just another wonderful way we can show other communities in Canada that AUPS is a caring school community, always willing to "pay it forward" and help others. Students are encouraged to share our school motto, "I'm the ONE! "Expect IT! Do IT! Be IT!" by engaging in random acts of kindness every day in school and in their community.

For those students who would like to purchase books, Sigmund will have some of the following titles available for purchase. He may also have time to autograph books for students. Prices range from \$7.00 to \$22.00.

Cash only please.

Seven the Series titles-Devil's Pass (Ages 10+), Tin Soldier (Ages 10+) and Barracuda (Ages 9+) \$10.00 each

High Interest-Orca Sports titles (Ages 11+) \$10.00 each

Justine McKeen titles (Ages 7-9) \$7.00 each

Timberwolves Series titles (Ages 7-9) \$7.00 each

Flight of Shadows and Broken Angel (Ages 12+) \$15.00 each

Dead Man's Switch (Ages 12+) \$10.00

The Orphan King (Ages 12+) \$10.00

Robot Wars (Ages 12+) \$7.00

Rock the Boat and Billboard Express (Ages 11-14) \$10.00 each

Retribution: Unleashed (Ages 12+) \$10.00

Innocent Heroes: Stories of Animals in the First World War (Ages 8-12) \$22.00

\*A note from Ms. Longthorne, Teacher-Librarian: I am sensitive to the values of the many different families that make up our school community and fully understand that not all books are right for all students. Please be advised that some of the books available for purchase may contain mature content and situations.

For more information on Sigmund, his books and presentation, please visit:

<http://sigmundbrouwer.com>

<http://www.rockandroll-literacy.com>

<http://orcabook.com/seven/>

Thank you for your continued support! Ms. Longthorne, Teacher Librarian