

Saint Augustine of Canterbury School

50 Years and Beyond A Catholic School of Excellence

March 2018



“Marching Into the Future.” National Engineer Day

As part of our STEM initiative in Computer Class this month, students from Pre-K4 to Grade 8 have been learning the answer to the Essential Question of the day: What is Engineering and why is it an important 21st Century Career and so important to the future of our country and the world? All of our students celebrated National Engineers Week 2018 in their Computer Classes by learning about the different types of Engineers and the Engineering Design Process, which they will put into action when we move to our Makerspace Room in March to complete their collaborative team Engineering projects. The students heard a message directly from an Engineer on the International Space Station reminding them how important Engineers are and how they are working together to solve the world's problems. <http://discovere.org/>.

Interesting in Engineering?

<http://www.discoverengineering.org/>,
<http://www.tryengineering.org/>,

<http://www.mathmovesu.com/#/home>,
<http://engineeringinteract.org/>,

<http://www.tryscience.org/> and
<http://pbskids.org/designsquad/>

Even children as young as three years old can be introduced to S.T.E.M. activities by visiting these websites:

<http://pbskids.org/sid/>

<http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/>

<http://pbskids.org/lab>

<http://pbskids.org/zoom/games/index.html>

<http://www.edheads.org/activities/simple-machines/>



The school doors opened wide to welcome our families with Catholic Schools Week. It gave the students a chance to “share their love of learning.” The morning had an air of excitement and joy as students greeted their Grandparents. They had time to share their life stories and the joy of visiting classrooms, and sharing time together.

It was a morning of joy. Our students enjoyed Saint Augustine’s Winter Olympics created and organized by our very own Ms. Hulnick, Physical Education Teacher. Who says you need snow? Snow was created for: Curling, Bean Bag Biathlon, and Four Person Bobsled. Laughter and cheering filled the gym as the students supported their team members



Grades K-2 Curling
Going for the Gold

The Warm Moments of Winter



Grades 3-5 Bean Bag Biathlon
Notice the indoor ski



The highlight of the afternoon was a faculty and student game.

The eighth grade played their best while their kindergarten buddies cheered them on with their little hands and Big Hearts.

The eighth graders were good sports and overlooked Mr. M.’s jumping through hoops to win.

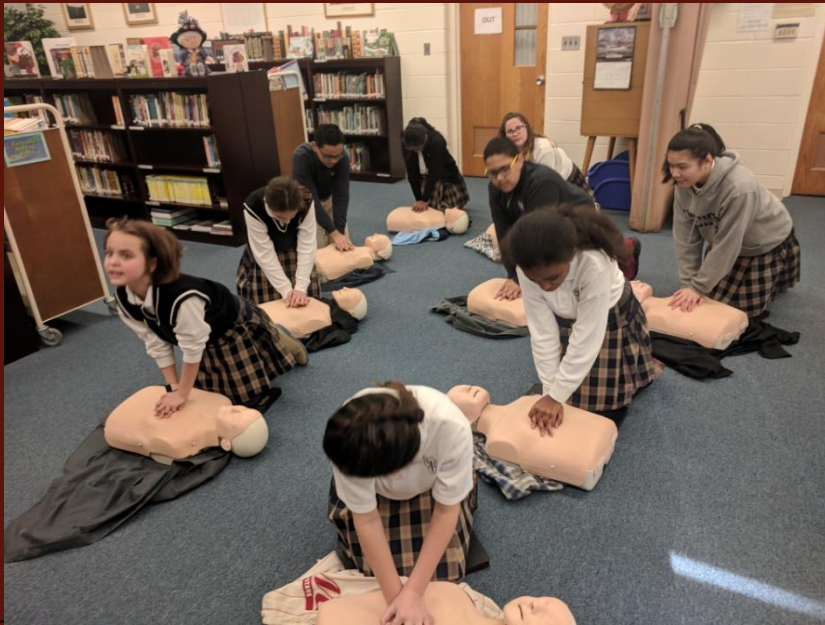
The faculty was more concentrated on winning than observing the rules of the Curling Competition.

The determined faculty won the game by four points .

These past months the teachers have been participating in Faith Formation Workshops via video conferencing from the Diocese of Metuchen and in Professional Learning Communities.

The teachers also participated in I-Ready Workshops becoming more familiar with using data to plan action steps to remediate and challenge the students further in Reading. The Science teachers participated in Discovery Education webinar Learning Communities. Mr. Modzelewski participated in the Blue Ribbon Conference held in Florida. He learned and shared with other National Blue Ribbon school administrators. We are happy to say that our school qualifies for the best of the best, Blue Ribbon Schools Criteria.

Earlier in the year, Mrs. Donna Herмосilla presented the annual programs of: OSHA (Blood Pathogens Safety); CPR and AED; Asthma; Allergy; Diabetes Awareness; and how to use the Epi-Pen.



Babysitting 101 and CPR

Fifth and sixth graders meet on Monday's with our school nurse Mrs. Donna Hermosilia to learn the basics of safe babysitting. The students had fun learning how to change a baby's clothes and diapers; how to feed a baby; and how to administer first aid and/or CPR if it were needed.

Students Learn How To Improve Communications Through Writing

Grades K-6 created books using Story Bird. Each grade began the writing process by choosing a theme. The electronically created books were shared with the entire school community on a large screen and narrated by representatives from each class. The drafts were peer edited by the faculty during a session of our Professional Day. The final copies were published and a copy of each book was donated to the school library.

On Young Authors Day, parents will be invited to the book signing.

Grade Eight went the extra mile by writing and illustrating a story book for their buddies. They were read and given to them during Catholic Schools Week.



First Alumni Hand-Made Quilt

During our first alumnae reunion each graduate was asked to sign a quilt square. Through the gift of the many hands of the Klimzcak Family it was sewn together with the gifted hands of a "stranger."

On January 6, 2018, it was presented to Father Bob by two graduates, Brittany K. and Laurie Machalany. It was blessed and will be displayed in the cafeteria near the class pictures after it is encased in a frame. We are looking at the summer to have it in place.

Thanks to all who made this quilt a special remembrance in the family spirit of St. A's.

Pre-K Celebrates Seussology!!

The Pre-K 4 students participated in a fun, lively and interactive program run by Currier's Magical Mania Presents Seussology. The program explores the background of Dr. Seuss and his beloved works. There was even a very special visit from Horton the Elephant!



ST. A'S STUDENTS GO FOR THE GOLD IN KEYBOARDING OLYMPICS

For the past two weeks, our Computer students have been competing in the 2018 Keyboard Olympics from PyeongChang, South Korea, and today on the last day of the competition, six of our students were awarded Gold Medals for their outstanding achievements. Our First Grade Student Arhaan R. broke the school record for Grades K-2 by typing the alphabet in just 10.4 seconds, and four of our Seventh Graders; Kirsten C., Jake S., Brandon D., and Jordan G., and one Eighth Grader Maddie R., who was the first student in the whole school, earned Gold Medals for typing one of their Time Trials with ZERO MISTAKES! We are very proud of all our Keyboarding Olympians. We will see you in four years in Beijing, China!

