



February 2017

21st Century Learning @St. Aloysius Academy

Using the scientific method, our 7th graders put together some very interesting Science Fair projects. We would like to congratulate the following winners: In the Chemistry category, Charlie Backe's "Blast Off?" merited 1st place while Jack Lohmeier's "Supercooling Water" received 2nd and Noah Cirks' "What Makes Ice Melt Fastest?" earned a 3rd place ribbon. Kieran Sims captured 1st place in the Physics section with "The Scoop on the Loop". Charlie Phelan's "Does the Splatter Matter?" received 2nd and Suri Kassa-Darge, 3rd place. Life Science/ Biology 1st place went to Luke Guentner's "Waste to Watts" with Ethan Eichinger's "It Nose Smell but Taste?" taking end place and Franky Lilley earning 3rd. Sports Science produced the following winners: Billy Gorelick's "Counting Your Steps, Which One Works Best?" was awarded 1st place while Jake McCarter's "To Stride or Not to Stride" earned a 2nd place and Jake Reid's "Deflate Gate", a 3rd. Congratulations to all our winners.

tidbits of information. The book chronicles a rainy day spent with two of their granddaughters of course, baking cookies. The surprise ingredient in their oatmeal cookies? Craisins!



5th grade has begun their immersion into their Leadership Program. They receive new folders for the materials they will gather. The Program began with an introduction to Emotional Intelligence which is the capability of individuals to recognize their own and other people's emotions, to discern between different feelings and label them appropriately, to use emotional information to guide thinking and behavior, and to manage and/or adjust emotions to adapt environments or achieve one's goal(s). Developmentally, just the awareness of their own "EQ" offers much guidance in their transitional journey into pre-adolescence.

Our 2nd graders performed two songs – "Here I Am to Worship" and "We Ask Your Forgiveness". The video of their singing was shared at the parents' meeting with Sister Joanne and our 2nd grade teachers to give detail to their sons' reception of the sacrament of Penance. The students have been learning about the sacrament and forgiveness all year long in preparation for this important event in their spiritual lives in late March.



Service is a critical part of a St. Aloysius Academy student's spiritual life. This month alone, we collected 1,820 cans of soup, made 250 meals for Food for Friends and an 8th grade class served meals to people at Sunday Morning Mission and collected over 100 coats for their One Warm Coat annual outreach project.

Don and Lee Doyle, authors of the children's book *Cookie Duster* spent one morning visiting kindergarten through 3rd grade classrooms reading the their book and pointing out little



We introduced some of our students to a new experience with our Middle School Ski Trip – an annual event that the boys so enjoy even though it means getting up very early. How the weather cooperated! Students hardly needed a coat and they got to ski through several snow squalls. We had first-time skiers, advanced skiers as well as snowboarders. Many parents came – some skied and some kept the lodge warm.



DCIU partners with the Delaware County Reading Council (DCRC) to offer the annual Young Authors' Project. The Young Authors' Project invites students in grades 1-8 to submit narrative, informational, or persuasive texts to the DCRC for judging on the basis of focus, content, organization, and style. The Project culminates in the annual Young Author's Conference where winners at each grade level receive a personalized certificate and a copy of all the winning entries. Winners will be announced in March.

Our kindergarteners learned all about President Washington and President Lincoln in honor of Presidents Day. The boys have mastered the use of Venn diagrams to compare and contrast the two Presidents. For example, one thing they both had in common was that they lived in the President's House. Some differences are that Lincoln wore a top hat and Washington wore a triangular hat. Washington was the richest president, but Lincoln was not. Lincoln was shot, Washington was not. The students also used the Venn diagram to show similarities and differences between the Holy Family and their own family. They discovered many similarities – both pray together, love each other and help each other. Differences? The Holy Family rode on donkeys and they ride in cars. They shop at supermarkets, but there were no supermarkets for Jesus' family.

Our 1st graders celebrated our 100th day in school by transforming themselves into centenarians! This year is going so fast – it will be summer before we know it!



We don't know if it is the new Art Room, but our students are producing some masterpieces. A perfect example is this one of many beautiful winter Cardinals created by the 4th grade. They used watercolors for the winter sky and Cray-Pas. Student artwork is displayed throughout the Academy.

6th graders just completed their journey through the Africa. They used their creativity to put together a project highlighting this fascinating and unique continent. Some constructed a Jeopardy Board, fashioned a tribal mask or diorama or wrote and recorded a commercial for an African resort. You can view a sample of the commercials on our facebook page – www.facebook.com/StAloysiusAcademy.

In addition to their weekly music class, all 3rd and 4th grade have weekly choir practice. They sound like angels as they sing for us at Mass, the Christmas Concert and the Spring Show. They recorded their voices for a televised Mass that aired on Channel 6 in December. There is also an opportunity for students who enjoy a choir experience to participate in the Senior Choir which is open to all 5th through 8th graders who are interested. They also sing at Mass, the Christmas Concert and the Spring Show. The Senior Choir has truly grown throughout the years.