



# The Paw Print

## News from Saint Leo the Great School

Volume 4/Issue 3

March-June 2014

### Thank you Father John!

*By Sydney Koopman and Maggie Ward*

The June 2014 *Paw Print* is dedicated to Reverend Father John Folchetti on the occasion of his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination to priesthood. It is with much gratitude that we compose this letter to Father John:

Dear Father John,

Thank you for leading us in our faith. Thank you for sharing your faith through action and example so that we can better live our own lives and make life better for others. Thank you for bringing us closer to God through the sacraments, prayers, and good work. Thank you for encouraging us to be patient, kind, and humble. Thank you



for making us aware of people less fortunate than us so we can share our gifts and be sure to offer a helping hand. Thank you Father for teaching us to do the right thing. Thank you for being a teacher and a role model that gives us the opportunity to see faith in action. Thank you Father for showing us the power of prayer that will always influence our lives and give us a direct communication with our God.

May God continue to bless you and protect you.

Sincerely,

The Students of Saint Leo the Great School

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### The Eighth Grade Leaves the Den

*By Michael Rue*

This article celebrates the graduation of the class of 2014. This event took place on June 6, 2014 in the church of Saint Leo the Great at 7:00pm. Every year the student council president speaks and our president is Maggie McCann. There will also be a guest speaker. There are 61 students in the class of 2014.

There are many things that the 8<sup>th</sup> graders had to do before graduating. They had to pass all their classes. They had to get caps and gowns. On graduation day the students received a diploma from Father John and Mr. Begley. There are three special awards that are presented at the commencement program. Those awards are the General Excellence award, the Community of faith award, and the Pastor's award.

The students of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class of 2014: William Acken, Emily Ahmed, Ryan Alkin, Bridget Andree, Catherine Bannon, Angelica Bauer, Amanda Boggio, Sophia Cella, Atom Chaney, Luke Croken, Peter Daniels,

Christopher DeFelice, Michael DaMasi, Patrick Dinnell, Kayla Diorio, Jack DiStefano, Amanda Dobrowolski, Emily Dunn, Sarah Dunn, Laura Esteban, Kayla Eustace, Michael Faletti, Matthew Fallon, Darryl Ferguson, Sara Fitzgerald, Leah Frain, Andrew Fremer, Cosmo Gallaro, Thomas Gana, Timothy Girguis, Bret Guempel, Jack Harnish, Nicholas Hohenstein, Hannah Hungerbuhler, Katherine Koontz, Kathryn Kwapniewski, Siena Lazzara, Andrew Lindner, Catherine Loder, Kayla Joseph, Olivia Magoulas, Magaret McCann, Desirae McGee, John Meany, Justin Moren, Devin Mullroy, Kathryn Murray, Joseph O'Shaughnessy, Dana Pardee, Kendall Pereless, Brett Petruzzelli, Josef Roccki, Nicholas Sparber, Andrew Thomson, Ryan Tumulty, Sarah Van Duzer, Nicole Ventura, Catherine Walsh, Peter Warshaw, Stephen Weihs, and Ian Williamson.

### Back in Time

*By Shane Brennan and Chris Arias*

**O**n April 30th, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade went on a majestic field trip. They went to Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament in Lyndhurst, NJ. The tournament is a jousting and swordsman combat tournament. When the students got up north and into the “castle”, they purchased swords, shields, and anything medieval. Then, they entered the hall of the king and learned some facts about the Middle Ages. Then the feast and tournament began! First there were competitions with



spears and rods. Then the joust commenced. Jousting is trying to hit the opponent with a spear while riding a horse. The winner of the joust got to choose his choice of weapon for sword-to-sword combat. There were six knights, the red knight, yellow knight, green, blue, red-and-yellow, and black-and-white. After all, the Yellow knight reigned triumphant. It was a great celebration in the kingdom that day.

### Catholic Schools Week

*By Carmela Casaburi and Callan Laux*

**F**or Catholic Schools Week, the school participated in many fun events. The week ranged from January 26th through February 1st. To start off the week, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students read their own essays about Catholic Schools week, of course, over the loud speaker. We had some open houses and hopefully some new students will join us next year. We also had a beautiful mass on Tuesday. Two big events that happened this week were Student Appreciation Day and Teacher Appreciation Day.

Teacher Appreciation Day was on January 30<sup>th</sup>, but actually had to be rescheduled due to weather. Like last year, the teachers got a beautiful Tiffany Box that consisted of a yogurt parfait with fresh fruit and granola, a touching poem, and a crumb cake. They also received a relaxing massage and a beautiful lunch-in, which had sandwiches, sal-

ads, and different deserts, all set up by PTA moms.

One day that all students were looking forward to was Student Appreciation Day. From scheduled times ranging from 8:00 to 2:30, grades 5-8 went to the game bus, a fun video game system on wheels. Each travel group had 30 minutes to play. We also had Souper-Bowl Friday. The students received a dress down and donated a can of soup to celebrate the Super Bowl. The soup was a much needed addition to the food pantry. Grades 5-8 weren't the only students to get in on the fun. Grades K-4 got to go to the gym and participate in different activities. Grades K-1 played a game called “Not My Yard” and grades 2-4 played snowball castle. We also collected 5 barrels of soup! Looks like Saint Leo's had fun this week and did good things too!



### S.T.A.R Program Up and Personal

*By Alison Gentile and Kaitlyn Jones*

**S**.T.A.R program is a middle school club in which middle school students help grades K-4 achieve their goals. They help them with mainly math and language arts. All of the grades that have this wonderful program love it and want their S.T.A.R helpers with them 24/7. Kindergarten likes the small things that they do such as ripping their pages out of their books, to opening their water bottles for snack. First grade likes when they play games with them and help them with centers. Unlike kindergarten and first grade S.T.A.R. helpers, second grade S.T.A.R. helpers do



a little more advanced things such as grammar and writing. In addition to second grade, third grade does very similar things. Third grade S.T.A.R helpers help them with reading and grammar as well. Last but not least, fourth grade S.T.A.R helpers help them the most. Although some fourth graders believe that the S.T.A.R. helpers can get a little bit in the way, overall all of the other grades love this program. It gives them a chance to interact with older students and the teachers love the extra help, too!

### First Grade Manner Class

*By Kiley Cizin, Lauren Sabella, and Hailey Scarantino*

**O**n May 7<sup>th</sup>, the first graders learned proper manners to use at the dinner table. They also enjoyed various types of foods such as dinner rolls, salad, pasta, soup, chicken tenders, and for dessert, cupcakes and fruit. A few days before the manner class, the children decorated their very own unique placemats in art. Their placemats showed where the utensils, plate, and napkin went. The children appreciated Mrs. Wyckoff's generosity and time for teaching them helpful manners.

### Career Day

*By Joey Cisar*



**A**s we get older we have to start to think about our future careers. On April 9, 2014 we had "Career Day" to help students figure out what they want to do when they grow up. On Career Day, many professional people came into school and talked about their jobs. The 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students traveled to different classrooms where people spoke about their career. Overall there were twelve different careers discussed. The presenters were Rino Aprea, Stephanie Senkewicz Stripp, Joe Borrino, John Cizin, Teresa Regan, Shaun Golden, Tricia Hicks, Michael Meany, William Zengel, Dr. Peter Farrugia, Stephanie Murray, and the Monmouth County Canine Dept. They all did an amazing job. This was a great way to help discover what you want to do when you are older.

### The Code for Creativity

*By Patrick Dinnell*



**O**n December 21st, the project to build a DNA strand was again assigned to the eighth grade. They had to build a model 18 inches or higher, not made with any parts or kits. It must have a key, all of the parts of a strand of DNA, and most of all, be creative. Then, about two weeks later, the projects were in. All of the projects were amazing, one looked like a streetlight, another was made of rainbow looms, another made of crayons, and

one even spun! Every single project showed that every group worked hard and used their imaginations to the limit. These projects truly showed how creative the eighth grade could be, and how well they could follow directions. What's really in anticipation, though, is what the 7<sup>th</sup> grade is going to do with this project next year. Will they make something new or "inherit" some ideas?

### The New and Exciting Call Club

*By Kiley Cizin, Lauren Sabella, and Hailey Scarantino*



**T**oday we will be sharing with you, a new and exciting club. This club is named the Call Club. We interviewed three students from this club, asking multiple questions. We interviewed Olivia Almeida, Isabella Caprio, and Riley Dinnell. The questions we asked them were what projects are you working on, who are you doing this project for, do you like Call Club, and why are you doing this project? Right now, they are working crocheting blankets. They said they were doing this project for babies at a shelter. The three girls said that

they liked Call Club for three different reasons.

Olivia said that she likes

the Call Club because they make many crafts. Isabella replied "Yes, it's a good way to help the Earth and the community." Riley responded "Yes, because it makes me feel good that I'm helping people." The reason that the Call Club is doing this project is to help babies in shelters stay warm during the winter. The Call Club is a great way to help your community, so you should think about joining next year!



### Welcome to Hogwarts

*By Carmela Casaburi, Emily Balsamo, and Mary Gretskey*

For a couple weeks the 4<sup>th</sup> grade has been working on a new project. They're diving into the vast world of Harry Potter. The young wizards all read the 1<sup>st</sup> book, decorated their class room and hallways, and even had a Harry Potter banquet. Each student was sorted into their own house Gryffindor, Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff, and Slytherin. The students also discussed the book and its plot. At the Harry Potter banquet, the students dressed in robes or their house colors, made wands, and had a delicious feast. At the feast they ate chocolate frogs, butter beer, all flavored beans,

chocolate owls, chocolate rats, dragon nails, larva, and cockroach clusters. They also received their



own official Hogwarts exception letters and had stuffed animals in class such as Hedwig the owl, Crooshanks Hermione's cat, and Scrabbers Ron's rat. The classes also tallied points for their houses by doing good deeds. The house with the most points

at the end of the year gets a special treat. All in all each student or wizards enjoyed the Harry Potter experience and hopefully it inspired the kids to read the next six Harry Potter books.



### Wonders of the Rainforest

*By Mary Gretskey*

On February 7<sup>th</sup> the PTA presented an assembly titled *Wonders of the Rainforest*, for kindergarten through fourth grade. The assembly was about the



rainforest and animals that live in it. The children were taught about animals such as spiders, snakes, cockroaches, parrots, and more. The assembly took place in a rainforest in Rio. They had cages set up all over the gym with animals in each one. The animals were in big, medium, and small cages. They were housed by themselves because they are not compatible and may cause harm. The children in K-A said that "It was scary and crazy!" The kids really enjoyed this assembly but they didn't like how there was no real scenery. No doubt this assembly was a success and the PTA should put together something like this again.

### God Forgives Us All

*By Emily Balsamo and Katelyn Lawson*

**T**he second graders made their first Penance on Saturday February 8, 2014. They wrote journals, said what they were sorry for, practiced their prayers, and made lambs. The lambs are a symbol of innocence and represent God's love for each and every person. The prayers they know are the Act of Contrition, Hail Mary, and the Our Father. Their teachers were proud of them and they made sure their students



were prepared. The children learned about sin (original sin and free will). We asked some second graders what they thought of receiving Penance and they said they thought it was fun to talk to God and they were happy they had “sinless souls”. Half of them were nervous and the other half were excited. They felt very privileged to talk to Jesus and learn about the good in life.

### Are Apps Controlling Our Lives?

*By Isabelle Geneve*

**T**he top four social media apps that have been taking over teenager's lives by storm are Instagram, Snapchat, Vine, and Twitter. Instagram had the most votes, but Snapchat was close behind. Vine and Twitter followed. Did you know just 50 consecutive minutes on your phone can severely affect your brain?

Studies showed that a man, Innocente Marcalini reportedly used a cell phone for five to six hours a day for twelve years while talking to business clients. He has since developed a tumor, at a location very close to where the phone came in contact with his head. It is vital to make sure you don't spend too much time using your favorite and most common social media apps. Flappy Bird and Candy Crush were the most popular. Unfortunately, Flappy Bird was taken off the app store but people continue to



play it. Actually, it is a very frustrating game. Candy Crush has several hundred levels. It is very similar to Bejeweled just with candy. Adults and especially children can suffer the long-term effects of radiation waves on the brain. "Young children particularly need to be careful," Dr. Devra Davis, director for environmental oncology at the University of Pittsburgh stated. Obviously, teenagers and adults should spend less time on their cell phones and more time doing physical activities. For example, participating in sports, spending time with your family, and exercise. Many of my fellow classmates believe there is a certain boundary when using electronics. Kids should still continue going outside, riding their bike, playing sports, or just taking a walk.

### Living Stations

*By Sydney Koopman and Maggie Ward*

This year, on April 1, 2014 at 10:00am, the eighth students re-enacted the Stations of the Cross. The entire student body participated in this beautiful Lenten devotion. Jesus was portrayed by Atom Chaney and Mary was played by Maggie McCann. There were 30 eighth graders that actively participated in the living stations. The music was played



by Mrs. Pomanowski. A liturgical dance was performed by Catie Walsh.

We had a chance to talk to Mrs. McCarthy, who directs the production, and she told us, “The living stations are a great way to get all of our students involved in bringing the stations to life.” Every year, our Saint Leo’s eighth graders do a great job in presenting the Stations of the Cross.

### Great Adventure

*By Caleigh Kehoe*



On Friday May 9, 2014, the seventh grade went on a field trip to Six Flags. The seventh grade was excited to get on the buses and walk into the park. As they walked out of the bus, there were other schools walking around. The seventh grade walked around with a chaperone and their group and went on many rides. But this field trip isn’t all about going on roller coasters and playing games. The seventh grade also

had to fill out a worksheet with science and math problems on it. When they finished with the packet, they went on rides with their group. Even the chaperones went on rides! Everybody was happy and having fun. Thanks to Mrs. Tommolino for setting up this field trip for the seventh grade.



## Luck of the Irish

*By Hailey Scarantino and Lauren Sabella*

You might think the true meaning of St. Patrick's Day is all about leprechauns and gold but before that, it was just a special and religious holiday. Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17<sup>th</sup>. On Saint Patrick's Day you might eat Irish Soda Bread, corn beef, cabbage, and potatoes. Did you know that the first St. Patrick's Day parade was not in Ireland? In fact, it was in Boston, MA in 1737. In most parades, you march, sing, and dance up the streets. Some of the most popular parades near our area are the Belmar, Morris County, and the most special parade of all is the New York City parade. Some people go all out for St. Patrick's Day. In Chicago, the rivers are dyed green in honor of this unique day. Even bagels and beer are dyed green to celebrate this lucky holiday. Although people associate St. Patrick's Day with the color green, the actual color is blue. Next St. Patrick's Day make sure you visit a parade, eat Irish treats, and celebrate with green!

## Laser Light Show

*By Kaitlyn Jones*

As you may or may not know, Saint Leo's has an end of the year assembly to get us excited for summer. The PTA puts together a fun show for the students and faculty of our school. This "Laser Light Show" happens to be a Saint Leo's tradition. We've had this particular show performed for the past four years. In this show we learn about lasers and how fast they move and how far they can go. We then watch a fun video with lasers making objects, shapes, and anything else. The video projects loud summer songs and abstract colors. All students really enjoy this show; you can hear their laughter, screaming, and excitement as they watch lasers in action. This is one of the favorite events shared by the students and faculty.

## Math Olympiad

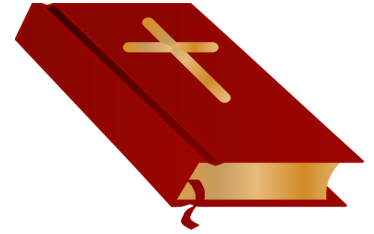
*By David Sprague*

On May 13, 2014, ten Saint Leo the great students went to Solomon Schechter Day School in Marlboro. Students who attended from 4<sup>th</sup> grade were Aidan Guinessey and Alex Bauman from 5<sup>th</sup> grade was Mark Paleski and Aidan Bennett and from 6<sup>th</sup> grade was Matthew Ruzich, Kevin Bauman, John Incantalupo, Jarret Chambers, Marcel Milewski and David Sprague. There were two tests, one individual and one with a team. The students got snacks, drinks and for lunch the students got pizza. Afterward, the students went outside and played basketball. Finally, awards were given out. Individually, Aidan Guinessey came in 3<sup>rd</sup>, John Incantalupo came in second and Jarret Chambers came in 1<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations to everyone who participated. **GO LIONS!!**



### Religion Bible Challenge

*By Caleigh Kehoe*



**O**n March 15, 2014 at Saint John Vianney High School, five of our classmates joined the Religion Bible Challenge.

Those five classmates were Emily Gioacchini, Kate-lyn Lawson, Atom Channy, John Duffy, and Catherine Bannon. This competition was for fun and had many different challenges and events. There were six schools in all, but some schools had two teams instead of one. Saint Leo's sent one team. Every team had their own name, ours was Leo Lions. Saint

Leo's students won 4<sup>th</sup> place in the challenge

and did a great job. They had to study information about the New Testaments and Old Testaments.

They also depended on their knowledge and background. One event was Jeopardy Style and students needed to respond quickly to answer the questions.

Thanks to Mrs. Pomanowski for being the coach of the team Leo Lions.

### Too Much Homework?

*By Sydney Koopman and Kiley Cizin*

**O**n February 5, 2014, we visited two fifth grade classes and interviewed two to three students in each

class. The purpose of our visit was to determine how much time the average student spends on homework. When we went to group 5B, we interviewed three students: Gabriella Arias, Sean

Raineri, and Grace Distefano. They all said they get many projects. When we asked them about how much homework they get, they said they get a lot of

tests which requires an hour or two of studying.

When we went to group 5C, we interviewed two

other students, Allison Lawson and Owen McCann. They said they get lots of projects and get the most homework in science and social studies. We took a survey in these two classes, and one out of 36 students said they have the right amount

of homework and 35 students said they have too much homework. Does this result surprise you?



### Robotics Club Builds Lego Robots

*By Joey Stanton*

I had the chance to interview the members of the new robotics club. The people in this club are Jarrett Chambers, CJ Damman, Marco Cella, Christopher Buckalew, and Cameron Acken. Mrs. Eng is in charge of this club. In this club, you are able to build robots. The people that are in this club are building robots out of Lego parts. There is a controller on the



robot that will allow them to move the robot in different directions. They programmed these robots to do whatever they wanted them to do. They made robots that could go a certain distance and then turn around and pick up an item. There was a contest to see which robot can move the best. Cameron Acken won this contest.

### Save a Life... One Class at a Time

*By Christopher Arias*

Recently the 6<sup>th</sup> grade had a L.A. class on CPR. The idea for the class was the result of reading Hatchet. In that story a pilot died suddenly as the result of a massive heart attack. The school nurse, Mrs. Falconite came in and taught the students how to do CPR in case of an emergency. During that time students were able to test their CPR skills on a test dummy. The classes had fun but they learned something very important. It was a great experience for all the students.

There were several steps on how to do CPR. The steps were...

1. Look for a pulse, listen for breathing, and feel for pulse.
2. Chest compressions
3. 5 sets of 30 compressions
4. Check for breathing

After the class was done students received handouts about CPR. That day students took home valuable information about CPR and now they have some medical notes on CPR. It is our hope, that a life will be saved as the result of the class.



### Seeing Double

By Katie Venezia & Victoria Gioia

What are twins? Twins are people who are siblings that are born on the same day. Some twins are fraternal, which means that they do not look alike. Some twins are identical, which means that they look almost exactly alike and they have the same DNA. At Saint the Great School, we have 15 sets of twins. In pre-school 3 we have Jack and Emma Pascuci. In pre-school 4 we have Juliana and Jawson Emerson. In Kindergarten we have Jacqueline and Christopher Pohl and Jayden and Jared Matejicka. In first grade we have Troy and Gavin Schmedes. In second grade we have Cole and Paige McManus. In third grade, we have Victoria and Genevieve Parella, Sean and Michael Lawson, and Isabella and Gabriella Di Cesare. In fourth grade we have Chris and Tom Ern. In fifth grade we have Brandon and Emily



Sherman. In sixth grade we have Patrick and Caroline Larkin. In seventh grade we have Cecilia and William Heidelberger, Francesca and John Lavelle, and Bryce and Blair Blaikie (*Blair does not attend Saint Leo the Great school*). Lastly, in the eighth grade we have Emily and Sarah Dunn.

It is told that July and August are the months that are more common for a woman to give birth to twins. Some people believe in twin telepathy. There are many witnesses of this gravitational force between twins. Some examples would include if one twin is feeling sick, the other twin might not feel good either. Or, for example, if one twin gets hurt, the other twin might feel pain as well. As one can see, scientists should put more study into twin telepathy, and find the secret behind it.

### Fifth Grade Mother's Day Luncheon

By Madeline Normoyle



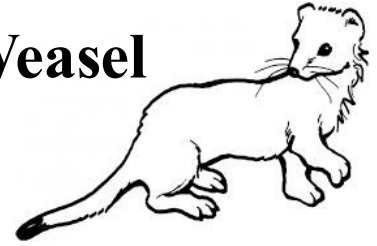
On May 9, 2014, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students dedicated the day to their mothers. This was the time to show their appreciation for all that their mothers do for them and a chance to say "I love you". The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students rehearsed songs and memorized lines. They began their day with a prayer service where they asked for God's blessing on their mothers. In



church they sang the song by Celine Dion; *Because You Love Me* and *Like My Mother Does* by Lauren Alaina. Following the prayer service, the mother and the child went to the AAC for lunch and there, they had a nice surprise for the mothers. There were poems, songs, and memories made throughout the day. In the end, if you asked any mother, she would say it was one of the best days she has ever had.

### Lincroft Lou: The Weather Weasel

*By Shane Brennan*



**L**incroft Lou is a weasel that can predict the weather. He predicts if Saint Leo's will be closed or not due to bad weather. This special animal lives in Mrs. Pomanowski's room in 6-B, but he visits other classrooms from time to time. He has a little sign around his neck saying "This is Lincroft Lou, the Weather Weasel; he predicts whether the students will have school

due to bad weather." He makes his prediction by whispering into Mrs. Pomanowski's ear and he works strictly for Saint Leo's. This meteorologist muskrat came from Mrs. Pomansowski's own house. He is very reliable so far, going two for two in his predictions and with a busy winter, he'll be busy make predictions. If you hear snow is on the way, Lou will say if you can sleep in late.

### Future City Competition

*By Catherine Bannon*

**O**n January 18, 2014, Saint Leo the Great School's Engineering Team competed in "The Future City Competition" at Rutgers, Livingston Campus in Piscataway, NJ. Saint Leo's entered two teams under the direction and guidance of Mrs. Tommolino and the teams' mentor, Miss Jenna Stagliano. The teams were Vecitous Luminous, Brazil and Beaumont, Switzerland. Team Vecitous Luminos' members were William Acken, Luke Croken, Sara Fitzgerald, Leah Frain, Andrew Fremer, Cosmo Gallaro, and Brett Petruzelli. The members of team Beaumont were Catherine Bannon, Michael DeMasi, Jack DiStefano, Laura Esteban, John Meany, and Ian Williamson.

The members of the teams worked very hard on making their cities. The theme and concept for this year's competition was "Tomorrow's Transit." The challenge was to identify a problem of moving people in your future city and design a mode of transportation to solve the problem. The competition consisted of creating a

virtual city on the Sim City computer program, writing an essay and a narrative about the city and its transportation, and creating a scale model of the city that the team has created. The scale model had to be constructed out of recyclable materials. Each team had a very unique form of transportation.

Twenty-eight schools attended the competition and seventy-nine model cities were entered. The Teams worked hard to build their cities and were excited to show off all their hard work that they had done. Saint Leo's entry of Beaumont, Switzerland won an award for "Most Futuristic City." Beaumont, Switzerland is a small mining town incorporated into a mountain. Its environmentally friendly and effective forms of transportation consist of gondolas and an internal train called the Internum. Both systems are powered by wind turbines and are extremely advanced, especially in their horizontal and vertical underground maneuverability.



## Eruptions in the Fifth Grade

*By Joey Cisar & Michael Scotto*

Mrs. McManus conducts science lab for all our students. She is always very busy. However, she was nice enough to let us interview her about the fifth grade volcano experiment. During this experiment the fifth grade built a model volcano out of clay and other materials. When they were finished building the model, they filled a bottle with vinegar mixed with red food dye. This bottle was placed in the volcano.

After the vinegar, they added baking soda and mixed it. This caused a chemical reaction and the volcano

erupted with the red vinegar representing lava.



Mrs. McManus explained to us why she picked this experiment. She said that the fifth grade was learning and studying volcanoes with Mrs. Tyrrell so this would help visualize what a volcanic eruptions looks like. The fifth grade did learn a lot about volcanoes from this lab. Overall, the fifth grade did an outstanding job on the experiment. This is a great thing for

the fourth grade to look forward to.



## Pie Day

*By Hailey Scarantino,  
Lauren Sabella, & Kiley Cizin*

Pie Day is a special tradition at Saint Leo the Great School where the students celebrate the math equation with delicious slices of pie. We celebrate this unique day on March 14th. During this day, the students were introduced to the mathematical meaning of Pi (3.14 or  $22/7$ ). The students also were offered three different slices of pie: chocolate cream, pumpkin and apple pie. This tradition has been celebrated for four years. In all, Saint Leo the Great sold 360 slices of pie with chocolate being the favorite this year. Saint Leo the Great sold thirty-six slices of apple and pumpkin pie and two hundred eighty-eight slices of chocolate cream. If you didn't enjoy an amazing slice of pie this year, then you should definitely think about buying a slice next year.

## Spring Cleaning Checklist

*By Carmela Casaburi and Mary Gretskey*

Spring is back again and boy did we need it! To start off the new season we should:

Clean out our locker, backpack, and school supplies.

Clean our rooms and maybe give it a makeover.

Get new clothes to adjust to the new weather.

Help your parents with their spring cleaning.

Get ready for summer!

Clear out your phone and make room for new apps and pictures.

Try new foods.

Go outside!

Try a new sport.

Plan for summer activities like going to the beach

... and lastly, make sure your summer is better than the last!

### Basketball Summer Camp

*By Chris Sparber*

The basketball camp named Game 7 has been going on for a couple years. It is run by Coach Laux. They have councilors for each team and in the beginning of the day we learn basketball skills. They have 3 on 3 tournaments and 5 on 5 tournaments.

It is a 5 day course from 9am – 3pm. They have snacks and lunches. It is in June and most of the time you are inside in the cool, but sometimes you work hard outside in the heat. The team who works the hardest in the workouts stays inside for the day.

The workouts are a half an hour. You practice your skills and do pushups, planks, sit-ups, and crunches. I recommend you to go to Game 7 camp this summer. It is at Saint Leo's gym and K-8 grade is allowed to go!

### The Special Game

*By Christopher Sparber*

Sunday, February 9 is celebrated as a special "Game Day" for the Varsity Basketball teams of Saint Leo the Great School. They played their rivals St. Mary's of New Monmouth. It was a great game and season for both teams but the Saint Leo Lions won the game and went on to win the championship. This game was so special because it was the final game of the regular season for eighth grade team members. In addition, the eighth graders recognize their most valuable fan—their moms. Before the game, the students proudly presented their moms with a beautiful rose. This was a beautiful way to express their gratitude for their constant support and love. This was also a wonderful early Valentine's Day present. It was a very emotional day for the mothers.

### Undefeated

*By Trinity Murray and Olivia DiRe*

In the month of February, the SLG cheerleaders remained undefeated. This is the first year the girls have won first twice in a row. The girls placed first at every in division competition they went to, making SLG history. SLG cheer also attended their very first out-of-division competition at SJV which they were invited to attend. The 2013-2014 team by far is the best team SLG has had. With eight tumblers, twelve different stunts, killer jumps, and a wicked dance, the girls were unstoppable.

As a reward, the cheerleaders received a dress down day. Here are what some of the girls had to say about their big win.

#### **Siena Lazzara (Co captain)**

*Winning is exciting because we try so hard and we truly deserve to win first place.*

#### **Arianna Thomson (6<sup>th</sup> grader)**

*It's a really strong feeling of pride knowing I contributed to SLG cheer history.*

#### **Catie Walsh (8<sup>th</sup> grader)**

*It is an honor to be undefeated after months of training, hard work, and perfecting our routine.*

#### **Kendall Pereless (Co captain)**

*It is the best feeling to win first. It gives you chills when they call your name. It is rewarding to be recognized for your sport and talents after all of your hard work.*

