Saint Leo The Paw Print

News from Saint Leo the Great School

Volume 5 /Issue 3

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March-June 2015

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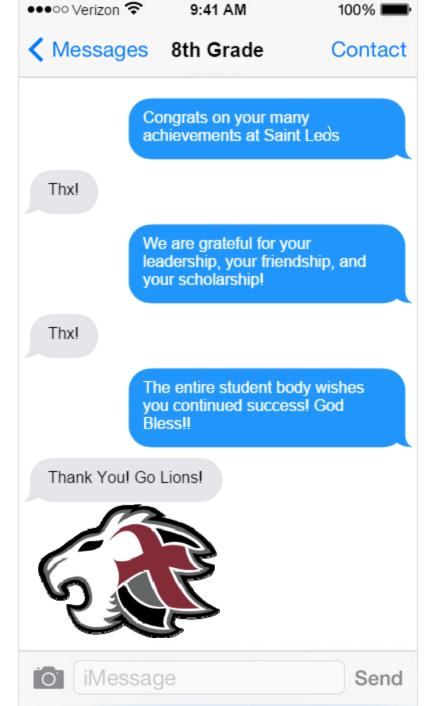
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The Big Bad Musical

By: Brandon Sherman

This year's school play was *The Big Bad Musical*. The show is about the big bad wolf and if he was guilty or he was framed. The play was a like a trial and the audience had to choose if the wolf was guilty or not guilty. The wolf was played by Edward Moresco; Fairy Godmother was played by Cecilia Heidelberger; Little Red Riding Hood was played by Olivia Almeida; Grandmother Hood was played by Riley Dinnell; Evil Stepmother was played by Katelyn Lawson; and The Three Little Pigs were played by Victoria Leibrock, Caroline Dnistrian, and Caroline Meany; the boy who cried wolf was played by Michael Rue and the bailiff was played Joey Stanton. The role of the woodcutter and prince Charming was played by Chris Moren; the role of Ms. Muffet was played by Sydney Koopman and the role of Sydney Grimm was played by Anna Thoresen; the role of the wolfettes were played by Maggie Ward, Gracie Krall and Sophia Gana. The judge was played by Mrs. Cotgreave. Adrianna Masters, Isabella Caprio, and Caroline Larkin were in the commericials. Bella Mansour played the shepardess. The audience had to cast their vote by a show of hands. At the end we found out if the wolf is really big and bad or he if is big but innocent!

New Elective

By: Christopher Scammacca

There are many clubs available for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Clubs are designed to meet students' interest and to introduce them to new ideas and activities. I recently asked students an interesting question. If they could add a new club, what would it be? I received many interesting answers. Some of the suggestions included: Drama club, Cooking club, Wood shop club, History club, Book club, Myth club, Art club, Sports club, Spelling club, and Building club. I shared this information with Mr. Begley thinking that he may consider some of these suggestions. The top suggestion that the students wanted was a Cooking club. Perhaps we may have the next Bobby Flay in our school!



Bobby Flay is a famous chef who appears on many cooking shows.

Did You Know....

That Saint Leo's had four winners in the Asbury Park Press "Student Voices" essay and video contest? Sarah Magno came in 2nd place for the November essay and received a \$10 AMC Theater gift card. Emily Balsamo and Emily Gioacchini won the video category for the month of November and won a \$25 gift card to Target. Caleigh Kehoe also won the video category for the month of December and also received a \$25 gift card to Target.

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And the Beat Goes On...

By: Jenna Falconite

Do you know what happens when someone's heart stops? The heart is a vital organ that keeps your whole body running. However, if it stops your whole body shuts down. This is why it is important to know how to perform CPR, or cardio pulmonary resuscitation. Recently the sixth grade read the book *Hatchet*, a story in which a young boy survives a plane crash when the pilot has a fatal heart attack. On Monday, February 23, 2015, Mrs. Falconite, the school nurse, shared her medical knowledge and came to the classroom. She showed the students how to do CPR. After calling 911 you must check to see if the person is awake. Then you must check if the person is breathing or has a pulse. If they are not breathing, start CPR! You must press on the person's chest 30 times and give them 2 breaths. You repeat this cycle 5 times until an ambulance arrives. Mrs. Falconite did a wonderful presentation and the sixth grade students learned a lot. They now have the tools and the knowledge to help save a life one day. Thank you Mrs. Falconite for your wonderful presentation!



Going Green

By: Hunter Lane

Saint Leo the Great Parish Community has decided to go green. Saint Leo's is putting in solar panels. There was so much interest in this project, and I had the opportunity to interview Mr. Joseph Manzi. He gave me insight on this project. The solar panels will be rented for 15 years and in the 16th year, the school will own the panels. The solar panels will power the school and the AAC. The purpose of this project is to save money and go green. The panels can absorb energy and get power even when there is little sunlight. Overall, this is a great project for the school and the environment



This diagram shows the new solar panels that are located behind the baseball field outside.

Congrats to the Confirmandi

By: Cecilia Heidelberger & Kyle Johnson

On Monday, March 2nd, the eighth grade students of the Saint Leo the Great Church Community received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Monsignor came to our Church to bestow the gifts upon the Confirmandi. The new adults of the Church wore red gowns to symbolize the Holy Spirit. They renewed their Baptismal vows and were anointed with the Holy Chrism. The students selected their designated sponsors. The sponsors participated in the preparations for the sacrament. They were made Confirmation sponsors to guide the Confirmandi along their long lasting Faith journey through life. They chose a saint's name to receive at Confirmation which is now part of their full names for the rest of their lives.

2015 Gala

By: Hannah McCarthy

Every year Saint Leo's has a huge fund raiser called the Gala. Each grade created an art project and each art project was different and unique. There was a link on the Saint Leo's website that provided information about the Gala and allowed parents to view and bid on the projects. Kindergarten created a large canvas painting of a tree where the students traced and colored their hands that they attached as the leaves. The Third grade made a quilt with their hand prints on it. Though some of the art projects were similar, they were each unique in their own way. For example, the Sixth grade decorated a tray with mosaic tiles that displayed a maroon paw print and a white background. Another example of the art projects was made by the fifth grade. They used Popsicle sticks to make crosses and each one was decorated and framed together to make one big cross. In addition to the art projects, the Gala had other prizes that involved buying tickets. Overall, the 2015 Gala was a huge success.



5th grade project for the 2015 gala



Did you know...

The Varsity Baseball team of Saint Leo the Great School won first place at Monmouth University's baseball field after a victory over Holy Innocents? Congratulations to all for a great season!

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King of Tests: Terra Novas

By: Vishal Dube

The day of Monday, March 9, 2015 marked the start of Terra Nova Testing. Terra Novas are standardized tests taken all over the country. Students were urged to remain calm, get a good night's sleep, and have an energizing breakfast. This, along with much preparation had gone into helping the students get better results on the tests. Fortunately, the preparation had gone smoothly and the testing was well executed. The Macmillan Scholastic Group has seemingly done their job well. They are the creators of the Terra Novas. Of course the Terra Novas have a purpose, no, not to annoy students but evaluate students all around the country. This determines if they are at a similar level of education. Although they can be intimidating tests, they should not be stressed over because they are a key part in aiding the education of children.

6th Grade Book Club

By: Ally Cisar

Each month in sixth grade, Mrs. Shute assigns the students a monthly book to read. In February, she assigned us to a book club. We chose the book as a group but read it by ourselves. The book had to be challenging and a book that no one in the group had already read. We established benchmarks so that all members of the group could participate in the discussions. For instance, every group read up to their own benchmarks. We had to work very hard to meet our goals every week. Every Friday, we met up with our book club members and discussed the book, the plot, and whether we were enjoying it or not. Being in a book club was a great experience and fun. It was interesting to share thoughts with other students.



6th grade book club meeting in Mrs. Shute's classroom.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the Title IX is the law that was instituted in 1972 that enforced women equality? It states that women need to be treated equally in all areas. This including sports, science, technology, engineering, and math. Many schools do not address this law to the full extent but thankfully we are enrolled in a school that does.

Campfire Stories

By: Christopher Scammacca

Have you ever sat around a campfire in the middle of Language Arts class? The sixth grade class studied legends, tall tales, and myths. On Wednesday March 25, 2105 and Thursday, March 26, 2015, the sixth grade students gathered around a campfire with the help of lanterns and the Promethean board to share scary ghost stories and local urban legends. First you had to find an urban legend and then make sure it was appropriate for school. The students put their information on an index card with 5-8 bullet points on it. Each person finally told their story. At the end of all the stories the students voted for the student who told the best story. On Friday, March 27, 2015, the entire sixth grade gathered again around the campfire and the finals told their stories again. The winner in the entire sixth grade was Megan Mulroy. Megan now has the title of "Sixth Grade Storyteller of the Year"!

Eighth Graders Act Out the Living Stations

By: Jenna Falconite and Hannah McCarthy

Every year during the final week of Lent, the eighth grade students at Saint Leo's put on a presentation of the Stations of the Cross. The whole school gathers in the Church to watch the students act out the way Jesus died on the cross for us. This year the presentation was on March 24th, the week before Easter break. Mrs. McCarthy and Mrs. Berman directed the living stations. They gave out the different roles to the Eighth graders that participated. The beautiful presentation was highlighted by the music provided by Mrs. Pomanowski and Mrs. Cotgreave. Jesus was played by William Heidelberger and Mary was played by Carmela Casaburi. Veronica was played by Katherine FitzGerald, and Simon was played by Josh Cohen. There was even an evening performance open to the public that night in the Church. Although it was sad to watch the way that Jesus died, the Eighth graders did a good job. It was a very holy experience.



In the 4th station, Jesus meets his mother.

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Activities Outside of School

By: David Sprague



Lives today are sometimes really busy. Many of us compete in activities outside of school in our free time. Did you know that Cecilia Heidelberger is on a rock climbing team? Did you know that Shane Brennan, David Sprague, Adriana Masters, and Brendan Regan are on a swim team? Emily Balsamo is on a dance team, Tyler Waldron is on a hockey team, Caroline Larkin and Michael McCloud are competitive gymnasts, Sarah Magno is on a tennis team, and Aidan McCartin is on a fencing team. These are only a few of the many students who compete in sports which require determination, stamina, and skill.

Math Maniacs

By: Emiley Sherman

On Sunday, March 22, 2015, five of our fifth grade students attended a math competition. The competition took place at the Solomon Schechter School in Marlboro. We are very proud of Drew Sasso because he took first place in the competition and Jacob Irwin for placing second. The competition tested students' critical thinking and problem solving skills. Our students competed with many other students from various schools. The competition was opened to grade 4 through 8. The students competed with students that were in the same grade. The students said that there was a time limit for each section of test. The problems consisted of magic squares, adding, and mental math. They said the hardest problems were the mental math problems. At the end of the test, the students were rewarded with cookies, pretzels, water, and a dress down day. We would like to recognize Brian Dinnell, Juliana Esteban, and Andrew Scanlon for participating. We are very proud of all the students.



Jacob Irwin and Drew Sasso.

Behind the Scenes

By: Michael Scotto and Joey Cisar

The 2015 Paw Print staff would like to give a special thanks to Sarah Magno, Cecilia Heidelberger, Adriana Fernandez, and Kyle Johnson for their amazing contributions to the newspaper. We would also like to give another special thanks to Sarah and Cecilia for making the newspaper possible. They edit and put the newspaper together. They dedicate a lot of time to make the Paw Print perfect. Sometimes Sarah even comes to work on the newspaper during break and her free time. As a group, they make an awesome team of editors. Sometimes, they do not receive enough credit for their hard work. As we said, the Paw Print staff wants to give a big thanks to all those who make this one-of-a-kind newspaper popular! Thank you for your guidance, leadership, and your dedication.



(From left to right.) Kyle Johnson, Cecilia Heidelberger, Sarah Magno, and Adriana Fernandez.

Jellybean Raffle By: Ally Cisar

The third grade had a jellybean raffle before Easter. The jellybeans were put into a jar and you could purchase a ticket that you would write your guess on. If you guessed the correct number of jellybeans in the jar, you won prizes. There were more than 3,000 jellybeans in the jar. Ava Shapiro guessed the exact number of jellybeans and she won the prizes which were gift cards to iPlay America, which is an indoor amusement park, SkyZone, which is a trampoline park, and an Easter basket filled with chocolate. They made \$1,025 dollars and donated all of the money that they made. Each year the Third grade makes a significant contribution to Heffer International. This organization provides livestock to poor villages for people to start building their farms. Thank you Mrs. Farrar, Ms. Cilento and the Third grade and congratulations Ava!





Ava Shapiro, winner of the jellybean raffle, who is from 3-B.

Mary, Did You Know?

By: Hunter Lane

The first grade students made miracle boxes for the Lenten season. I was able to sit down with Samantha Lane and Madison Vestuto from classroom 1-C. Samantha chose to do "Jesus Rises from the Dead" for her miracle box. Madison Vestuto did "Jesus Walks on Water" for her miracle box. It took Samantha one day to make, but it took Madison two days. Samantha's favorite part of building the miracle box was building the cave. Madison's favorite part was building the water scene that Jesus walked on. Samantha picked "Jesus Rises from the Dead" because it is an Easter miracle. Madison picked "Jesus Walks on Water" because she loved that miracle. The First grade did a great job on their miracle boxes.



This miracle box was created by Samantha Lane.

Career Day

By: Hannah McCarthy and Jenna Falconite

On Wednesday April 22, the fifth through eighth grade students attended Career Day. Career Day is when several presenters come to the school and talk about their professions. From eight-thirty to twelve o'clock, each homeroom went around the school and listened to six different speakers. There were 13 presenters in total, each with different occupations. Career Day was a huge success, and the students enjoyed it. It is also a good way to get kids thinking what they want to do when they grow up. We would like to give a special thanks to the presenters: Mr. Eric Casaburi, Mr. Matt Celli, Mr. Derek Dodds, Mr. Jose Rivera, Mr. Tim Baggitt, Mr. John Esposito, Officer Muscarella, Mrs. Dawn Dupre-Kolis, Mrs. Christine Hanlon, Mrs. Tricia Hicks, Mrs. Stephanie Murray, Mrs. Mimi Torbitt, Mrs. Jairo Esteban, and Mr. Sean Naughton. They all did a great job!



Mrs. Hicks, a research microbiologist, presents bacteria to the 6^{th} graders.

A New Mayor in Middletown?

By: Christopher Scammacca

On May 18th 2015, a student of Saint Leo the Great became Mayor of Middletown! The student's name is Hunter Lane and he is in 6th grade. Hunter became Mayor at 1:40 p.m on May 18 and it ended on the next day at 1:40 p.m. Hunter took the oath of office which was administered by Mrs. Murray, the actual Mayor of Middletown. The entire 6th grade was present. Hunter was shown the police stations, an armory, and emergency room. Hunter also sat where the Mayor sits and went to a meeting at the Court House where he passed a new law. The law stated that vehicles that are more than 16000 pounds can't park on residential streets. Congratulations Hunter!

Birth Right

By: Emiley Sherman

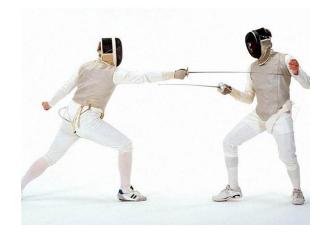
Did you know every eight seconds a baby is born somewhere in the world? Sounds really crazy, right? Sadly some of these newborn babies have no items that they need to stay clean, happy, and healthy. This happens because many of these new moms don't have enough money to pay for these things or they live in a very poor country. But there is a way to help these new moms and babies. Birth Right is an organization that donates the proper items they need. Saint Leo the Great was proud to announce a baby shower for Birth Right sponsored by Mrs. Devine's C.A.L.L. Club. The shower took place on Thursday May 21, 2015. Students were asked to donate diapers, baby clothes, baby wipes, and baby powder. Everyone enjoyed this event and the students hope we can have another one next year!



Fencing Clinic

By: Christopher Scammacca

Saint Leo the Great school offered a fencing clinic. This clinic was the result of a fencing presentation on March 27, 2015. Twenty students are participating in this program. The skills that you learn are walking, retreating, lunging, extending, stance and sword handling techniques. Classes are held on Monday and Wednesday. Participants wear white long pants, white long sleeved shirts, a glove, and a protective mask. The students are hoping that there will be a fencing team at Saint Leo the Great in the near future.



Grand Day

By: Hannah McCarthy

Grand Day was a day to spend time with grandparents and grand friends. This year the special day was held on May 1st. This was a busy day for the students. Grand day started out with 9:00 Mass. After Mass, the grand friends and grandparents went over to the AAC where a light breakfast was served. Following breakfast, they were allowed to go visit the students. Each teacher has something different prepared for the kids to do with their guests. For example, the third grade students put on a rainforest play for the grand friends and grandparents. After all the fun, some of the students left with their grandparents. Everyone enjoyed this special day!

Manners Luncheon

By: Cecilia Heidelberger

Every year the first and fifth grade students practice good etiquette at a luncheon. After a quick lesson to brush up their manners, the students begin eating the delectable food like young ladies and gentlemen. The first grade prepared in advance by making place mats in art class. These place mats help them to remember where each utensil is placed. With delicious food as a reward, students happily displayed proper behavior.

Science Circus

By: Brandon Sherman

On April 29th 2015, guests from the Liberty Science Center came to Saint Leo the Great to show how electricity works. They also performed experiments with balloons and liquid nitrogen. Some students also helped perform the experiments. Students from all grades represented protons, neutrons, and electrons and put on a show! Everyone learned about the atom as well. Students and staff of Saint Leo the Great alike enjoyed this one-of-a-kind presentation. Thank you to Liberty Science Center for this amazing opportunity to learn science in a new, exciting way!



Solomon's Temple

By: Christopher Scammacca

In Ms. Pomanowski's class the 6th grade built Solomon's Temple. Solomon's Temple was located in Jerusalem and it was built for the Ark of the Covenant (Ten Commandments). The rules for the contest were; each table decided as a group on the materials they needed. In class, the group shared ideas and built the Temple. Each person at the winning table received 10 points on their lowest grade. The winner of the contest was 6-C, Group 3. The table included Christopher Scammacca, Christopher Montefusco, Kevin Henderson, Nicole Shapiro, Caroline Schultz, and Brandon Sherman.



Christopher Scammacca, Christopher Montefusco, Kevin Henderson, Nicole Shapiro, Caroline Schultz, and Brandon Sherman beside their winning temple.

The Body of Christ

By: Jenna Falconite

For the past three weekends, the second graders received a very important sacrament. On Saturday May 2, May

9, and May 16, the second grade students of Saint Leo the Great School received First Communion. It was a very special day for everyone. The day started with the First Communion Mass in the church. The boys were dressed up in white or navy suits, and the girls had on beautiful white communion dresses!

The second graders started the mass by proceeding into the church. After the Gospel reading, Father John gave the kids a

special homily explaining that receiving communion isn't about the fancy clothes or gifts, it's about receiving Jesus in your heart. Now it was time to receive communion! The mass ended with the second graders singing a special song that they had learned for their families. Many families then concluded the special day with a party afterward. It was a great day for everyone to enjoy!

Mother's Day By: Ally Cisar

On May 8, 2015, the fifth grade Mother's Day Luncheon took place. First, they went to the church. They had a prayer service. There, the fifth grade read some tributes to their mothers. For the closing song, they sang, "Because You Love Me" by Celine Dion. During the Church Service, Father John spoke to the fifth graders and their mothers. Following the program in the Church, the students escorted their moms to the AAC, where the luncheon was served. During this part of the program, additional tributes were made and the event ended with a video presentation of the moms throughout their early lives. Everyone was dressed up and the enjoyed the day.



Marian Service

By: Jenna Falconite

Tuesday May 26, 2015 marked a special day for the second grade students at Saint Leo's. This was the day of the Marian Service, or May Crowning. A special ceremony honoring our mother Mary was held in the church at 10:00 am. Since the second graders had just received their First Holy Communion, they got to wear their communion outfits to school. The mass started off like any other, beginning with the second graders proceeding around the church in their communion outfits. After the homily, the second graders signed the Hail Mary with help from Ms. Miller. Then, three second grade students were chosen to crown the blessed mother. These three students were Alexander Mastroly, Vanessa Merendino and Michael Falconite. Other children had speaking parts in the ceremony as well. Everyone did a great job! Afterwards, the second graders changed out of their outfits and into their school uniforms. Later that day the first grade students congratulated the second graders with a card and a slice of cake. It was a very special day!



The entire second grade class after the ceremony.

High Note Band Festival

By: Sarah Magno

On Friday, May 15, 2015, five students representing Saint Leo the Great school participated in a band competition called the High Note Music Festival. The event took place at Saint Rose of Lima in Freehold. There were fifteen groups in total competing. We are proud to announce that our students placed second and earned the rating of superior. Our musical participants were: Joey Stanton, Jason Gentile, Andrew Kwapniewski, Gabe Noble, and Michael Rue. Michael and Andrew played the trumpet, Joey played the drums, and Gabe and Jason played the saxophone. This festival was under the direction of Mr. Ed Kelly who formed the groups for the competition. The band members invested many hours of practice, but it paid off in the end. Congratulations to all of the winners!



(From left to right) Jason Gentile, Andrew Kwapniewski, Gabe Noble, and Michael Rue.

Missing from picture: Joey Stanton

ADIOS MRS. BIANCO

By: Hunter Lane

On June 1, 2015, I had the amazing opportunity to interview the one and only Mrs.Bianco. The interview was conducted because Mrs. Bianco is retiring from Saint Leo the Great School at the end of the school year. Mrs. Bianco has taught for thirty six years. She has spent twenty one of them at Saint Leo's. Mrs. Bianco shared with me her plans for retirement. She hopes to learn Italian. She would also like to take a decorating class and she looks forward to eating ice cream whenever she likes. The students will miss her greatly. Mrs. Bianco is a great storyteller, a great Spanish teacher and a wonderful role model for all of the students of Saint Leo's. So, Mrs Bianco, we are happy for you and wish you the best in the years ahead. We also look forward to having you come back to substitute at our school. You will be missed greatly.

Vamos a echarte mucho de menos la Senora Bianco!



D.A.R. Contest 2015

By: Presley Ferullo

The students in grades 6th through 8th participated in an essay contest sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution, (D.A.R. stands for Daughters of the American Revolution). Saint Leo the Great students won awards in each grade. In 8th grade, Reece Horneck came in first place, Riley Plosica came in second place, and Ryan Nerney came in third place. In 7th grade the winner were Anna Thoresen, Patrick Larkin, and Joseph Stanton. In 6th grade, the winners were Payton Corvisero, Gabriella Mansour, and Jack Bennett. This year the subject of the essay was a child's view passing through Ellis Island. Each year, the students have a different historical topic. On April 13, 2015 the winners attended an award ceremony and were awarded certificates and medals. The first place winners in each grade read their essay at the ceremony. It is a great honor to be a winner of the D.A.R. essay contest.



All of the winners from this year's D.A.R. essay contest.

Save the Rainforest

By: Brenna Walsh

On Friday, May 1st, the 3rd graders put on a play about the rainforest. The play is filled with animals, costumes, and bright colors. This play is about animals teaching people how to save the rainforest. The play teaches us that the rainforest is a big part of our lives; it supplies us with half of the world's air, food, and medicine. The play was presented to the grandparents on Grandparents Day. The following week, the play was presented to the 2nd and 4th graders. The play is directed by Mrs. Farrar.



Let's Find a Cure

By: Hannah McCarthy

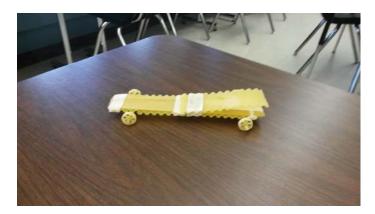
As some of you may know, Stanley Zolek, a fifth grade student, is active in finding a cure for Cystic Fibrosis. Researchers are still trying to find a cure for this illness. On May 30th and 31st, events were held in New York City to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis. Since we could not attend the events in New York, the fifth grade spoke with Mr. Begley about organizing a dress down day for the school to raise money. The colors for the dress down day were purple and white. Stanley also has his own website at <u>www.ilovestanleynyc.com</u>. The event was very successful and hopefully bringing us closer to a cure.



Pasta Racers

By: Emiley Sherman and Ally Cisar

The end of February, Mrs. Tyrrell's 7th grade science club had unleashed one weird race for the weirdest cars made from pasta. The cars were made from all types of pastes. The cars had to be able to roll around. The cars also had to roll down a ramp without stopping. The winner for this crazy competition was Patrick Larkin. His "pasta kart" was the fastest and won the race flawlessly. Congratulations Patrick!



Congratulations to the Class of 2015!

Good luck from the students and faculty of Saint Leo the Great School!



Did you know?

That the 7th grade is having a fiesta on June 9th? The 7th grade prepared many Mexican dishes and decorations. Let's get ready to party!