



## **At Saint Jerome School, these are some of the ways we lived our Mission this week...October 28, 2011**

### **Academic excellence**

Grade eight has worked as engineers over the past two weeks to go through the engineer process of designing and completing a model for a radioactive waste container. Miss Rubera has been commenting on all the time and effort they have put into this project. Some have come in early, others have stayed late. All have made an impression! They did their egg drop tests Thursday and everyone got to watch the second floor drop from their own class windows. Those that survived will try today from the third floor! More importantly, Ms. Rubera was so pleased to see them cheer each other on and congratulate each other.

In her words, "They were amazing! I think we have an all-star eighth grade this year!!!" I couldn't agree more!

Grade 1 is using graphic organizers to cover main idea and supporting details as part of their Collins writing lessons. This week they wrote 3 complete sentences about polar bears and drew pictures to support their sentences. Very impressive.

Also impressive was their Morning Meeting where Mrs. Santry was teaching them to make eye contact and a cheerful face when speaking to another person. Each child greeted two others as practice.

Miss Kreckie let me read the online essays written by Grade 6. As part of their Literature program student writing is submitted, evaluated and returned for updating until the deadline. The goal is to get a score of 4 and corrections can be made until the deadline. I'm asking Miss Kreckie if she will display some examples in the hall so that you all can read the detail and descriptions they created. Nice job, Grade 6!

The candidates for Student Government did a great job giving their speeches at our assembly on Friday. It is no exaggeration to say they were the best I have ever heard given here, reflecting preparation, thought and specific goals. We congratulate all who participated. You are winners simply because you participated in the process!

Congratulations to Michaila, Grace, Jack and Elizabeth on your victories. We know you will represent all of our students well.



### **Academic excellence, continued**

Our Lego Robotics team had a very informative session this week with Mrs. Cindy Rice, the owner of a food safety business. Mrs. Rice is often seen on TV and has written many articles on food safety and cross contamination. She came in to help the team discern the topic for their Robotics Project. Her assessment of the team members: “ They are great kids. They asked so many intelligent questions and really got into the layers of the issues. I was amazed at how well behaved they were.” Great to hear. You should be proud, Lego Lions!

### **Faith at the center of what we do**

The junior high students had their first dance last Friday and the DJ at the dance said they were "the easiest group of kids" she had ever worked with.” I like to remind the students that “today’s choices determine tomorrow’s opportunities.” Clearly, they are interested in enjoying many more opportunities. I thank you for reflecting your parents teaching and representing our school so well.

Several classes have enjoyed the two October Prayer services Grade 7 placed in the school chapel. In the last 2 days of October, I hope the other classes will have a chance to take a few minutes to visit the chapel and share these prayers as a class. Maybe you can be especially mindful of Charlotte Kelly and her family who need our prayers more than ever.

We are currently praying for Mrs. Plevock’s niece, Megan Delery, a friend named Eugene, members of the McDonough and Sheehan families, a school parent recently diagnosed and others on our prayer list. Please remember them daily.

### **Community through service**

The word service means to offer support through acts of kindness and generosity. There are so many people, students, parents and staff, who are always finding ways to make our school a better place...

Grade 1 received a kindness in return this week. If you remember a while back the first grade wrote letters to Captain Dan to let him know they are praying for him and his safe return. Well, this week Captain Dan sent them a picture of himself holding up their package thousands of miles away and the smile on his face tells how he feels. We’ll post it so you can all see for yourself the difference their letters made for him.

Thanks again to all who have brought in items for the food pantry, Angel’s Voice Orphanage and Costanza. We have boxes and bags filled with all the things that will make a difference for these organizations. They will come to know God’s goodness because they know you are here caring.



### **Community through service, continued**

A special shout-out to all who have joined our basketball teams, to Nadine Smith for being cast in 2 parts of the Boston Ballet's, The Nutcracker, to Megan Laurie for sharing the website she found for studying the Periodic Table ( [www.ptable.com](http://www.ptable.com) )and to our ELF folks for the really great Halloween crayons created from the recycled crayons you all donated to the cause and a "welcome back" to AJ Fama.

Your teachers share all the good things you do, sometimes as a class, sometimes as individuals. There is a saying that goes, "I can't hear what you say because your actions speak so loud." Your actions make me proud!

Thank you for the effort you put into being good kids and thank you for all the ways you find to live the Mission!

Have a goooooood weekend!  
Mrs. Puleo