



*Celebrating the 70th year
of Catholic education
of the whole child:
Spiritual, academic
emotional, intellectual,
physical and social.*

In This Issue:

From the Principal	1
Around Our School	2
Important Dates	3
From the Library	4
Beta Club News	4
HSA News	5
Halloween Carnival	6
JPII / Music	7
STEM	8-11
Athletics	12-14
Student Art	15-17

WILD AT UPDATE

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 1

SEPT. 2016

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

After twelve years as a principal, it is still amazing to me how quickly time flies in a school. We are already more than halfway through the first quarter—the seventieth school year for St. Peter Catholic School.

The year began with many changes, in faculty and staff, a new PreK-8 schedule, and the Middle School STEM/STREAM program in full operation. There are even signs of STEM planting its seeds in the lower school with many STEM activities going on in science and the adoption of a new K-5 math series. It is my desire to see the STEM program become fully integrated into the entire school over the next few years, so that we will be a STEM school for all students.

The Halloween Carnival is almost here, on October 27. As you know, this is one of our biggest fundraisers. It is so important that you give as much of your Time, Treasure, Talent to make this the most successful carnival ever. Last year, the proceeds from the carnival were used to update some of the school's aging infrastructure (internet, phone system, fire alarm and emergency system). We have not yet earmarked this year's carnival monies, but using it for special projects helps to keep our tuition at one of the lowest in the area. Thank you for your support of this fun event, and others throughout the year.

In closing, I want to thank you for making my first year at St. Peter a very enjoyable experience. I look forward to many more. SEE YOU AT THE CARNIVAL.

Sincerely,

Doug McMillan

AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Welcome back to school. Many new things are happening, and fall has already arrived. I don't think our NC weather got the memo yet! We especially want to welcome our new students and families. We are so glad you have chosen St. Peter Catholic School as your second home.

Mrs. Beth Overman has so generously agreed to publish our Wildcat Newsletter again this year. If you have any news, pictures, or announcements, please contact her at boverman@spscnc.net. We will continue producing it each quarter.

We have several new staff additions and changes. Maureen Nagler has returned to third grade after a five year retirement. Prior to 2011, she taught third grade here for eight years! We are so glad she has returned to the same classroom and is back teaching with Mrs. Godwin! Katie Howard is also teaching third grade, and Mrs. Dellasega has returned to third grade as her assistant. Carrie Everett is now teaching fifth grade, and Teri Beshara is the assistant for both fifth grades. Mary Hurdle is teaching Pre-K, and Susan Patrick is her assistant. Desiree Osta is Mrs. Baro's first grade assistant, Beth Overman is Mrs. Moloney's second grade assistant, and Isabel Randall is Ms. Diaz-Cobo's fourth grade assistant. Susan Angster is teaching seventh grade Language Arts and is also a part-time assistant in Middle School. Mary Catherine Christopher has moved to sixth and seventh grade math. Elizabeth Blount who has worn lots of teacher hats here for many years is back teaching K-4 Spanish. All of our new staff are or have been St. Peter parents. Mrs. Alexander is the new director of the lower school, and I am filling that space in Middle School.

We have implemented a new schoolwide schedule that follows an ABCD day pattern. It is working well, and the students are very excited. Every grade is assigned an AMPS period (Art, Music, PE, Spanish – also Computer and K-2 Library) which rotates once

every four days. This gives these classes more overall instruction time. Computer classes for K-5 will meet for two consecutive quarters, and Middle School will now have computer once every four days for the entire year. STEM/STREAM education has been completely integrated into the Middle School curriculum, and this new schedule allows for a STEM activity period each day. (see article about STEM)

Because of the new schedule, the lunch times have changed slightly. Grades 3-5 lunch begins at 11:40, K-2 lunch begins at 12:15, and Middle School lunch begins at 1:00. Please consider volunteering in the lunchroom. We have a new Aramark staff, and they really need the help!

Please continue to support our painless fundraisers such as Box Tops for Education, Capri Sun, and pop top tabs. The Campbell Soup label program has been discontinued. Remember to relink your Harris Teeter VIC card and your Target card to our school. Our HT school code is 2641.

Our new school logo on the uniform shirt and sweatshirt went in to complete effect this year. The old logos can no longer be worn. If you would like to donate your old shirts, you may drop them off at school. We have already sent several loads with organizations doing mission work abroad to those in need. Please do not donate them locally.

Morning drop-off and afternoon dismissal are running smoothly for the most part. Just a few reminders that in the morning, we follow the "stop and drop" rule. Do not ease up closer to the front doors. Oncoming cars are pulling into any available space in order to drop off students. Please DO NOT park in front of the school in the morning for any reason. In the afternoon, we follow the "ease up" rule. The staff member on sidewalk duty will give you direction about moving forward. Please use your blinker at all times to indicate your intention, (cont.)



(cont.) follow the correct turn route when leaving the pickup line, and use the crosswalk at all times. This is for the safety of our children!

Please get your children to school on time. The tardy bell rings at 8:00, and the day begins with morning prayer. Middle School no longer has a homeroom period, so 1st period begins promptly at 8:00. Keep the lines of communication open always by emailing, calling, or sending a note to your child's teacher. Check our website (live calendar) and Renweb for grades and assignments. We are in the process of updating our website. Talk to the teacher about any concerns you have. Just because you heard it on social media, doesn't make it true! The teacher is the FIRST line of communication. Teach your children to be respectful, responsible, resourceful, and to advocate for themselves. If you do, the other "three R's" will fall into place much easier! It is OK to let them make mistakes. That is the best way to learn! We have a wonderful staff who is always here to teach, nurture, and listen to your children, and they are always willing to work with you. Thank you for your continued support.

This is going to be the best year ever!

Page Watson
Assistant Principal



Important Dates

Oct. 3—7	IOWA Testing Grades 3-8
Oct. 21	End of 1st Quarter
Oct. 24	Picture Make-Up Day
Oct. 25	Report Cards
Oct. 27	Halloween Carnival
	1/2 Day of School
Oct. 28	No School
Oct. 31	All Saints Program
Nov. 2	Academic Breakfast
Nov. 14—18	History Day
Nov. 22	Grandparents' Day
Nov. 23—25	Thanksgiving Break

Lost and Found / Uniform Closet

We are always looking for people with a passion to fold!

This year should be easier as far as uniforms go with the new requirements and less volume, eventually.

That doesn't mean the Lost and Found closet won't need attention.

If you have a little time and don't mind folding pants and shirts, this is the volunteer opportunity for you!

Also---if you have uniform tops with the old logo and don't know what to do with them, bring them to the closet.

I have already taken 3 mini-van loads out of the area to be recycled, for the fibers, if nothing else.

Contact me if you have questions or to find out how to volunteer: Joanne Galinis



From the Library Media Center

Our September Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success with over \$10,000 in total sales. Thank you to the parent volunteers who helped make our week successful. The LMC realized a \$1972.00 cash profit and received \$762.00 in books from Scholastic. All the proceeds from the Book Fair will be used to purchase books for our Library Media Center. We thank all our families who encourage their children to read daily, we truly have a motivated group of readers at our school.

Many of our students are working on projects and are using a variety of print and non-print resources to research, compile, and present information.

Please encourage your SPS student to use the following resources:

[Alexandria Researcher](#) - our LMC catalog

[World Book Online](#) - Log-in ID: wbinfo, Password: wildcats

[PebbleGo](#) - Username: speter, Password: school

[AR Bookfinder](#) - search for AR reading levels and points

There are apps available that will allow you to scan bar-codes and search AR reading levels and points.

After the success of last year's Elementary Battle of the Books team, we are planning to sponsor a team this year. A group of 4th and 5th grade students are working to be among the 12 students chosen to join the 2016-17 team. We will announce the EBOB team members in an upcoming newsletter.

Beta Club News

"To Lead by Serving Others"

We are off to a great start with all our new National Jr. Beta Club members and officers. Congratulations to Faith Koesters - President, Jordan Taylor - Vice President, Phillip Walter - Secretary, and Noah Sampson - Treasurer. Our new members for 2016-2017 are Louisa Burch, Claire Crane, Gabriella Barnaby, Jerry Cox, London Cribari, Collin Delbridge, Erika Gorrin-Rivas, Savannah Jones, Carter Lamson, Juliana Laverde, Bella McMillan, Taylor Padgett, Delaney Stanton, Erin Stockwell, Grant Worthington, William Becker, Sydney Boyer, Sloan Carlson, Megan Flowers, Emma Hastings, Brighton Hou, Grace McCarthy, Ian Reiling, Britton Seymour, Ben Skahill, Hannah Smith and Madeline Smith. We congratulate our new members and we look forward to a wonderful Beta Club year! Our induction ceremony is September 29th at 9:00 am. Families of members are invited. Our year long project will be making sandwiches for the soup kitchen every Thursday. Our first big project will be our annual yard sale on October 22, 2016.. Please donate your "treasures" for our sale which helps to fund our rewards activities.

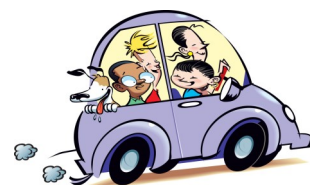


**Family Night at
the Book Fair!!**

Volunteers Needed!

**Please consider helping
with 4th Street morning
drop off, 7:30 - 8:00 either
one day per week or
every other week.**

**Contact Anne Kennedy
for more information:
awerrell@yahoo.com**



HSA NEWS

Thank you to everyone that came out for the Welcome Back Social in August. It was wonderful meeting new friends and connecting with old ones. We look forward to your continued support for our Dine Arounds, Pizza Bingo, and other painless fundraisers!

Are you looking for ways to get your volunteer hours? The HSA has many opportunities for you! We are looking for a few more people to help with 4th Street Drop Off and Pizza Bingo in the Spring. Math Stars and Capri Sun collection also need people to shadow the current committee member this year, so it can be taken over next year.

Contact Amy Klingensmith, HSA President for more information.

252.258.3106

amykrealtor@outlook.com

THANK YOU!

Thanks to the HSA for the ice cream party for the faculty and staff at the recent faculty meeting. It was very much appreciated by all!!!

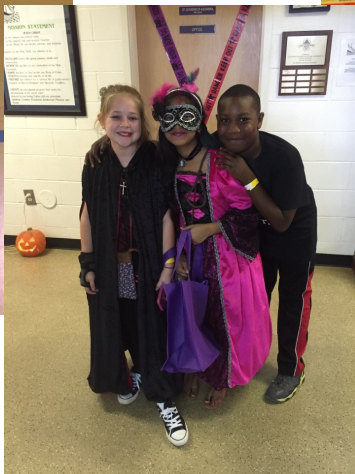
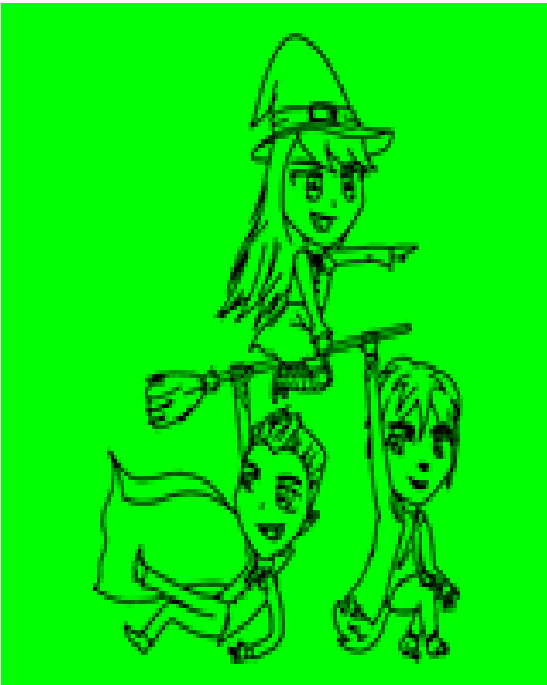


Halloween Carnival

Thursday, October 27 3:30 –8:00PM

**Costume Contest, Carnival Games, Inflatables, Music,
Auction & More!!**

The Halloween Carnival is more than just a fundraiser for the school. It is memories in the making. It is tradition. It is an evening of fun for everyone. This year, be ready for a super-sized silent auction, a Magic Show performance by SPS parent Brian Walsh, new inflatable fun, a Halloween Costume Contest, a Classroom Door Decorating Contest, Simply Natural Creamery, Pattycakes Cupcakery and of course all your returning favorites such as Donna's Animal Adventure, the cake walk, the country store and more. We would love cash sponsors, auction donors, country store crafters and volunteers to contact Erin Greenleaf at erinconnolly@aol.com. THANK YOU!



Fun at Last Year's Carnival!!





Attention all K-2 Parents! The K-2 Music Program will be on Tuesday, December 13th, at 7:00pm. Please mark this on your calendar and do everything you can to attend. If your child is unable to attend for any reason, they will have a make-up assignment to complete. Thank you for making this a special event for your child!

John Paul II Catholic High School has kicked off it's 7th year of Academic Excellence! We are excited to operate as a fully accredited high school on our Academic Campus on 14th St. This year we added 2 new electives to our list of courses - Psychology and Anatomy and Physiology. We will be administering the PSAT, SAT, and ACT on our own campus this year for the first time ever! Our fall sports teams are working hard and boasting solid records, and our winter teams are already conditioning for their sports. We hope to introduce a JP II baseball team this spring! The JP II staff and students celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit with Bishop Burbidge on September 7th! It was a great day for all involved!



On Friday, September 16th, the Four Seasons Chamber Ensemble performed a concert for students in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade and their parents. It was a lovely concert where students interacted with musicians from around the world (the farthest being from China). Some parents and students received complimentary tickets to their full concert later that evening. For a schedule of upcoming Four Seasons Concerts look on their website :

www.ecu.edu/fourseasons.





STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

We are excited to inaugurate our STEM/STREAM initiative at St. Peter Middle School for the 2016/2017 school year. We have worked very hard as a staff and school community to put this program in place for students in grades 6-8. We could not have done this on our own and are grateful for several corporate sponsors who are supporting our STEM program and future STEM projects.

We will feature two teams this year that will compete using their STEM skills. Our First Lego League robotics competition will be November 5, 2016. A group will also compete in North Carolina Science Olympiad on February 25. Both of these teams will have the opportunity to participate in regional and state level competition.

Along with our competitive teams we have also added designated STEM activities that take place during the school day. These activities are put together to engage and excite the students in the different areas of STEM. Some of these activities include Lego designs and engineering, environment awareness and composting, horticulture, debate, and community service. We have had tremendous support throughout the community including partnering with the Greenville Police Department in order to provide some hands on forensics opportunities to our students throughout the year.

Recently we were named as one of the finalist schools for the new Google Virtual Reality Campus that will provide virtual reality based field trips to our students. If we are selected, then we will be able to observe the Coral Reef through this program for free. Keep your fingers crossed in hope that we are chosen! All of this is possible through the support of parents, individuals, and corporations in our community.

Your continued efforts to help support the STEM program are a direct investment in the future of our students. It is our goal to be a fully funded STEM program, allowing us to be able to provide quality STEM education to our students regardless of enrollment and other budget constraints. It is through your help that we are able to get closer and closer to our goal every day.

Currently the STEM program has raised \$5000.00!
THANK YOU! If you your corporation, or business would like to be a STEM supporter for St. Peter Catholic School, please feel free to contact me at klawson@spcsnc.net

Thank you,

Kate Lawson

STEM Coordinator



Everything Green STEM group gardening with Mrs. Fowler.



Thank You to Our



Dr. Jonathan Workman

Eastern Carolina E-N-T Head & Neck Surgery

**EASTERN CAROLINA
FOOT  ANKLE
SPECIALISTS**

Dr. Christopher Gauland



Educational
Sponsor



Hogan Enterprises

The DeVente Family

MR. JOHN BELL III

STEM Sponsors!!



WiredCats

FIRST Lego League Robotics

Robotics at St. Peter School has had a great start this year. We have two middle school teams, each with ten enthusiastic members! In the true spirit of St. Peter School, our teams are named "WiredCats Blue" and "WiredCats Green."

FIRST is a New Hampshire-based organization that joined forces with the LEGO Group to create an alliance called, "the FIRST LEGO League (FLL)." As mentioned on FLL's website, "FIRST LEGO League encourages children to design, construct, and program their own intelligent inventions. This allows them not only to understand technology, but to become masters of it." FIRST is an acronym that means "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology".

FLL hosts competitions each year at regional, state, and world wide levels. The organization has a global impact on STEM learning. The three main components of the FLL competition are the robot game, the STEM innovation/solution project, and the "core values". The FLL core values are the following:

We are a team.

We do the work to find solutions with guidance from our coaches and mentors.

We know our coaches and mentors don't have all the answers; we learn together.

We honor the spirit of friendly competition.

What we discover is more important than what we win.

We share our experiences with others.

We display Gracious Professionalism® and Coercition® in everything we do.

We have FUN!



The skill sets that an FLL team develops are varied, and include EV3 robot programming, Lego Technic robot design and construction, the ability to use STEM concepts creatively for developing solutions to problems, presentation skills, leadership skills, research skills, art/design skills, and the ability to work cooperatively and interdependently with others in a group. FLL team members can gain tremendous engineering experience at an early age.

During five summer sessions in August of 2016, our participating students learned how to build and program robots, as well as how to successfully accomplish robot tabletop challenges using color, touch, and ultrasonic sensors! I am grateful to Dr. Rob Hochberg, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Director of Computer Science at the University of Dallas (a Catholic University), for sharing his expertise with us. He said that he was particularly impressed with how quickly our students learned, solved challenges, and how well they worked together as a team. Dr. Rob Hochberg is the husband of Dr. Valerie DeBellis, my co-coach for both of our robotics teams. Dr. DeBellis's previous experience as an FLL coach and her selfless dedication to our FLL teams have benefited our program enormously.

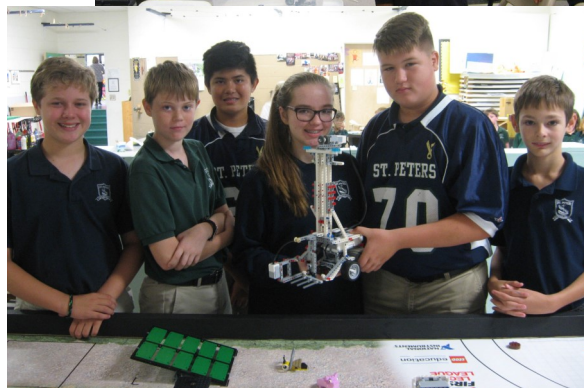
This year's challenge, Animal Allies, was released on August 30th. Since then, FLL practice has been held daily in the art room after school until 4:45 PM. Each team has usually been practicing three afternoons per week. We plan on registering to compete in a regional competition at South Central High School on Saturday, November 5th.

Continued...



WiredCats Blue

1. William Becker
2. Nate Hasselbach
3. Elizabeth Hochberg
4. Carter Lamson
5. Ryan Moloney
6. Jason Napast
7. Jeremiah Reid
8. Ian Reiling
9. Jackson Schreiber
10. Phillip Walter



**Both teams
coached by:**

John Bell

Dr. Valerie DeBellis

WiredCats Green

1. Lincoln Bond
2. Connor Gay
3. Hans Guillen
4. Lauren Hodgson
5. Brighton Hou
6. Luis Limon
7. David Nguyen
8. Stuart O'Connor
9. Elliana Proctor
10. Alexander Turner

Both teams listed alphabetically



WILDCAT ATHLETICS

Wildcat Football

kicks off the
season!!!

Remaining Schedule:

October 5th SPS at Bath 4:30PM
October 12th SPS at Northeast 5:00PM
October 19th Chocowinity at SPS 4:30PM
October 26th Bath at SPS 4:30PM



WILDCAT ATHLETICS

Volleyball

Upcoming Schedule:

Tuesday, Oct. 4 SPS at Snowden 4:00PM
Wednesday, Oct. 5 SPS at IOP 4:00 PM (JV only)
Thursday, Oct. 6 SPS at Bath 4:00PM
Tuesday, Oct. 11 SPS at Bear Grass 4:00PM
Wednesday, Oct. 12 St Paul at SPS 4:00PM
Thursday Oct. 13 NEC Prep at SPS 4:00PM
Friday, Oct. 14 Tournament at Annunciation
Tuesday, Oct. 18 SPS at NEC Prep 4:15PM
Thursday, Oct. 20 SPS at Washington Montessori 4:00PM



Our Volleyball teams have already
began play with several matches
including a Spike it For Life event
on Sept. 23.



WILDCAT ATHLETICS

Cross Country Off and Running!!!

Our Cross Country team has already competed in 5 events! There are 2 scheduled races remaining in our season.

Thursday, Oct 6 at Unity Christian

Thursday, Oct. 13 at St. Peter (JP II field)

Good luck to all our runners!!!



A pair of St. Peter's cross country runners earned individual honors last Saturday in the ECU Pirate Invitational at Lake Kristi. Ethan Kennedy finished fourth in a boys field of 61 runners, covering the 2-mile course in 13:21.11, and Grace McCarthy was fifth among 42 girls in 14:59.83. Twelve schools were represented, with St. Peter's finishing third among boys and fifth among girls. Other Wildcats running were Harrison Ershadi, Andrew Gallagher, Dawud Waqas, Patrick Kennedy, Gracie Kean, Sara Scarborough, Maggie Geiger and Jessica Corley.

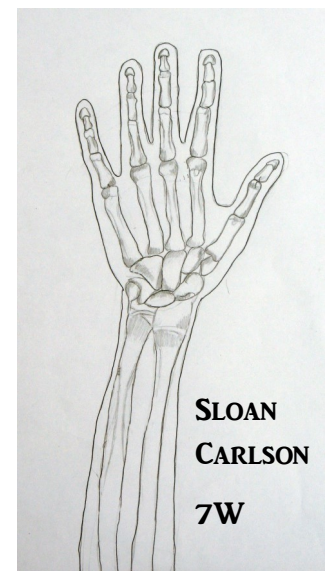
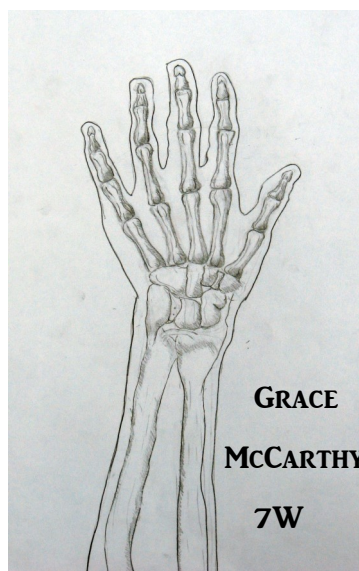
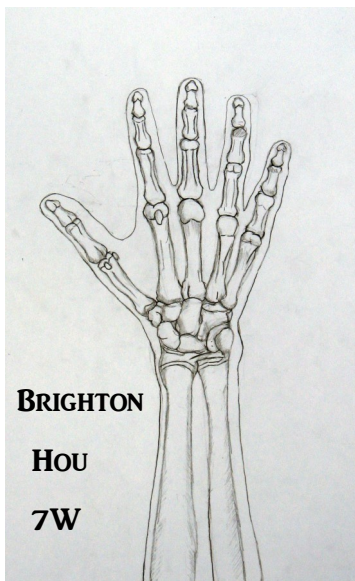
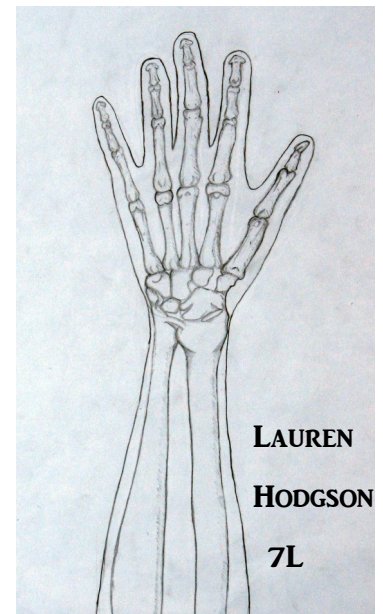
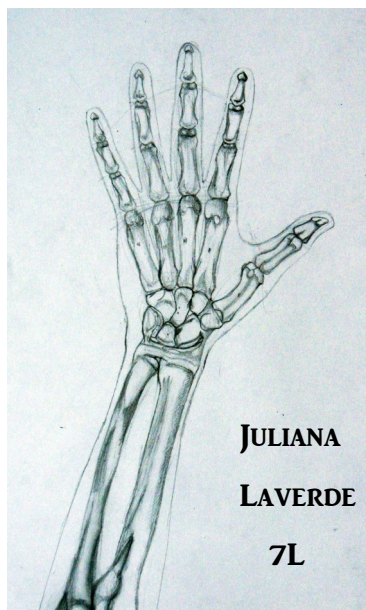
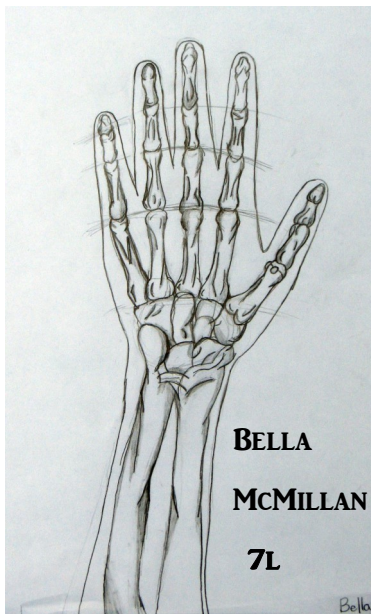
Also this weekend Madeline Smith ran the Riley's Army 5k Sunday. She placed 2nd in the 12 & under girls race.





Hand and Forearm Bones by 7th graders Pencil on Paper

These drawings serve as the basis for either paper/wire sculptures or computer-aided design models of hands and forearms. This art project is the engineering component of a seventh grade science unit on the anatomy and physiology of the human hand. *This is part of our interdisciplinary STEM collaboration between the visual arts program and middle school science.*

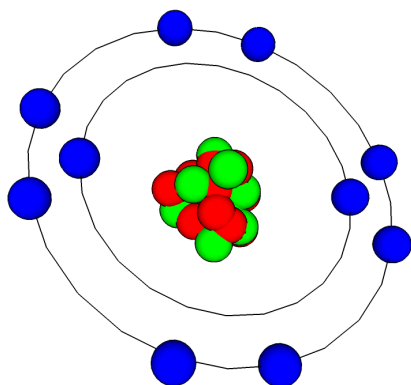




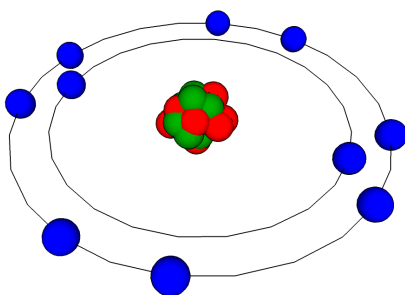
Bohr Models of Neon Atoms by 8th graders

Created with Sketch Up computer-aided design (CAD) software

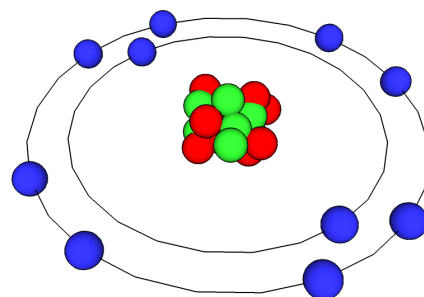
Students learned techniques for creating virtual 3D models of neon atoms by following a set of instructions. Students will then use these techniques to create CAD models of atoms of elements that they are researching in their eighth grade science classes. *This is part of our interdisciplinary STEM collaboration between the visual arts program and middle school science.*



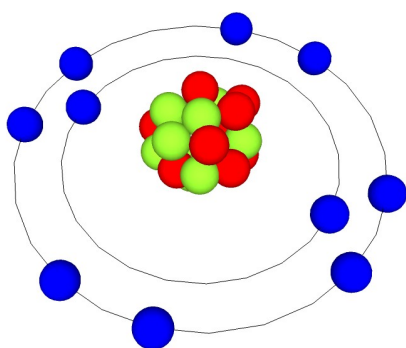
Ethan Kennedy 8B



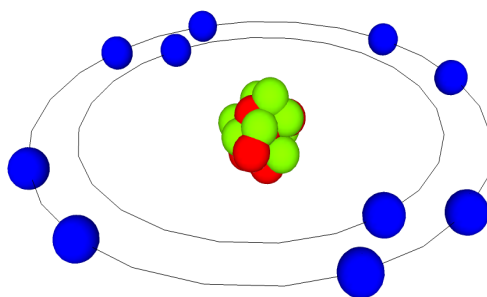
Hans Guillen 8B



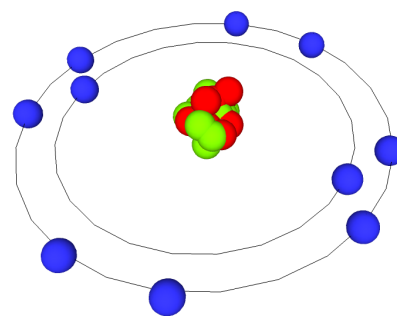
Noah Sampson 8B



Ryan Moloney 8B



Faith Koesters 8H



Hayli Modlin 8H





3D Prints of Churches with Cruciform Ground Plans by 6th graders (finished in May 2016)

Students created church drawings with Sketch Up computer-aided design (CAD) software and then printed their work on our Makerbot Replicator Mini 3D printer.



William Becker 7W



Jason Napast 7L



Ian Delamere 7W



Connor Gay 7W

