



# The Cavalier

The newspaper created by the students of  
St. Pius X Regional School, Bowie, Maryland

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## Winter Edition 2011-2012

# The One World Center for Autism

 By Lauren Baker, 6C

This year, 6C has chosen as their outreach program to donate to The One World Center for Autism. The One World Center for Autism supports kids with autism as well as their families. This center has many activities such as movie nights where kids with autism and their families get to watch movies. The lights are kept on and the sound is turned down to create a more

comfortable environment for the kids. During Advent, 6C students requested monetary donations from relatives for the center. With their donations, 6C promised in return to pray for their special intentions during our prayers.

In the beginning of the year, Mr. Hammett gave out a wish-list for The One World Center for

Autism. Throughout the year, 6C will continuously donate items off the wish-list. So far, 6C has donated items like a mini keyboard, baking pans, a soccer ball, school supplies, and hand sanitizers. Hopefully, we will continue to get plenty of donations so that we may continue to make a strong impact on families and kids with autism.

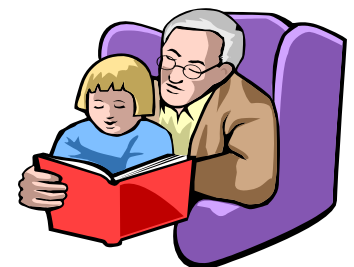
# The Grand Grandparents' Day!

 By Chris Mumola, 3A

The third grade celebrated Grandparents' Day on Friday, November 18. On Grandparents' Day, my aunts came to school for a visit because my grandparents could not attend. Still, we had loads of fun together. First, we

had a small breakfast. Then, I interviewed my aunts. They told me about their favorite place to take a vacation, the Outer Banks, and that there are too many fast food restaurants. And before that we attended a prayer service in

the church. Finally, we played bingo at Father Nelson Hall. We all had a blast that day!



## 5th Grade Helps the Troops By Maari Lowe, 5A

**“This spring, the fifth grade plans to send more care packages and letters to Bravo Battery.”**

On December 2, the fifth grade mailed Christmas cards, letters, and packages to Bravo Battery in Afghanistan. Joe Muldoon, a St. Pius X alumni, mailed the 5<sup>th</sup> grade a letter asking us to send things to him and his army troop that weren't easy to buy in Afghanistan. Things they asked for included

shaving cream, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste and soap. Fifth grade was happy to help and collected six boxes of goods to send to the troops. The troops received our packages on December 23, just in time for Christmas! This spring, the fifth grade plans to send more care packages and letters to

Bravo Battery.

Every fifth grader enjoyed helping our troops and looks forward to sending more gifts and letters that will put a smile on the faces of the people that sacrifice every day for their country and for us.

## 1B Outreach By Gianna Robey and Renee Rodgers, 7C

Prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, 1B participated in an outreach program. This

program consisted of the students donating canned goods and non-perishable food

items. These food items were donated to the St. Pius X food pantry.

**4B Skypes with The Little Yellow School House in Isla Mujeres, Mexico.**

## The Little Yellow School House By Kyra Farley, 4B

This year, Mrs. Heller's class charity outreach organization is The Little Yellow School House located in Isla Mujeres, Mexico. 4B was able to Skype them and join them during their Christmas party! It was very different from our party. They were in summer clothes and had a very small school.

As part of our outreach, we made beautiful Christmas cards for the children. Our class had our own special tag-day. To participate, we had to bring in at least one dollar. We raised \$110.62! I hope the donation and cards we made will make a difference at The Little Yellow School House.



# Donation to AAMC

By Jacqueline Friskey, 6A

As many of you read in the previous edition of the *Cavalier*, Mrs. Kalkbrenner's class held a "Kupcakes for Kids" fundraiser where many students purchased a cupcake made by the families from 6A. After all the 600 cupcakes were sold, Mrs. Kalkbrenner counted all the money. 6A was amazed to discover that they raised \$189.75! The class was planning to use this money to purchase items to make activity packets for the ill children and his or her siblings at the Pediatric Department of Anne Arundel Medical Center. However, the kind donations of items for the activity packets by the parents of 6A, particularly Mrs. Jeletic and Mrs. Friskey, enabled 6A to



create the activity packets and donate the entire proceeds of \$189.75 to the Pediatric Department.

On December 15, 2011, Mrs. Kalkbrenner's class met in Nelson Hall and assembled 54 activity packets. Each student in the class wrote two get well notes and decorated the outside of the cards. The students assembled two activity packs each putting inside the note, an activity book from NASA, a notebook, crayons, playing cards, and a foam snowman kit.

The day our school let out for Christmas vacation, Mrs. Bradford and Mrs. Reis took Ethan Bradford, Owen Bradford, and Leah Reis to Anne Arundel Medical Center to deliver the packages and a check from our bake sale for the class. Mrs. Kalkbrenner and her class hope that the children at Anne Arundel Hospital enjoy the activities.

Classroom 6A would like to thank everyone who purchased a cupcake or donated to our class project.

## C 8th Grade Help CCPC

By Olivia Davis, 8C

On November 18, 2011, the eighth graders collected, packed, and carried 50 bags of food and 50 turkeys to CCPC. This food was going to be distributed to homeless people for their Thanksgiving dinner. As we walked to CCPC, my hands were cold

from the turkey, but I was hot from the walk. When we arrived at our destination, the people were excited for our deliveries. The faces of those accepting our donations made me realize the importance of this service project.

I learned from this outreach project that I need to be active and volunteer if I want to make a difference in our community. I will never forget this experience and will continue to do service throughout the rest of my life.

## A Look into Pre-K By Emma Bigony, 7C

When you walk into the Pre-K room, you will see the future of St.Pius. Believe it or not, the kids in Pre-K all want to be teachers. Some are dedicated to teach princesses, whereas others to teach swimming or just regular school. They have an inventive imagination.

The students are looking forward to kindergarten. To prepare for this step, they are currently learning the alphabet. They can also count to ten. Mrs. Bryant greatly enjoys teaching the kids. She has been teaching at St. Pius for nine years.

At school, each class has taken up a charity or foundation to do a service

project. The father of a student in Pre-K is serving overseas in Afghanistan. Pre-K is making meals and cards for this family.

Mrs. Allman's class enjoys the adventures of school.

## KA - An Adventure By Meaghan Ryan, 8A

The KA kids are busy! They are working on handwriting in their new copybooks. A lot of them earned a "Wow" grade. They are writing and drawing pictures in their creative writing books. The challenge of learning to read and write is inspiring them to work harder. In math, they are working on comparing numbers up to twenty. The kids love doing science labs. They

especially like the labs they did on shadows, magnets, pendulums, and gravity. But their all-time favorite lab was making ice cream.

The KA students were busy the last couple of months. They had a lot of fun at their Halloween parade and searching for a gingerbread. Their Christmas play was a success. They learned a lot on their trip to the

aquarium, and had a fun and exciting field trip to the Air and Space Museum at the end of the month.

KA is having so much fun this year. It is hard for them to say what the best thing was. They have all made a lot of friends. Mrs. Allman's class enjoys the adventures of school.

## KB A Trip to the Aquarium By Mrs. Kucevich

The Pre-K and kindergarten went to the Baltimore Aquarium in December. We saw amazing aquatic creatures, which included stingrays, sharks and many jellyfish.

Beautiful fish swam by us as we looked in amazement. We also saw the dolphin show, which was wonderful and very entertaining. Finally, we went to the 4D short

showing of the Polar Express. In the 4D movie, we could smell hot chocolate and feel falling snow. Both the students and the adults had a great time on our field trip to the Baltimore Aquarium.



# 1A's Christmas Play

By Faith Akinboywa, 6B and Lauren Baker, 6C

1A told us about their Christmas play when we spoke to them a few weeks ago. Mrs. Seppi practiced with them and taught them about the true meaning of Christmas.

On December 19, they performed the play for their parents, teachers, and grandparents. Their favorite parts were when the angel visited the shepherds, when the three

kings visited baby Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, and when the class sang "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

# 1B's Thanksgiving Feast

By Gianna Robey and Renee Rodgers, 7C

On the Monday before Thanksgiving, the first graders and their teachers had a Thanksgiving feast in Nelson Hall. Other attendees of the feast were parent helpers, Mrs. Liberati, and Mr. Mike Mulroy. At the feast, the students ate mashed potatoes,

turkey, corn, stuffing, macaroni and cheese, oranges, grapes, apples, salad, rolls, apple pie, pumpkin pie, brownies, cake, and cupcakes. The students drank apple juice and fruit punch. They wore pilgrim hats along with pumpkin necklaces which said "Give Thanks." All

of them enjoyed the feast. They will miss it next year when they move onto second grade.



# 2B's Thrilling Events

By Rakshita Ganjoo, 8B

2B has done many thrilling events so far this year. Kids enjoy themselves in activities which include art, recess, and PE. Children have enjoyed doing projects, reading books, and talking with their classmates.

The students of 2B are kind to each other throughout the day. They boast about their classmates as they tell about the many actions of kindness taken by them. One child proudly told how his friend let him get in the

very front of the line.

The students love reading. They confidently told me about Martin Luther King Jr., as they had just finished reading a book about him. They not only take an interest in informative books, but also are fond of historical fiction items such as *The Magic Tree House* series. *The Magic Tree House* series tells about a brother and sister who go back in time to an important event in history to discover its many underlying secrets.

The class of 2B also took time

to learn about and create maps. Many students took an ardent interest in this as it included artistic as well as scholarly skills. Children also did some entertaining projects, such as making angels and gingerbread houses.

Mrs. Hampton is the fun and passionate teacher of 2B. Her students could not stop praising her kindness and her fun teaching methods. They were sure no other teacher in the world is as "awesome" as Mrs. Hampton!



## Reading to Pre-K by Kylie Dick, 3B

On most Fridays, 3B goes to read to the Pre-K class. This third grade class loves reading to the Pre-K class. They like hearing us read to them and having us be with them. It's fun reading to them because they really like books.

They are really smart too. They can read some of the words in the books. They are really good at identifying the animals' names in the story. The teacher pairs us up with one Pre-K student. Sometimes, there are extra 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

students. Then, a Pre-K student gets two 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. The two third graders take turns reading to them. I hope Pre-K enjoys our visits!

## Beginner Band's 1st Concert By Sara Stewart, 4A

On December 13, the Beginner Band played for the 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders. We were all very nervous for our first concert. The six songs we played were titled "At Pierott's Door", "Hot

Cross Buns", "Lightly Row", "Mary Had a Little Lamb", "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star", and lastly, our Christmas song, "Jingle Bells".

We performed again at 1:15 for the Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

This time, it was less unnerving.

Later that evening, we played for our parents. I took a fancy bow at the end. It was the best day ever!

## 4A's Cards for the Homebound By Justin Jacobs, 4A

Mrs. Connolly's 4A class is working on a special project this year. We are making cards for the homebound. Each month, we draw pictures and write words of encouragement to people who cannot leave their homes. We make cards with holiday themes and we put a lot of thought into each one. In one month's time, we were

able to complete ninety-five cards!

When the cards are ready, priests from local parishes deliver them to homebound people. Some of these people are elderly, sick, or injured.

Recently, Monsignor Parry stopped by our classroom to tell us how much the homebound residents appreciated our cards. His words made us

realize how much of an impact we made. As fourth graders, we are grateful for all that we have. We are happy that our messages are bringing smiles to the faces of people who are less fortunate.

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## Gingerbread Houses

By Julie Le, 4C

All of the 4<sup>th</sup> graders went down to Nelson Hall to make gingerbread houses for our Christmas celebration. Everyone made different house designs. There were a lot of things we could use to decorate the houses.

There were many candies, including gumdrops, Hershey Kisses, pretzels, mints, candy canes, and M & M's. Everybody worked very hard on their gingerbread houses.



## 5B's Extraordinary Activities

By Samantha Garner, 5B

5B has done some extraordinary things this quarter. In Mrs. Estrada's class, we made poinsettias out of paper and hung them in the fourth grade hallway for awhile. The next big thing was our class Christmas party. One fun activity we did was

each table got to decorate one person from their table like a Christmas tree. When our time was up for decorating, there was a contest for the best tree.

On January 10, Mr. Jeletic, a worker for NASA and a father of children who go to St.

Pius, brought in two different telescopes to look at the sun. On that day, for science lab, each fifth grade class got to go outside and see the sun through a special telescope. I hope that 5B has many more exciting adventures.

**"I hope that 5B has many more exciting adventures."**

## Diary of a Wimpy Kid Web-Cast

By Joseph Mumola and Alex Flores, 5C

Over 40 students showed up in the library to see a pre-recorded webcast featuring University of Maryland alumni, Jeff Kinney. The event included popcorn, soda, candy, free raffle for books, and Wimpy Kid gear. Items included at the raffle were Maryland basketball posters, posters for the movie, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days*, and books. The grand

prize was an autographed copy of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*.

Jeff Kinney started out the webcast with stories from his childhood and told how his ideas became the *New York Times* bestseller series, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. He then talked about his new book, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*. The book was

released the day they recorded the webcast. The author also took questions while they showed photos from the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* movies. Afterwards, they introduced Robert Capron and Zachary Gordon. These were the child stars that portrayed Rowley and Greg from the movies. Capron said Rowley's hair in the movie is a wig!

# A Pet Rock Parade

By Jordan Jeletic, 6A



The 6th grade pet rock parade was very fun. It was an optional science project. If you had a rock in the parade, you got some extra credit points. It was fun because we got to design and make a pet rock look however we wanted. It was also enjoyable because we only knew what our pet rock looked like until everybody else presented his or hers. After they were presented, we saw several different

looking rocks. Not only did we see what the different rocks looked like, but we also learned many different facts about them. A few facts we learned were where the rock was found, how long the person presenting has had it and what type of rock it is. Even though not everybody had a pet rock in the parade, we all enjoyed having laughs when we saw certain pet rocks and seeing how people made theirs. It “rocked!”

**EDGE is a fun youth group where children in sixth to eighth grade from St. Pius, public schools, and home-schools go to learn about God and hang out with their friends..**

# Edge Nights

By Ann Marie Hines. 6C

Every other Tuesday is the best day of the week. These days are Edge nights. EDGE is a fun youth group where children in sixth to eighth grade from St. Pius, public schools, and home-schools go to learn about God and hang out with their friends. One of my friends told me about it, and I decided to try it out. To be perfectly honest, I did not think that it would be that fun. When I got there, I realized that I was completely wrong.

Nelson Hall was dark and a projector saying the words “Holy Spirit,” was reflecting onto the wall. I saw a table set up with M&M’s in a bowl and some straws sticking out of Styrofoam blocks. I was a little nervous but soon, I was hanging out with a bunch of people I had never known before. The leader of EDGE came out and explained the game we would play. She explained that we would play “Minute to Win It.” Our directions were to suck an M&M up through a straw, walk

to the three straws in the Styrofoam and drop it on the other straw without it falling. The winner was a seventh grader at St. Pius who did it in 11 seconds. Shortly after, we went to the church and read scripture. We then went to small groups and saw that we had a really soft ST. JOHNS blanket on the ground. Mrs. Neitzey was our group leader. We discussed the scripture and did a small activity, and then packed up and waited for our rides home. I knew right away that I would be coming back!

## A Christmas Carol

By Renee Rodgers, 7C

Before break, seventh grade had an interesting way of celebrating Christmas. In Reading and English, our teacher, Mrs. Gamble, had us complete a project based on the story *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. *A Christmas Carol* is a story about a miser in the Victorian Era who learns to be generous. The first stage in the project was to research four categories of the Victorian Era: history, fashion, etiquette, sports and leisure. We completed our research in class and at home. In that time period, we were supposed to gather all the information we needed to write two paragraphs, complete a

poster, and create an individual presentation that we would work on with our group of four later in the project. After we gathered our information, we shared it with our group.

Next, we started working on our poster. It needed ten pictures with captions and at least 20 facts. We had four class periods to complete our poster. After we completed our poster, we needed to write two paragraphs in which most of our facts would be found. We had two days to write our paragraphs.

Our last step to complete the project was to present all of what we had learned. We had to make a speech as if we were a

character from the book. Our presentation was supposed to be about three minutes, and we could even dress up like our character. After the presentations, it was party time. We literally had a Victorian-style party. We ate ginger snaps and scones and drank apple cider. We also made a Victorian craft, an Orange-Clove Pomander, which was an orange with cloves. This project took a lot of preparation, but in the end, all of us enjoyed the project and we surely had a "Charles Dickens Christmas."



## Christmas Cheer

By Elise Mack, 6C

During the month of December, St. Pius celebrated in several ways. During the week of the Christmas Bazaar, everyone is excited. On our shopping day, we purchase gifts for family and friends. We have the opportunity to win prizes at the raffle table and get to enjoy snacks such as

candy and nachos. The middle school students escort the younger classes at the bazaar to help them select gifts for their family members.

Within our classrooms we enjoyed watching Christmas movies, making ornaments, playing Christmas games,

decorating the Jesse Tree, and celebrating in our class parties. In 6C, we donated to the Giving Tree and the One World Center for Autism. The hallways and the classrooms at St. Pius are definitely filled with Christmas cheer in December!

# The Road to High School

By Rachel Stewart, 8A



This is an exciting last year for eighth graders because of Hershey Park, graduation, and more. But where are we all going next year? At the beginning of the year, eighth graders had to start thinking about where they would like to go to school next year. Eighth graders went to open houses at many of the high schools.

After going to the open houses, students shadowed their favorite schools. Shadowing is when eighth graders spend a day at the high school of their choice and walk around

with a freshman so that they can observe a typical day of high school. Shadowing helps students narrow down their choices about the schools.

There are certain things eighth graders have to do to get into their high school of choice. Eighth graders need to send in a lot of paperwork, and work very hard to complete applications that include questionnaires and essays. By putting effort and long hours of work into the essays, high schools get to know you better, rather

than just looking at your grades.

Some eighth grade students are applying to get into special programs. They may have to write an additional essay, have another interview for the program, or take another test.

Interviews at high schools have begun. Soon letters of acceptance will arrive. The eighth graders are anticipating them eagerly.

## An Interview with Monsignor Parry

By Gianna Robey, 7C

Monsignor Parry is the pastor at Sacred Heart Church, where he has been a priest for almost thirteen years. Monsignor's favorite thing about being a priest is celebrating the Mass and other sacraments, as well as teaching about the Word of God. He has been a priest for almost 31 years, and has taught religion for 30 years. He teaches the third and seventh grades here at

St. Pius. Before teaching at St. Pius, Monsignor taught at St. Peter's in Waldorf, St. Bernard's in Riverdale, St. Joseph's in Beltsville, and St. Mark's in Hyattsville.

Monsignor is teaching about the life of St. John Vianney to the third grade and the Acts of the Apostles to the seventh grade. When Monsignor is teaching, he enjoys helping

and encouraging the students to do what is right. Monsignor Parry also enjoys being with the students and watching them grow up. For Monsignor, the hardest thing about teaching is grading the students' work.

When Monsignor is teaching, he enjoys helping and encouraging the students to do what is right.

# My First Christmas Bazaar

By Chigemezu Uzoukwu, 6C

On December 9, 6th grade students bought gifts for Christmas at the Christmas Bazaar. Later, the middle school students took the lower grade students to the bazaar to help them shop. Taking the

younger students around the bazaar was exciting for both the older and younger students. There was a raffle station where you purchased raffle tickets to enter to win items like toys, gift certificates, and

games. As this is my first year at St. Pius, I enjoyed this very special event.



# Our Last Christmas Bazaar

By Elizabeth Allen, 8B

This year, the eighth graders were welcomed to the Christmas Bazaar in a new and interesting way. Some of the eighth graders' parents, those who had volunteered to work the bazaar, lined up and formed an arch for them to go under. The eighth graders simultaneously laughed and groaned with embarrassment as they passed under the hands of all of the familiar faces.

Christmas music permeated the air as the parents went back to their tables and the bazaar began. Soon chatter and laughter could be heard as well. It was a cheerful atmosphere for the last Christmas Bazaar the eighth graders will ever attend. The bazaar was a time for hanging out with friends, buying gifts, eating food, and last but not least, taking pictures with Santa. It gave eighth graders time to embrace the Christmas spirit and prepare for

the holidays.

The Christmas Bazaar ended too quickly. The last Christmas Bazaar was a fun time for all and only one of the things eighth graders will have to see the end of in the coming months. This tradition will be missed when the eighth graders graduate and move on to high school. They will remember it fondly in the midst of their scramble to buy last-minute Christmas gifts.

# The Living Gospel

By Samantha Friskey, 8A

This play, the Living Gospel, is created by the work of speakers, actors, and the honors chorus singers, who are all students of our school, St. Pius X.

For those who have not attended the presentation, it begins with prayer and readings. Then a narrated version of the gospel comes alive. The cast includes Mary, Joseph, the angels, the shepherds, the three kings, King Herod, and baby Jesus (played by an adorable baby doll). At the end, the audience is left with a gorgeous scene of peace and serenity. Mary holds her baby with Joseph standing

over them. The Holy Family is surrounded by the angels, shepherds, and the three kings.

This beautiful play did not come together in an instant. After repeated practices, the actors nailed their cues and the readers perfected their public speaking. The honors chorus repeatedly sang their Christmas carols until each note was perfection. These practices and the presentation would not be possible without the mentoring from Mrs. Garvis, Mrs. Pickering, and Mrs. Farina.

After the performance, the teachers escorted their

classes out, and the church was left empty. The Living Gospel, however, does not end here. Even though the play is over, the meaning of the Living Gospel lives on. The meaning of this presentation is that we literally LIVE the GOSPEL. When the Christmas tree is stripped of the candy canes and lights, we do not stop our giving and charity. The manger scene may be tucked away for next year, but we cannot forget Jesus Christ. The Living Gospel and Christmas are reminders of how Christ came to be.



## A Rockin' Concert By Jocelyn Paquette, 6C

Nelson Hall was really rocking on December 13, 2011. The first band that was up was Beginner Band. Beginner Band includes kids in the 4th grade. Some songs the Beginner Band played were "Lightly Row," the "French Song," and "Jingle Bells." After they played their songs, Prep band was up next. The Prep Band includes mostly 5th graders. Two songs the Prep Band played were

"Tyrannosaurus Rocks" and "Festive Christmas." The Beginner and Prep Band's teacher is Mrs. Etter. She's a great band teacher!

Concert Band includes 6th – 8th graders. This band is the highest level band in the entire school. The Percussion Ensemble was up first. They played songs which included "Dynamic Pads," "The Lion

Sleeps Tonight," and "Patriotic Percussion." The entire Concert Band played next. They played some songs called "Hawaii Five-0," "God Rest Ye Merry Mallets," and "Autumn." Concert Band and Percussion Ensemble's music teacher is Mr. Martens. He is an awesome teacher too!

Make sure you do not miss the spring band concert.



## Chorus Concert By Emma Bigony, 7C

Our St.Pius chorus, directed by Mrs. Paula Farina, performed a holiday concert for the school on December 14th. They did a fantastic job combining the secular and the spiritual music. This year they chorus tried something new which was a sing-along. The songs that fell under this category included "Silent Night," and "It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas."

As always, there were two parts to the concert. To start was the whole chorus; any student from 5-8 grades enrolled in the afterschool chorus program. It opened up with "Ill Les Net," which is a French carol. Other songs to follow were "Night of Silence," "What Child is This," and "Christmas Time is Here," a song from the movie *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Then the Honors Chorus



sang. They sang 3 songs starting off with "A Child of the Poor," a joint song for "What Child is This." Next, was a Latin hymn, "Panis Angelicus," meaning "bread of angels." Then, "Deck the Nutcracker Halls" and as always at the end we sang "Feliz Navidad."

# Building Teamwork with Legos

By Jamie Wise, 4B



The Lego Club consists of eight students from each fourth grade class. The club members were selected at random to keep the Club's size at twenty-four students.

This is the Lego Club's first year. Meetings take place in Mrs. Heller's classroom and Mrs. McCann and Mrs. McLane help her run the club. The Lego Club meets every other Wednesday. The purpose of the club is to plan and construct projects with Legos in a team atmosphere. So far this year, the themes have been space, jungle, and something about you. The students work in teams to build a project

depending on the theme. At the end of the meeting, each team takes turns explaining their creations to the rest of the club. I am so glad that I am in the Lego Club!



The purpose of the club is to plan and construct projects with Legos in a team atmosphere.

## Fun with Math

By Andrew Tran, 6C

I recently interviewed Mr. Golding, a moderator of the Math Club at St. Pius. The Math Club was originally formed many years ago, but his volunteer involvement began in 2010. Students in grades sixth through eighth grade can join the math club, which meets on Wednesday afternoons.

There are many math competitions that

middle school students can enter. From the club, six students are entered into the competition to represent their school. The local math competition is held at the University of Maryland in February. If the team makes it past the local competition, they will advance to the state competition. The state competition is at Johns Hopkins University in March. Winners move on

to the national competition at Orlando, Florida, in May. The first place prize for the national competition is around \$8,000. Asked why he volunteers to help the students, Mr. Golding replied, "I have fun with the club and I learn a lot of useful math that I have forgotten. It is also enjoyable to see the students learning new things."

# Rocket Racers

By Ayesha Baugh, 8B

On December 18, students from the eighth grade attended a fun and interesting contest in their science lab. They were anxious to test their school-made cars they had built from various items, such as Styrofoam chicken plates, straws, and a balloon. The planning and designing of the racers had begun a week earlier; the actual building commenced during the week of the contest. Students had to follow the general building instructions, but could equip their own car with their own decorations. For example, a few cars had put fins and/or a sail on the car in hopes to make the car reduce air-drag. Others put signs on, like saying what group they were in. One car had even had a long sail protruding from the top, which had a sign that prominently boasted 'BOY'S RULE!', much to the dismay of the female builders.

Though a friendly competition, the stakes for the

contest were pretty high- students were rewarded with extra credit! For example, 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners received three points extra credit, 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners received four points extra credit, and the 1<sup>st</sup> place winners were rewarded five points extra credit. These points were to be added on the next test, so some students may need that extra boost from the rocket racer competition. The grand prize, though, was for the racer that traveled the farthest; instead of receiving five points, the team would be rewarded six! The race was held in the hall, whereas wide-open space and a smooth raceway made for a perfect place to hold such an event. The cars were attached to a straw, which had a balloon on one end, and once the balloon was filled with air and was let go, it propelled the car forward. Students were given a few practice runs to adjust their

car as needed. Then the real race began.

The race happened to be a huge success, and no problems were reported, other than the groans of the teams that did not get in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 1<sup>st</sup> place. The overall winners, the group that got the maximum six points, was group eight in class 8B, the group consisted of Dominique G., Morgan S., Michael W., and Raekwon M. Congratulations! The students all had a fun time. They hope there will be more activities like this in the future.





# Winter Wonderland Art Contest

The Cavalier Newspaper editors and moderators would like to thank all of the participants for entering the Winter Wonderland Art Contest.

We are proud to announce the following winners:

Our winners from Grades Pre-K through Grade 2 are:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Madison Yates, 1B

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Anthony Buckley, 1B

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Megan Chroniger, 1B

In Grades 3-5 our winners are:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Olivia Dickinson, 3A

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Kyra Farley, 4B

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Kayla Cartagirone, 4B

Finally, our winners from Grades 6-8 are:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Mackenzie Thompson, 7A

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Katie Thomas, 6C

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Joey Scalise, 7C

