



# Spreading the Good News



## Innovation Center to Open for 2018-2019 School Year

Ss. Robert and William School is excited to announce that our new Innovation Center will open at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. Working in collaboration with the Parent Association and Vocon Architects, Father John is on track to bring this vision to fruition.

The Innovation Center will be located in the Merici Center in the former Art and Music rooms. With minimal structural changes (the removal of one wall), three distinct areas will be created. There will be a Ceramic/Visual Arts area where our kiln will be housed. This area will be used by Mrs. Boehmer as well as our other teachers.

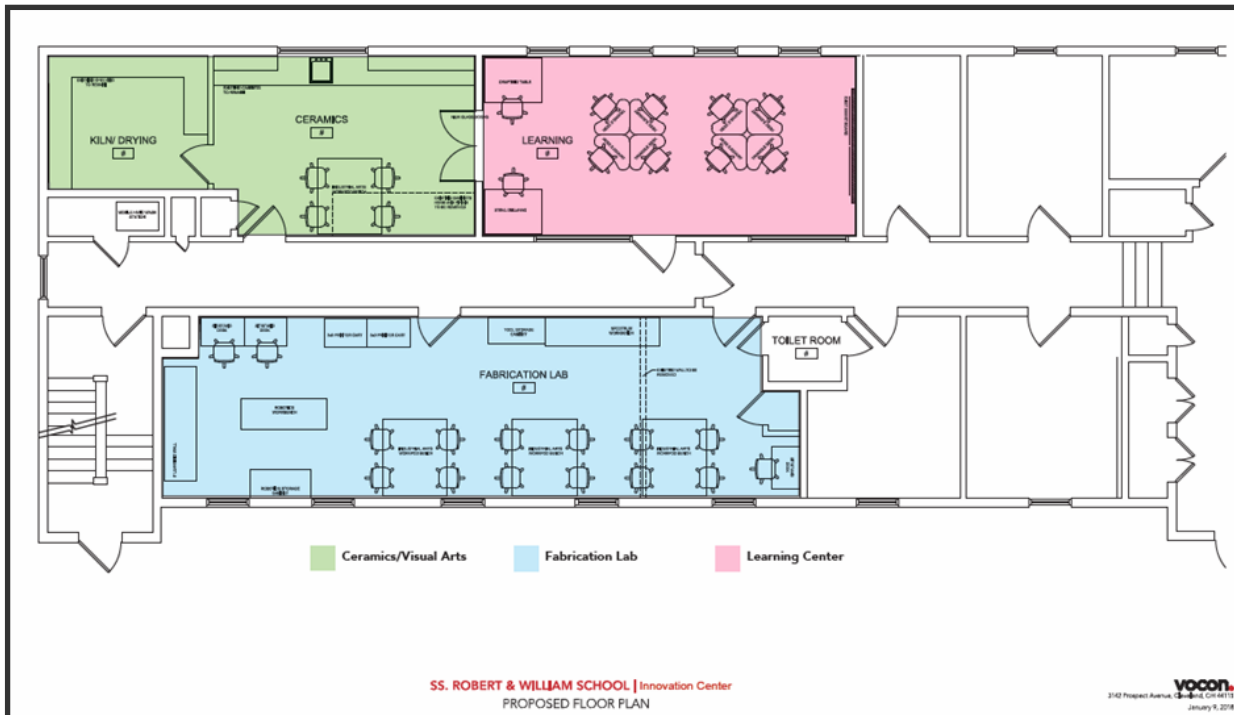
The Learning Center will be used for explorative learning. Tables and chairs will be grouped to allow for cooperative learning as well as problem-based learning. Problem-based learning is the focus of our 4-year School Improvement Plan. This added area will enhance the types of lessons teachers are able to present.

The final area of the Innovation Center will be the Fabrication Lab. It is in this area that creativity will abound. Students will be able to collaborate, design, and invent solutions to problems. Stand-up work stations will allow students to “think on their feet.” Students will also have access to a 3-D printer.

This project is being funded by the generosity and hard work of the Parent Association. Their donation will pay for the minimal structural changes in the space. The furniture has already been purchased using State of Ohio Auxiliary Services’ dollars. We are so excited for the work to begin!

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The blueprint of the new Innovation Center

## A Letter from the Principals

### Parents as Partners

Three times each year, Fr. John and the two principals gather with a group of parents to discuss a variety of subjects. Last year, one of the major suggestions from the parents was to change the way we execute the opening days of school. They recommended that we have Orientation Day on a Sunday. What a great idea! Whole families were able to join us for Mass and the annual backpack blessing. It was more convenient for parents because they no longer had to take the day off of work. It was also a great change to have so many dads join us!

At our January meeting this year we had the opportunity to discuss the top 5 reasons a family should choose SRW. Here is what the group decided:

**Catholic Identity:** Our school was founded in 1947 by the Ursuline Sisters. Their legacy of Catholic education continues today. Although our roots run deep, we welcome students of all faiths.

**Partnership:** We make a concerted effort to connect home and school. Communication between school and parents is a priority. By working together, we are more successful at helping our students reach their goals.

**Technology:** Technology is embraced and integrated. Through our 1:1 Chromebook initiative and SMART Panels in all classrooms, technology has become a tool for learning.

**Discipline:** Clear expectations are outlined in our handbook and rules are enforced.

**Diversity:** We are a coeducational institution with a diverse student body. We have different religions, different languages, and different colored skin, but we all are children of God. In the words of Mother Teresa, "Together, we can do great things!"

Another suggestion these parent partners had that was put into place at the beginning of February was regarding the morning drop-off. We still have parents who are not following the established procedures. When rules are not followed, safety is at risk. One suggestion that was made was that we modify the procedures for parents who wish to walk their children into the building. We LOVE the suggestion and look forward to adopting the new procedures.

The main parking lot area is now off limits to all cars. We continue to encourage all families to use the drop-off line, but realize there are occasions when entering the school is necessary. Any parents wishing to walk their child(ren) into the building are asked to park near the preschool end of the parking lot. This is the area that currently has cars parked in it. Parents are to walk any children to the NORTH side of the blue lines, avoiding the need to cross drop-off traffic.

### 2017-2018 Scholarship Winners

Due to the generosity and careful planning of the founders of St. William Parish, Ss. Robert and William School is able to offer scholarship opportunities to our students. We congratulate this year's winners:

**The St. William Pastor/Principal Scholarship** for \$500 is given to a student in grades K-2 who shows potential leadership skills. This year's **Pastor/Principal Scholarship** is awarded to *Sydney Dunmire*.

**The St. William Parish Endowment Founder's Scholarship** for \$500 is awarded to a student in grades 3-5 who does something unique to show him/herself as someone willing to take a stand and who does not always follow the pack. This year's **Founder's Scholarship** is awarded to *Raegan Kvorik*.

**The St. William Parish Endowment Benefactor's Scholarship** for \$500 is given to a student in grades 6 - 7 who makes a significant contribution to his/her class and/or school community. This Scholarship is given in honor of Margaret & Frank Kearns, Russell E. Seibert, Edward Paulis, John McGroarty & Carl Baricelli who were memorialized by significant donations to the St. William Parish Endowment that was inherited by Ss. Robert & William Parish in 2010. This year's **Benefactor's Scholarship** is awarded to *Samantha Turk*.

**The Sr. Dorothy Kazel High School Scholarship** is awarded to an eighth grader who is a registered and active parishioner of Ss. Robert and William Catholic Parish. The \$500 scholarship is renewable each year of high school, provided the student remains in good standing with his/her high school and participates in the SRW Life Teen Ministry. Sr. Dorothy made the ultimate sacrifice with her life. The scholarship is intended to go to an eighth grader who knows what the word "Sacrifice" means. For the second time in its history, we have a tie for the winner. Congratulations to *Zac Tizzano and Patrick Dunmire*.

**The Sr. Helen Marie Davidson, OSU, Scholarship**, named for Sr. Helen Marie, a teacher at St. Robert School, was established by a former student of Sister who has endowed the parish with \$100,000 to fund this scholarship. Each year four \$500 scholarships will be given to 2 boys and 2 girls entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Winners are to be Catholics who regularly attend Mass, are involved in extra-curricular activities, and who are able to articulate the value of a Catholic education. The winners this year are: *Victoria Baioni, Maura Murphy, Dennis Farahani, and Liam Logan*.

**The Edward J. Czyzycki Annual Service Award**, is a \$1,000 annual scholarship given to a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student who exhibits the outstanding practice of the Catholic Faith through charitable deeds. This year's winner is *Mary Radachy*.

Together in faith,



*Ms. Meg Cosgriff*

Ms. Meg Cosgriff  
Co-Principal



*Mrs. Dodd*

Mrs. Martha Dodd  
Co-Principal

## Computer Software Development Group

In early September, Mr. Mike Sweet, a school parent and software developer, approached Fr. John with an idea. He wanted to work with students who showed interest and potential in software development and coding. After meeting with Ms. Cosgriff, Mrs. Dodd, and the school's Technology Coordinator, Mrs. Chamberlin, the idea developed into the Ss. Robert and William St. Joseph the Worker Software Development Program.

The program was presented to students in grades 6-8 with a specific project in mind. Students would work to develop a program to track donations for the parish Capital Campaign. The money raised through the Capital Campaign will be used to renovate the gym and pay down the parish debt. Ultimately, eleven students joined the group. These students arrive to school early once a week and give up a study hall period to work with Mr. Sweet and Mrs. Chamberlin. One student even came for a session during Christmas break!

In the early meetings of the class, the students not only learned a little bit about software development, they also learned formalities of a business meeting, such as standing to greet a client, shaking hands, and taking and organizing notes. A meeting was set up with Fr. John, and the students asked questions to better understand the needs for the tracking program. The students then used the information

gathered from the meeting to begin developing. The group learned about the importance of data tables. They discussed what sort of information would be needed in tables to track donors, pledges, and reminders. From there, students began creating forms in the program, with the required fields. They have also begun to write code for these fields, learning how to validate fields and write an error message if the field contains information that is invalid.

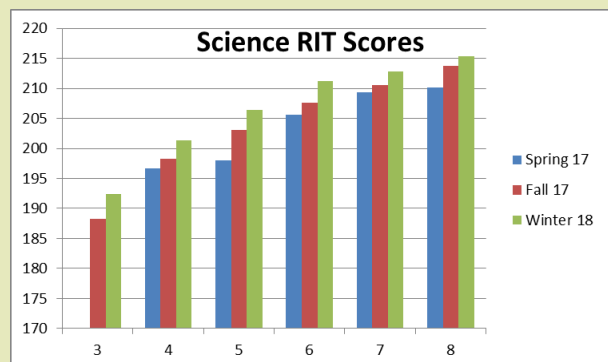
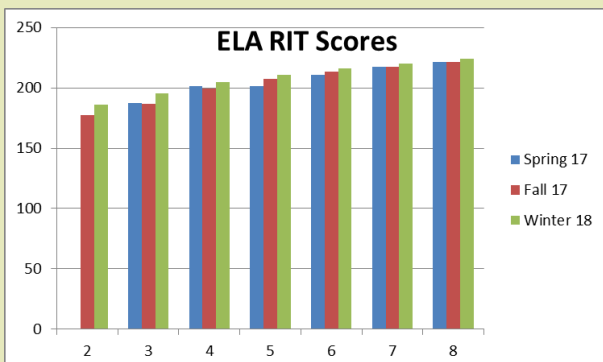
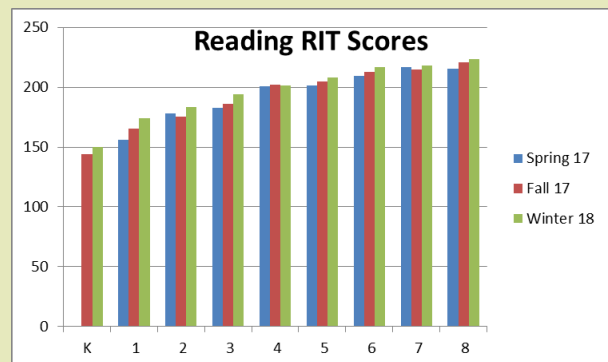
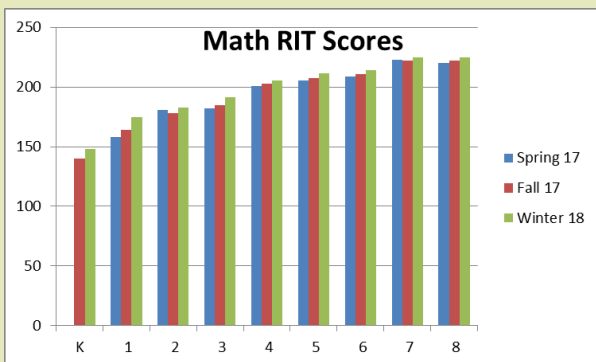
As the program continues over the next month, the students will continue to create forms and fields, and write the code to get the program up and running for the Parish staff. They will then meet with the staff to walk them through the program. The program will be used for the next five years



*Students are getting hands-on experience in software development*

## Winter MAP Assessment

The results are in! Our students have risen to the expectations for growth that we established at the beginning of the school year. Several of our students have reached their projected growth for the Spring tests with this round of testing. Check out their successes:

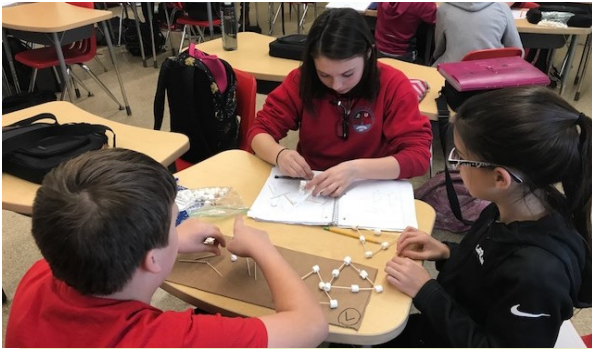


## Classroom Chatter

*"The purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as long as we live." ~Mortimer Adler*

From Ancient Egypt, to the Florida Everglades our students have been busy with real-world learning these past few months. Read below to learn about some fun learning experiences:

**Pyramid Challenge:** The sixth grade students have been working hard in Social Studies exploring the lives of the Ancient Egyptians. After learning about Egyptian pyramids and architecture, the students spent time in groups competing to build the tallest, sturdiest pyramid. Students were required to sketch a blueprint and work under constraints with limited supplies. At the end of the project, the students had a new appreciation for the planning and building process. They were amazed at what the Ancient Egyptians were able to accomplish! The final pyramids looked great. Hard work was put into this project!



Students using their blueprint to complete the pyramid design

**Fun with Magnets:** Second grade has been busy exploring different forces. Students learned about gravity and how it keeps us grounded. Their favorite activity was working with iron filings and magnets. Students learned that a magnet has poles just like the earth. They also learned that magnets can do some pretty cool things with iron. There is a magnetic force that attracts to iron. From under a desk, magnets can move iron and create shapes and letters. They even explored how to create a small part of a 3-D object. Next up is static electricity. Stay tuned.....

**Seminarian Visits:** The eighth graders are fortunate to have Seminarian David Chojnacki at SRW every Friday to present a lesson on early Church history. David recently earned his undergraduate degree from John Carroll University and is continuing his religious studies there in the graduate program. The students have found his lessons inspiring and engaging as he has covered topics such as the conversion of St. Paul, the martyrdom of St. Stephen, and the Council of Jerusalem. David always includes interesting video clips and educational games in his lessons. The students look forward to his weekly visits and always gain valuable knowledge about our faith.



Seminarian David speaking to the eighth grade students

**Can the Everglades Last Forever?:** Did you know that Everglades National Park in southern Florida is the largest tropical wilderness east of the Mississippi River and about one million people visit it each year? Did you know that residents of the Everglades, like the Florida Panther, several species of the sea turtles, and the American Crocodile, are all endangered? The students in the fifth grade just recently became familiar with this beautiful region of our country. While reading the story *Everglades Forever* by Trish Marx in Reading class, students learned of the different habitats that exist in the park along with the exclusive vegetation and animal species who call the Everglades home. Unfortunately, the fifth graders also discovered that the Everglades is currently being threatened by a rapidly growing population, developmental aspirations, and the invasion of non-native plants and animals. The Everglades is shrinking and is only about 1.5 million acres large, which is down from 3 million acres decades ago. Sadly, the home to many distinctive flora and fauna is also disappearing. What will happen to these creatures, trees, and flowers? What will happen to Floridians who depend on the Everglades' freshwater for daily use? These questions and more were explored during Reading class as the students perused their story, asked questions, searched for answers, and discussed conservation methods. To end this special unit on the Everglades, the class was asked to create a 3D representation of a dry and wet habitat found in the park to compare them side by side. Students worked in groups and had to collaborate, communicate with each other, and think critically in order to produce their creative display. They were given Play-Doh, pipe cleaners, marshmallows, straws, construction paper, popsicle sticks, and yarn in order to construct models of water, trees, animals, marshes, and swamps. While in groups, the students worked diligently to portray the Everglades to the best of their abilities. Using their ingenuity, imagination, and resolve, the fifth grade students produced some breathtaking pieces of work that truly showcase the beauty and uniqueness that is the Everglades. We need to do all we can to protect the magnificence of the Everglades so it can continue to glimmer as a one-of-a-kind treasure.



Some fifth grade students working on their Everglade habitat

**Reading and Math Centers:** Mrs. Arko's Kindergarteners are practicing their reading and math skills with centers. The students are using a variety of materials and technologies. Some of these include: games, puzzles, computers, iPads, and the SMART Table. The students are getting a chance to explore and move around while reinforcing the skills that have been discussed in class. They are having fun and learning too!

**Third Grade Detectives:** Sherlock Holmes better be careful because there are many new detectives on the case! The third grade students wrote mystery narratives in English class. The students were given detective vocabulary words, such as witness, evidence, and alibi, and had to demonstrate they understood the meaning of the vocabulary words. Once the students knew all of the words, they earned a detective badge.

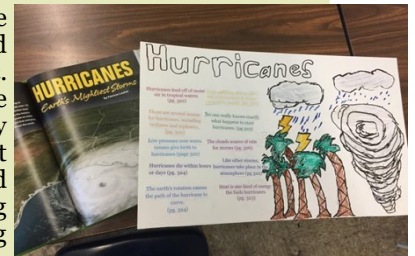


The third graders with Officer George

The students had to incorporate the vocabulary, as well as the use of dialogue, in their narratives. The students went through the steps of writing, editing, revising, and publishing. The books were bound and all of the detectives got to share their books with the class. To end the unit, Officer George of the Euclid Police Department came to answer questions about what it is really like being a detective. The students asked many thoughtful questions and it was a great way to bring an end to this mysterious unit!

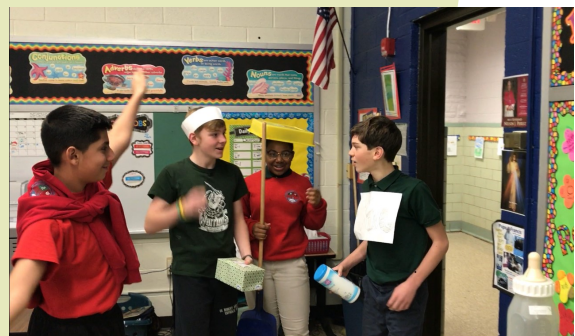
**Science in Real Life:** The sixth and seventh grade science classes recently completed projects for the BEST Medicine Engineering Fair and the Northeast Ohio Science and Engineering Fair, respectively. These projects are some of the best learning experiences a student can undertake; they involve so much more than science and engineering. The background research report is a great way to hone computer research skills. Most projects also involve a good deal of math, and all students get an opportunity to enhance their presentation skills when they prepare their display boards and discuss their projects with others. They require a student to learn to plan over two or three months, a skill of immense importance in adulthood. Procrastination is definitely not rewarded. Of course, learning about science is at the heart of these projects. Our society relies more on science every day, and science fairs are a great way for students to become more knowledgeable about how the world around them works. Every citizen needs sufficient science literacy to make educated decisions about what he or she reads in the media, about health care, and about other everyday problems.

**Nonfiction Text Features:** The fourth graders have been learning about new topics in Reading class through informational texts. This month, they read all about hurricanes! They learned that there are many different names for them, including common ones like *cyclone* and *typhoon*, but also silly ones like *whirly-whirly!* They learned that the headings an author includes begin different sections of an informational text, informing the reader of what is to come. They also learned that other features, like maps, diagrams, and charts, are sometimes included in an informational text to give the reader more knowledge or background information on a topic. They then brought the information to life by making posters all about hurricanes. They learned the importance of citing sources and always giving credit to the author.



Poster created using nonfiction features

**Spanish at SRW:** Las Posadas is a novenario celebrated chiefly in Latin America, Mexico, Guatemala, Cuba, and by Hispanics in the United States, beginning December 16th and ending December 24th. People parade through the streets looking for shelter for Mary and Joseph, often times knocking on doors of friends, and ultimately being let into someone's house on Christmas Eve for an evening celebration. The Upper School students learned about this and other Christmas traditions of various Spanish speaking countries and presented reports about their countries and traditions celebrated around Christmas. One classroom created their own Las Posadas play. The students wrote their dialogue and created costumes to perform the journey of Mary and Joseph that many people in Spanish speaking countries reenact every evening for nine days prior to Christmas. Students played the roles of the three kings, Mary and Joseph, the angel, and the innkeepers.



Seventh graders acting out their play

The fifth grade class has been working on a small project called, *Todo acerca de mí* - All about me. The students presented what they want to be when they grow up as well as some fun facts about themselves: favorite food, favorite color, favorite television show or book, favorite activity, etc. The students presented in Spanish (en Español) to show their knowledge of the language and their pronunciation skills.

## Taste Of Nations Preview

On Saturday, April 14, 2018, approximately 300 guests will gather to celebrate unity and diversity within the SRW School and Parish Communities. As a body which advocates peace, the evening will have a 'Peace' theme with decorations which reflect harmony and students wearing tie-dyed apparel.

The annual Taste of Nations Gala presents cuisines from various countries including Europe, Ireland, Italy, Latin America, and the Philippines to name a few. The school classrooms will be transformed into each of these countries, where taste-sized portions will be served to the guests. The ethnic fare will highlight items such as stuffed cabbage, pierogis, cabbage and noodles, corned beef sandwiches, pork chopsuey, and chicken cordon bleu casserole. The Vienna Café rounds out the menu with homemade pastries and coffee.

The evening begins at 5:00 PM and guests will be welcomed with dinner music and various raffles. The dinner journey will begin at 5:45 PM. Various entertainment will take place throughout the venue. Sideboards and raffles will be available, as well as a Cigar Tent.

Additionally, the 2018 Taste of Nation's recipients will be honored. They include: Community Award: VASJ High School; Faculty Member: Patrice Garuckas; Alumni, Chris Mominey; and Grandparents, Linda and Lou Shenk.

Tickets are \$35 per person for this adult only event. A table of 8 (with reserved, priority dining) is also available at \$325.00. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.srweuclid.cc](http://www.srweuclid.cc) or at the parish and school offices. Reserve tickets early, as this was a sold out event last year.



## Winter CYO News

As basketball season comes to an end, we want to congratulate all our basketball teams, and wish good luck to those in the playoffs. We had several students in grades 3-8 play basketball this season.

We know that our athletes not only learn the basics of the sport, but sportsmanship as well. Our athletes understand they represent the school and should always show respect for the other team, even if it is not being given. Read the letter below, from a parent, to see how our athletes make us proud:

*"I wanted to write to you both how proud I was to be a warrior parent after the fourth grade boys' basketball game this past weekend. This was a challenging game for the boys. I cannot speak for the technical game aspect because I am pretty new to the sport, however I do know something about sportsmanship and behavior. The opposing team, opposing parents, and opposing coaches/mom assistant should take a lesson from our boys. The warriors reflected the ideals of our school as did our*

*parents and coaches. Although the end result of the game was a tie, I feel Ss. Robert and William were the true winners because of their stellar attitude and behavior. I am attaching a picture of the team from after the game. Well done boys, Coach Darby, and Coach Fort!"*



Fourth grade boys' basketball

## SRW Celebrates Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week has been celebrated annually since 1974, and always begins on the last Sunday in January. The benefits of a Catholic education have been studied and well-documented. Results show that students who attend Catholic schools receive a challenging, high-quality academic experience in a supportive environment, with an emphasis on Catholic values and college preparation. The self-discipline developed by students, along with learning to accept responsibility and to respect others, work together to create productive life-long learners.

Ss. Robert and William Catholic School takes great pride in being one of these schools of excellence, serving families in the Euclid community.

Every important group that makes up our school was recognized during Catholic Schools Week; the parishioners and community members that support our school, the parents who choose SRW for their children, the faculty and staff who have committed their careers to being teacher-ministers in a Catholic school, and of course the reason we exist – the students! Many events and fun activities were planned to celebrate the uniqueness of SRW. Here's how we celebrated the week:

**Sunday, January 28:** We started the week by celebrating 11:00 Mass. Parishioners and school families were invited back to the school for an Open House and donuts. Students proudly represented our school by giving tours to prospective families.



*A successful Open House to kick off Catholic Schools Week*



**Monday, January 29:** The focus for the day was School Appreciation! Classes met with buddies from a different grade level to write prayers of appreciation for Catholic education and for our school. Students also worked with their buddies to complete school-themed word searches.

**Tuesday, January 30:**

Today, we took time to appreciate the Parish and the local community of Euclid. Guests from the City of Euclid, including members of the Euclid Police Department, were invited to celebrate 8:00 Mass with the school. A reception for these guests and parishioners followed Mass, showing our appreciation for their continued support of our school.



*Grateful for the support of our local community*

**Wednesday, January 31:** The theme for today was Student Appreciation Day. We celebrated our Worthy Warrior Assembly, recognizing students who made good choices during the month of January. The No Place for Hate Committee introduced a contest to design the backs of our Buddy Benches and reminded students to “Shake Off” bullying. Did you get to see the “Shake It Off” video our school created? If you haven’t, head to our Facebook page to check out our dance moves.



*January's Worthy Warrior Winners*

Students were given a “No Homework Pass” so they could attend our evening Open House. Students showed their parents and other guests projects and activities they have completed. The Middle School students gave those who stopped the opportunity to create a Marshmallow Launcher, and those who stopped in the Lower School math classrooms had fun with several hands-on activities.

**Thursday, February 1:** Today was Spirit Day! Students were able to dress down in SRW spirit wear, but the real highlight of the day was the Ice Cream Social the Parent Association put on for the students. The students enjoyed the ice cream treat with their buddy class.



*Thanks for the ice cream, Parent Association*



**Friday, February 2:** To close out Catholic Schools Week, we took time to appreciate the staff and have some fun as a school community. Buddy classes got together again today, but this time it was to participate in some “Winter Olympic” games in the gym. We gathered together to play Stump the Shepherd, with the help of Fr. John, Fr. Scott, and Seminarian David. Students competed against each other to answer questions about the Catholic faith in a fast-paced game. If they were unsure of the answer, students could ask their shepherd for help.

We ended the day with Eighth Grade Students vs. Teacher games of Battle Ball. Although they didn't win, the teachers had a lot of fun playing and the whole school had fun watching the games.



*Eight graders and teachers playing Battle Ball*

Celebrating Catholic Schools Week at Ss. Robert and William Catholic School is always a highlight of the school year. Thank you for your support!



## SS. ROBERT AND WILLIAM CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.srwschool.cc](http://www.srwschool.cc)

### Lent and Easter 2018

#### February:

Wednesday	14	Ash Wednesday Mass CSW Rice Bowl Distributed	7:00 AM, 8:00 AM, 12:00 Noon, 6:30 PM
Friday	16	Parish Fish Fry Mass and Stations	4:45-6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Friday	23	Parish Fish Fry Mass and Stations	4:45-6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Monday	26	Lenten Prayer Service Reconciliation, Gr. 2-8	8:00 AM 1:00 PM

#### March:

Friday	2	Parish Fish Fry Mass and Stations	4:45-6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Monday	5	Lenten Prayer Service	2:00 PM
Friday	9	Parish Fish Fry Mass and Stations	4:45-6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Monday	12	Lenten Prayer Service	8:00 AM
Friday	16	Parish Fish Fry Mass and Stations	4:45-6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Monday	19	Lenten Prayer Service	2:00 PM
Friday	23	Parish Fish Fry Mass and Stations	4:45-6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Wednesday	28	Lenten Retreat, Mass Early Dismissal	12:00 PM 1:00 PM

#### Easter Masses:

Saturday, March	31	Easter Vigil	7:30 PM
Sunday, April	1	Easter Mass	7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM

