

Crusader Chronicle

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2018-2019 Quarter 3 Issue

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

By: Laila M. & Danny P.

Catholic Schools Week started off with the All School Mass and Spaghetti Supper on Saturday January 26th. Also, that same day, the Book Fair opened in the library. JFK's first Catholic Schools week school event was Dodgeball for Diapers which had a lot of people throwing, dodging, catching, and doing everything they could do to stay in the game. Ellie S. in sixth grade did exactly that. She surprised everyone with her amazing comeback when she was highly outnumbered by a huge group of boys and slowly knocked all of them out one by one. It was a close



Seventh graders Brynn B. and Sam S. during Dodgeball Tournament

game with a rough start, but she still won!



Faithlynn F. playing "You are my Sunshine" on the ukulele.

Our next event was the JFK Talent Show on Tuesday January 22nd. There was singing, dancing, and everything in between. It started off with Maggie A. singing "God of the Hills and Valleys." There were many impressive acts and talented students. Just to name a few, from the morning performance, there were first graders Ben T. singing "High Hopes" and Audrey G. dancing to the song "Fireflies" in her homemade spacesuit. There were second graders Landon R. and Mariska R. singing "This Little Light of Mine," and Jackson T. reciting a poem from memory by Shel Silverstein titled "Smart." In third grade, we had Ava Mae W. playing her original song "Times" on her ukulele, Natalie S. and Hailey E. performing their mind reading skills with members of the audience, Peyton W. dancing to the song "Fabulous", and Sydney S.

showing off her water coloring skills by painting for Mrs. Wahlig her favorite animal, a panda!

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CONTINUED...

In the afternoon performance, the whole kindergarten represented feelings and expressions by holding rainbow scarves and singing the song “Colors.” Next up in kindergarten was Maggie C. and Macy O. singing “Baby Shark” with special guest, grandma shark! To Macy she’s “Yaya”, but to us, she’s assistant principal Mrs. Temming! In the “Grandma Shark” segment of the song, Mrs. Temming came in and walked behind Maggie and Macy carrying a blow-up shark! Mrs. Temming said she had so much fun, and she liked the surprise when no one knew she was coming. She said it was Mrs. Hinchman’s idea for her to come with the blow-up shark. Mrs. Temming has also heard this song before her participation in the talent show. Macy said she also liked having her grandma participate with her. She said that Maggie is one of her best friends and that “Baby Shark” is her favorite song. She also liked it when everyone joined in on the song and hand movements.

In fifth grade, Wrigley and Mili M. sang and performed “Big Yellow Taxi” on the guitar and bass ukulele. In seventh grade, 7W, including Mrs. Whelchel, performed the “Crayon Box” song with their handmade crayon box and crayon tip hats. Another fun event for all families was Bring a Friend to Lunch Day. However due to inclement weather this day was postponed until February 6th. This is a special day when students get to pick someone to come to JFK and have lunch with them. The Book Fair is opened on this day and many students got to buy books, pens, pointers, and a lot of other fun stuff.



Even Mrs. Whelchel was involved with 7W’s class act!



Mrs. Hillebrand serving the ball!

On Friday February 1st the eighth graders and JFK staff members played in the annual Staff versus Eighth grade volleyball games in the gym. After a long, hard battle, the eighth graders finally won two out of four sets. Lastly, students in grades second through eighth went to the AHS mass on March 21st with Bishop Zinkula; this Mass was originally scheduled for January 30th however due to inclement weather it was postponed. Everyone liked the bishop’s representation of the parable of *The Lamp*. He covered an AHS student with a red blanket, and then he had a couple other students share the gifts they liked about the

covered student. Everyone enjoyed yet another successful Catholic Schools Week; even if part of it was after the scheduled week!



Dodgeball



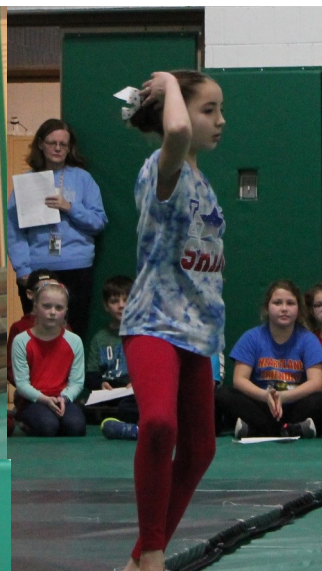
for



Diapers



T A L E N T S H O W



SCIENCE FAIR

By: Landon R., Mili M., & Nathan T.

This year's Science Fair was full of new and interesting projects! Seventh and eighth graders showcased their amazing experiments on the cafeteria tables this year due to construction in the Parish Center. The judges this year included the upper-grade teachers and Mrs. Schott.

Quinn R., an eighth grade winner, wanted to find out about the germs she was touching every day. This resulted in her project called "Can't Touch This". She found out that the toilet had the most germs. She enjoyed her project very much, because it was interesting to see all the germs she could find. Sophia M., another eighth grade winner, accomplished her project called "What You Should Know About H₂O". She used four different types of water; Fiji water, Penta water, tap water, and Great Value water. It took her two or so tries to perfect the project. She learned that not every sort of water is the same. It wasn't hard because the kit that she used explained a lot. She enjoyed doing her project.

Grant S., a seventh grade winner, created an Infinity Mirror. An Infinity Mirror is made of a mirror, LED lights, and mortar over it all. In the mirror, the one string of lights looked like it went on forever. He learned that mirrors do not reflect all light. Lights that are not reflected in mirrors are brighter than the ones cast back in mirrors. Elexa A., another seventh grade winner, did an investigation on how color affects our mood. She wanted to see if people's moods changed if they saw different colors. She found out that music affects mood more than colors.

Seventh-grader Kyle B. , did an experiment called "Break The Mold". He wanted to see what bread would mold the fastest out of three different kinds of bread: bakery bread, grain bread, and white bread. It took two months for both the grain and white bread to mold. It took a few days to a week for the bakery bread to mold. Logan L.'s project was inspired by how his house was cold in the winter. He asked his teacher what he should do for the Science Fair, and she suggested trying window sealer. Logan tested different window sealers. He didn't need much help, but he had to blow dry the last type of window sealer. The type of window sealer that worked the best was called "Frost King Window Insulation".

The Science Fair was interesting and exciting in every way! From window sealer to germs, everybody who participated had fun, and even the people who didn't win, learned something new.



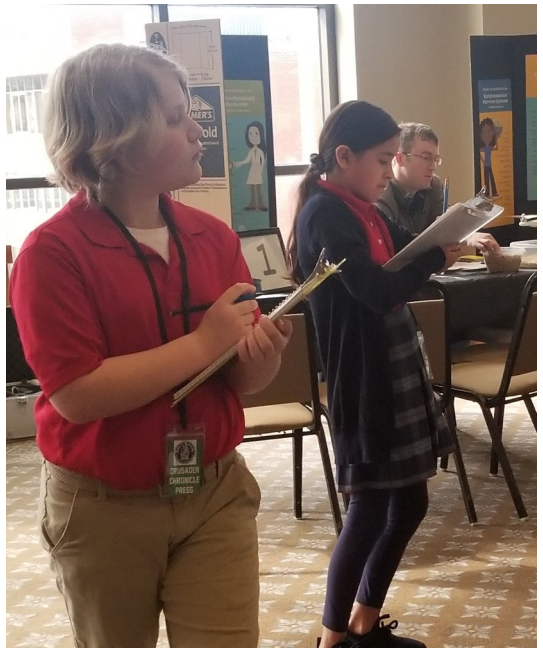
JFK Science Fair Winners at the Assumption Round

CAREER FAIR

By: Wrigley M. & Oscar K.

What is the Career Fair? “Career Fair is a wonderful opportunity for eighth graders to come and see different careers and find what they are all about!” said JFK’s counselor Mrs. Schott. There were approximately thirty-four presenters with jobs ranging from farmers to teachers, all striving to share their own career choice.

Six months prior to the Career Fair, the Catholic schools counselors, Mrs. Schott from JFK, Mrs. McNeal from All Saints, Mrs. Johnson from Lourdes, and Mrs. Tallman from St. Paul’s go together to schedule and plan every small detail. The Career Fair was held in the Rogalski Center on the St. Ambrose University campus. After all their hard work, they could walk around the Career Fair and enjoy eighth graders learning and having fun! Students learned interesting facts about jobs that they didn’t know before. For example, Kyla D. said, “You could see how jobs work, not just how you think they work!”



Student reporters Wrigley M and Oscar K. performing the first on-site reporting. This is a first for the Crusader Chronicle to send students to the off-campus event for first hand coverage.

Each student at the Career Fair had a schedule to follow throughout the day. To



Octavia Houtekier-Boyd showing eighth graders fun activities at the Putnam Museum

put this schedule together, eighth graders filled out a Google Form survey with all the presenters weeks before the fair. The students picked the eight presenters they were the most interested in and Mrs. Schott did a bit of coding to create the schedules. Although the eighth graders weren’t able to visit every station they wanted to, they still had a blast!

There were many interesting stations that the eighth graders could visit. For example, Octavia Houtekier-Boyd from the Putnam Museum had many exciting hands-on activities. The students were able to experiment with Little Bits, and see if they could

figure out how to make the pieces line up or buzz. This presenter even had a poem to remember the difference of predators and prey! “Eyes in the front, go and hunt. Eyes on the side, run and hide!”

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CAREER FAIR CONTINUED...

A fascinating station for students was the Eastern Iowa Community College station. The presenter, Roberta Osmer, specializes in computer careers. She had stations showing and teaching eighth graders about virtual reality and technology. Students were even able to drive a Sphero, a small robot that you could control with a tablet! Many students seemed to enjoy this part of the station the most.

Another feature of the Career Fair is the Q/A (Question and Answer) session! Eighth graders were able to sit down and ask St. Ambrose students what college and high school are like. Some important topics the students covered were being away from home, homework and classroom expectations, and educational requirements to continue to play sports.

The Career Fair was an educational and fun experience for the eighth graders. It was an opportunity for eighth graders to learn features about jobs they didn't know before! There were many interesting presenters they could visit, including Octavia Houtekier-Boyd from the Putnam Museum, and Roberta Osmer from the Eastern Iowa Community College. The eighth graders each had their own fun schedule that they used to navigate the large ballroom. The Career Fair was an inspiring and educational field trip for all!



Eighth grader Anna S. at the Putnam Museum booth working with Circuits in Seconds



Eighth graders Emily M. & Jaliyah H. driving Spheros



Alex M. listening to Officer Jacobsen discuss the career of a police officer



2019 CAREER FAIR

CIVIC ORATION

By: Nolan B., Kaydence C., & Aubrey R.

Most children think Civic Oration is boring, but it helps your writing, as well as, your speaking skills. This gives students a huge head start in high school, college and also other important jobs. This creative act has been going on at JFK since 1966.

Civic Oration is a good experience for fifth through eighth graders to learn how to write speeches and say them in public. Modern Woodmen sponsors this activity, and also pick our topics. This year our topic was *Challenges Youth Face*. The following steps are needed to do Civic Oration well: figure out our individual topics, find research, take notes on notecards, organize them, put it all together in a paragraph form, and memorize the entire speech. The speech also needs to be three to five minutes long. This year Civic Oration started in second quarter, but normally it begins in third quarter. It was nice that to have it done before Christmas break.

The first round is your whole grade competing against each other. The second is the top fifth graders vs. the top sixth graders and the top seventh graders vs. the top eighth graders. The third round is normally in the Parish Center, but this year was in the gym due to construction in the Parish Center. There were a total of eight professional judges who are a part of either JFK or OLV. Students competing in this round have a chance to earn a first, second, or third place plaque. The class of 2018 winners were Allie A. (eighth grade) and Wrigley M. (fifth grade). They both agreed that Civic Oration is educational, teaches you how to write, and definitely ends up being worth the time.



All of the students thought that Civic Orations was very hard, challenging, and a great way to start the year. Civic Oration isn't just writing a piece of paper, it is much more than that. Luke J. and Kennedy K., in fourth grade said, "We are definitely looking forward to our first year of Civic Oration it will be a great experience." The students get a great learning experience from this, but what about the teachers? The JFK teachers support this idea and love the fact that they get to teach it. Eighth grade teacher, Mrs. Bauer stated, "You can get a great head start for high school, and even college. Not only do my students learn, but I learn as well while teaching them." Civic Oration is hard, but that's just the fun of it. Students get challenged every year to put on their very best speech. This helps the students write and develop their own speech in their point of view.

KIDS HEART CHALLENGE

By: Adam W., Sophia H., & Brandon G.

The Kids Heart Challenge, formally known as Jump Rope for Heart, was a fun and easy way to get exercise, help kids with heart diseases, and learn about your heart. You can easily get your heart rate up to a healthy speed! Mrs. Tilkens thinks The American Heart Association changed the name because they added additional activities more than just jump roping. Alex M. didn't like the new name as much as Maggie A. liked it. The Kids Heart Challenge started in PE classes on February 25 and went until March 1, however, students could raise money from February 4 to March 4. The grades who participated were kindergarten through fifth.



The fifth graders liked the activities Mrs. Tilkens had set up in the gym the most because it was a good way to get exercise. Jace H. in kindergarten thought that it would help him become stronger. A.J H. in kindergarten was asked if he was excited and he said, "I can't wait!" The prizes ranged from a unicorn, fish, bear, dragon, flying pig, narwhal, and panda. To get the prizes you had to bring in a certain amounts of money. Bigger prizes from

fundraising varied from keychains, wireless headphones, slime balls, ping pong sets, and much more. Fourth grader Maggie A. said her favorite prize was the unicorn keychain named Echo. She thought that helping kids with heart disease was a good cause. Eighth grader Alex M. liked Hoops for Heart that the fifth through eighth grade used to do.

Mrs. Tilkens did a fantastic job as JFK raised \$3,650; good job JFK! Once again Mrs. Tilkens added many new and exciting things that were a lot of fun, and we hope she keeps them for next year. Many people said that they loved it and couldn't wait until next year when they could do it again.

CHASE THE CHILL

By: Brooklyn M. & Bryce E.

Many people, including ourselves, have asked the question “What is Chase the Chill”? It is a service event that kids, like the eighth graders at JFK, do to help people in need. This year, eighth graders made scarves as part of their class project. They collected the scarves starting



around October and delivered them on January 26. It was about 30 degrees this year when they put out the scarves.

“Chase the Chill” started in Canada in 2008 by Susan Huxley. It was a way for people to express their creativity. “They put out scarves and warm clothing for people who needed it and could just grab it,” said Mrs. Wemhoff. They got the idea for “Chase the Chill” on a website about four years ago. One of the eighth graders went with Mr. Brankin, the Youth Minister and a few other teachers to Modern Woodmen Park along the river, Humility of Mary, and Kings Harvest. They also put scarves on lampposts, railroad track fencing, trees, sign posts, and bridges.

Keaton T. from Mrs. Bauer’s class said, “I felt like I did a good deed.” Mary R. of 8B made about three scarves. “I had fun making the scarves and enjoyed helping people,” she said. Lindsey G. also from 8B made two scarves. “I felt good and knew I was doing a good deed. It took about two to three days to make the scarves.” They put out a whopping 70-100 scarf! One year, they made about three hundred scarves!

The eighth graders took classes that taught them how to crochet in the past. They stopped doing crochet this year and made tying scarves instead. It took a little bit of time to make all of the scarves. People can donate scarves at the church, so they can put



Donated scarves to be placed



Scarves out on the riverbank

out more warm clothing. If you ever have scarves that you don’t need anymore, donate them! The eighth graders aren’t the only people who can do “Chase the Chill”. You can, too! Just give scarves to a shelter or any parish.



GRADE LEVEL NEWS



ECLC

By: Benjamin A., Delilah R., & Avery H.

The children of ECLC feel happy and energetic when coming to their first year of school. They don't just learn the basics like math and science; they also learn social skills like talking to other children and adults. They learn that giving and receiving are one in the same. They love all their friends and have open opportunities for imagination, such as dreaming to one day become the next Batman or Wonder Woman.

Unlike daycare, ECLC is more like being in school. The children learn math and science and get a jumpstart on further schooling. They learn in fun ways like singing songs to learn literature or playing games that involve counting skills. The first day of school they don't know what to expect, but as the year progresses, they can even remind the teachers of the daily routines.

The kids also learn their interests and skills, like wanting to become nurses, paleontologists, race car drivers, chiropractors, and more. ECLC students even enjoy being involved in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) projects which will benefit them now and in the following school years. These projects and the rest of the knowledge they learn in ECLC will become the building blocks from which they will advance and learn throughout the rest of their education.



ECLC is much more than a day of just being cared for, it's a day of observing, learning, and growing toward their future. The children learn how lights affect different objects, and they can see how their creations light up. They have a sensory table to feel and identify objects around them. They have a new topic every week and a new letter. At the beginning of the

year, they don't know how to work together or who to trust. At the end of the year, they work together amazingly.

The kids also have fun with tents, cars, and dolls. They relax with nap time and when hungry, have delicious snacks. When grown up, they look back at their ECLC experience and are very thankful. For example, Sophia H., a fifth grader, said that time out was an opportunity in which she learned right from wrong. ECLC is very important for expanding a child's growth mindset. It's an amazing place for wholesome experiences. It's better than daycare and helps the kids prepare for more educational memories. The kids in ECLC also learn common values of friendship that last a lifetime.

FIRST GRADE

By: Damien B. and Lauren S.

At JFK there are many grades, but one favorite is first grade with Ms. Epping and Mrs. Youngerman who are teachers of 38 students this year. In Ms. Epping's class there are 18 children, and in Mrs. Youngerman's class there are 20 children.



First graders enjoyed talking about their experiences. Belle M., Sam P., Greyson C., and William C. discussed their favorite subjects and activities. Belle M. said, "Science is my favorite," and William C. said, "Math is my favorite." How is kindergarten different from first grade? Greyson C. said, "Eating lunch early was my favorite," and Belle M. said, "Watching movies was my favorite."

Students also have ideas about what they want to become when they grow up. Sam. P said, "When I grow up I want to be a YouTuber," and Greyson. C said, "When I grow

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GRADE LEVEL NEWS CONTINUED



up I want to be a race car driver,” Willam. C and Belle M. both said, “I want to be a vet when I grow up.”

In first grade there are two amazing teachers Ms. Epping and Mrs. Youngerman. They are busy with this year's students. They love this year's class because they're kind to each other and get their work done, and they are silly. When it comes to teaching, math is their favorite subject to teach, because there are more tools to use. But, they are really excited to teach Science this year, because they have new Science books to learn from. When it comes to reading, Ms. Epping, and Mrs. Youngerman love to read to the class.

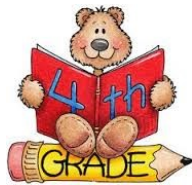
This year has gone by so fast and it has been exciting for this year's first grade class. It is hoped that first graders continue to have a great time at JFK and make a lot of friends. Especially that they will have a good time when they do their butterfly experiment. I hope that everyone at this school has a great day and goodbye.

FOURTH GRADE

By: Laisha L. & Abraham P.

The fourth graders have had many projects and fun times so far this school year such as going to Ridgecrest and working on the 50 states in Social Studies. They seem to be a busy group here at JFK.

The fourth graders have worked on newspapers describing themselves, as well as, collages. In the newspapers, they expressed themselves and what their favorite things were and their hobbies. They even wrote their own comic. The students have even had a tough Science project this year, the organ report. In the organ report, they had to choose one organ and talk about the features of that organ and what the organ does. Julia in 4L said,



“Science is my favorite subject.” They have also been working on book reports to learn about the different types of books and to help them find a book that might interest them. They spend time talking about the book and what the book means to the reader. The fourth graders have also been working on the states and their capitals in Social Studies. They have even done a project where they choose a state and talk about its origins and the places to go if you visit the state.

Besides going to Ridgecrest, the fourth graders had a chance to go to the symphony, where many instruments were heard at the Adler Theater. Rachel A. said, “It was a great symphony because it was well performed.” Mrs. Furlong's class said that their favorite field trip was going to Ridgecrest and McDonald's.

The students have also been learning to play recorders in music. They will be doing a concert in the gym in front of the whole school in May. They also do karate belts with their recorders. When they will finish a song and have it mastered they will get a belt. The belts are little strings wrapped around the bottom of the recorder. They have a similar ranking system as karate belts!

The fourth graders have been productive in their many studies so far this year. They have done many projects and assignments from the newspaper assignment to the recorders. They have been looking back into history and science. Fourth grade continues to experience a variety of subjects and learn more as they end the school year and have made many friends.

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GRADE LEVEL NEWS CONTINUED



EIGHTH GRADE

By: Elise B., Clara N., & Andrew R.

Eighth grade is the last grade at JFK. When you are in eighth grade, you get to participate in many activities. One activity they have done is Chase the Chill. Chase the Chill is where you make scarves for the homeless. Other activities are the volleyball game during Catholic Schools Week where the eighth graders played against staff members. Eighth grade also gets the chance to go to the Career Fair at St. Ambrose University.

One of the biggest things eighth grade participates in is Confirmation. Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments. Confirmation is “a sacrament that completes the grace received in Baptism” and you become able to participate more fully in the church. To prepare confirmation eighth graders take part in service projects like sweetheart dinner, food pantry, John Deere classic, Haunted House, etc.

8TH GRADE

A part of Confirmation is the saint project. For the saint project you explore a saint. For

example, Kyla D. picked Saint Katherine. Then you research the saint and what they did to become a saint. You also get to pick a sponsor to help with the saint project and help you on your faith journey. Also you have four choices on what you would like to do for the saint project. One is a wild card, where you come up with your own idea, and another is a canonization acceptance speech, where you get turned into a saint. For option three, you can research a stained glass window and make your own while option four, you interview a saint



Even though the eighth graders are leaving this year, they will still remember JFK. They will do and have done many things throughout the years for JFK. Confirmation, Chase the Chill, and Eighth vs. Teachers Volleyball are just some. We wish them happy years in high school!

STUDENT COUNCIL

By: Olivia F., Barbie K., & Kathleen Y.

Student council is a part of JFK that students participate in to make agreements; service projects, and dresses days. This group is an area in the school where the students can have a voice. "It's a group of kids who get together to talk about school activities for the month," said



Mary R. Student council is a beneficial group to participate in. The benefits of participating in student council are learning about and developing leadership skills and helping multiple charities. Students in grades third through eighth can participate in student council by becoming a class representative. Mr. Connors said that he "encourages students to participate in student council."

When you are in grades sixth through eighth, you have a chance to run for a student council office. The positions you can participate in are president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. If you want to be a part of these positions, you can make posters, and write a speech to present in front of the school to convince students to vote for you. "I read the meetings on Wednesday and organize them with Mr. Steimle, " said Emme S. who is the president of student council in the 2018-2019 school year. The vice president, treasurer, and secretary decide what service projects to do, such as Penny Wars, and any unique out of uniform dress days. Service projects are an important part of student council. The coat drive, dodgeball for diapers, and Iowa veterans home, are some service projects that the council has organized this school year.

Student council gives students the opportunity to lead, and to listen to their peers. Student council is a good thing for students at JFK. It also makes JFK a better place to learn and have fun. "Without the student there would be no student council; they are the key," said Mr. Ryan.

BOYS BASKETBALL

By: Cole G. & Zain D.

Boys basketball is a good way for boys to work together and have fun together as a team. The sixth, seventh, and eighth grade boys showed awesome teamwork this year!



Sixth grade was also in a tournament in the first round; record was 0-4 and 1-3. Nate M., a current sixth grader, plays his heart out even though it might be hard for him at times. Nate M. is able to play basketball with only one arm! How difficult is it to play basketball for him? He said, “It isn’t that hard, but I can’t shoot that well.” His hard work and dedication to his team are impressive. Aidan A. quoted that his goal was to “win all ten games.” That didn’t happen but they got into a tournament and that was challenging because they had such a small team. This shows they work hard and have a lot passion for the game.

Seventh grade didn’t make the tournament but they did have a pretty good record of 3-4 with three games left. Ralph A. said, “Practices were good, but only an hour long and were mostly scrimmages. His favorite game was against St. Paul’s Gold Team.” Jordan A. set a personal goal which was to “score at least 10 points” in this season. He said the games he played were against “St. Paul Gold, All Saints, Lourdes, and St. Joe’s.

Eighth grade did get into the tournament and tied first place with All Saints. Their record is 6-7, which is a good record. Xander P. said his practices were good because of his new coach. His favorite game was on February 18 because the other team had 20 fouls in the first half. Xander’s main goal wasn’t to get baskets but “to set screens”, which is to block the person that guards the person with the ball, so his teammates can score. This shows great teamwork.

It was fun learning about what these great players do at their practices, their goals and what they were, and their passion to play every year they can. They show an ability to try their hardest every game and year they play especially eighth grade and sixth too because they both got to the tournament.