

PRIDE *in Education*



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Elms Students Run Community Service Program

The 5th Grade CAP (Community Action Project) is a student run community service program that was created this year with a generous grant from the Elms PTN. Each year, the 5th grade students will choose a service organization or charity to work with and run a donation drive. This year CAP paired with The Pajama Program, a non-profit organization that provides pajamas and books to local children who are in shelters or homeless. ■



Goetz Builders Club Participate in POAC Autism Walk

Nice job Goetz! Members from the Builders Club spent time after school making amazing puzzle piece awareness ribbon chocolates that were later sold as delicious treats to the staff and students in school. Through their efforts and with the monies raised, the Goetz Builders Club was able to make a generous donation of almost \$400 to "Autism Walk for a Difference." Although it was cold and windy on Saturday, May 6th at First Energy Park, members of the club braved the elements and supported the POAC Autism Walk. Participants who walked the stadium for this great cause included Victoria Pungello, Calli Davis, Payton Toucher, Jiya Patel and Mr. Morris. Way to get out there and get involved in helping the community! Everyone is proud of your efforts. ■



Switlik Rain Barrel Challenge

The 2017 Barnegat Bay Blitz Rain Barrel Challenge voting results are now official. Switlik has won their second "Barnegat Bay Watershed Rain Barrel Challenge!" This year's theme for the Rain Barrel Challenge was "Because I Love Barnegat Bay."

One of Switlik's fourth grade classes, led by Ms. Contetiacomo, Ms. Decker, and Ms. Barth allowed students to design, draw, and paint the appropriately themed "Rain Barrel" project, which they completed together as a team.

Congratulations to these students for their achievement as well as taking the time and interest to learn about the Barnegat Bay Watershed's animals and plants as well as the issue of pollution and the benefits of recycling.

A favorite lesson took place when a "Watershed Ambassador" came and taught the class about pollution and how to keep both the environment clean and the animals and plant life within it safe.

Special thanks to everyone involved in this project as well as the entire Switlik School community that supported this initiative. Switlik School will now be rewarded with a day long, school wide celebration provided by the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection that will be geared to teaching all of the students and staff about the Barnegat Bay and environmental impacts that everyone makes within the community. ■



Elms Students Donate to Animal Shelter

The first graders at Elms Elementary have done it again! With the help of family members, the first graders raised over \$600 for the Jersey Shore Animal Shelter. The students' efforts were celebrated with a fun-filled night of painting with teachers and friends. We are so proud of our kind-hearted first graders! *(More photos on next page.)* ■





Holman Students Create Innovative Homemade Arcade

The fifth grade students in Room 113 at Holman Elementary School are once again amazing their teacher Mr. McEwan, with their creativity, ability to problem solve, and communication skills as they build a playable cardboard arcade. Being inspired by the Caine's Arcade video, Mr. McEwan's students are making a variety of arcade games and prizes for the other fifth grade classes to come in and play. Using materials that would normally be

discarded, such as cardboard, water bottles, paper, plastic cups, and old toys, the students have created a basketball game, an air hockey table, pinball machine, ball drop game, Putt Putt hole, gumball machine, and homemade fidget spinners. These students are becoming the makers, engineers, and innovators of tomorrow, today. Mr. McEwan is once again blown away with the talent that he sees in his students each and every day. ■



Elms Learning Garden

The Elms Learning Garden/Green Team Committee has been very busy, planning and getting their hands dirty in preparation for their efforts to take action towards sustainability efforts. Several staff members and students at Elms, got together to create a green space in the school's courtyard. The team has collaborated with other NJ schools who have developed similar projects. They have also been working closely with Master Gardeners through the Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

The Green Team recently received recognition and a grant from the Elms PTN to support the project. They have also been awarded a \$2,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey for Schools funded by PSEG which will help build upon the Learning Garden and the school's goals for sustainability. ■





Mother's Day Red Carpet Event!

Mrs. Alkalay's 3rd grade class celebrated Mother's Day by honoring their moms, aunts, or grandmothers in "Hollywood Style". Moms were greeted with their

names on a VIP list and a red carpet. Each student read their persuasive essay about why their mom should be chosen for
continued on next page

Red Carpet Event *continued*



Mom of the Year, and gave them a decorated frame that included the speech. Mrs. Cerino won the raffle and was awarded Mom of the Year!

Afterwards, snacks were enjoyed while games were played. "Hollywood Moms Trivia" was played on Kahoot and enjoyed by all. A special thank you to PRIDE for their help in sponsoring this event for our amazing "Red Carpet" moms. ■



Goetz Student Wins "I Can" National Contest

Congratulations to Marianna Iliadis of Goetz Middle School who was one of five winners of the *Scholastic Scope Magazine* "I Can" contest. Marianna's entry was submitted by her literacy teacher, Elaine Holleran, for the February contest.

She was chosen from among thousands of entries from all over the country. All entries to the contest were required to blend ideas from the poem "Can't" by Edgar Albert Guest with discussion of the article "The Amazing Powers of Jen Bricker" about a young woman who, despite having been born with no legs, is an accomplished gymnast and acrobat.

In addition to the honor of being selected from the myriad of entries, Marianna also received a certificate and a copy of the book *Grace, Gold, and Glory* by Gabrielle Douglas. Well done, Marianna! ■

Goetz Students Celebrate Earth Day

Goetz Middle School science students joined forces with Shoprite of Jackson to celebrate Earth Day. Shoprite provided Goetz students with 400 paper bags. Students decorated the bags with colorful pictures, quotes and reminders of how everyone can do their part every day to save the planet. The bags were then returned to ShopRite and on April 22nd ShopRite handed them out to their Earth Day shoppers. Students were excited to see their messages shared throughout the community. ■



Young Author's Gallery/ Living Wax Museum

Albert Einstein, Sally Ride, Benjamin Franklin, and J.K. Rowling were just a few of the historical figures and celebrities that visited Switlik Elementary School on the evening of March 22.

Students in the Switlik Enrichment Program recently took part in the first Living Wax Museum. Under the direction of co-teachers Faye Gilmore and Sue Magee, students participated in a month long project, in preparation for "Wax Museum Night". The project required extensive research, creating a display board, writing and memorizing a two minute speech, and putting together a costume and props that represented the person they were portraying.

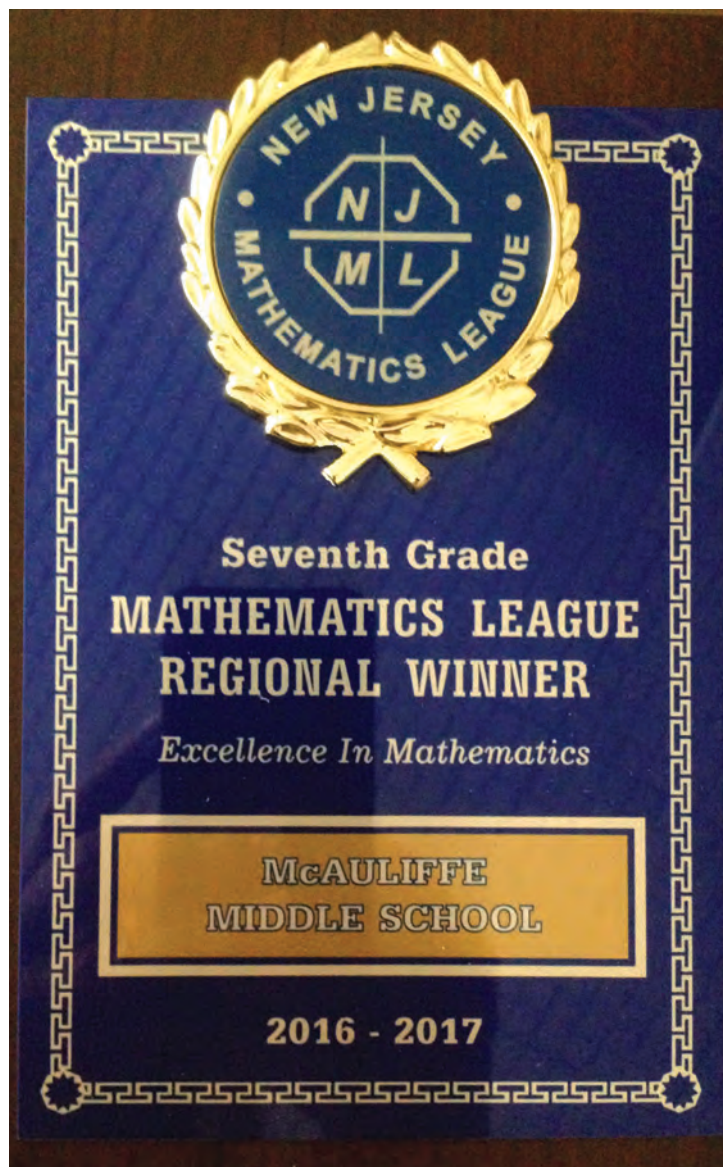
Over a hundred visitors walked through the Wax Museum. Many of the historical figures had to recite their speech over a dozen times, becoming a comfortable expert in front of many. John Pushko spoke about his 4th grade son Matthew, who portrayed Giants wide receiver, Odell Beckham Jr.; "Instead of confirming Matt's dislike of public speaking, I think it really enhanced his belief in himself. Matty gave 25 public speaking presentations, and since he had to do it again and again, he began to realize

this was no big deal. By his last presentation, he was making perfect eye contact and was giving his speech with incredible confidence. From my perspective, this is a really wonderful program that was executed perfectly".

It was a magical night, that showed off the dedication and hard work of these incredibly awesome Switlik Enrichment students! ■



McAuliffe Middle School's Advanced Math Students Honored



Ocean

Top Schools in Region

Rank	School	Town	Team Score
*1	McAuliffe Middle Sch	Jackson	138
2	Toms River IS North	Toms River	137
3	C.W. Goetz Middle Sch	Jackson	134
4	Toms River IS South	Beachwood	131

Congratulations to McAuliffe Middle School's Advanced Math students for being the regional winners at the National Mathcounts test in February! This was a wonderful achievement for all! Great job! ■



Goetz Student Honored for Essay

Katie Hayden, an 8th grader in Ms. Holleran's literacy class at Goetz Middle School, was one of the winners of the VFW Patriot's Pen contest. Katie's essay about what America means to her was honored with a certificate and a twenty-five dollar prize. Congratulations, Katie! ■



Goetz Students "Write to Remember"

On Friday, May 26, 2017, Goetz Middle school held its annual "Write to Remember" assembly in celebration of Memorial Day. A brief history of Memorial Day, once known as Decoration Day, was presented by history teacher

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“Write to Remember” *continued*

Mr. Robert Morris while guest speaker and veteran Barry Rosenzweig, a former First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and current JTV host of “This is Jackson” spoke to the students about the importance of honoring all veterans. He spoke especially of those veterans who gave their lives for the freedom of others.

Winners of the “Write to Remember” essay contest each wrote about a member of the military they wished to remember.

Essays were shared and Goetz principal Carl Perino presented each participant with gift cards donated by the Goetz PTN. The Goetz band and chorus students added to the patriotic feeling with musical selections including *Marines’ Hymn* and *Song for the Unsung Hero*. The ceremony ended with students standing at attention as Taps was played. American pride was felt by all in attendance. ■



Crawford Rodriguez ACTing Club

To promote the school character education motto, “Stand up. Report bullying, don’t be the silent majority!”, the Crawford Rodriguez ACTing Club created videos for the whole school to watch.

The ACTing Club stands for “All Coming Together” and over 50 students volunteered their time to stay after school to perform skits about situations they found relevant to their school day. Led by Mr. Villecco, the Crawford Rodriguez staff members, Gina Karatzia, Pamela Barth, Jaimy Schloss-

berg, Helenmae Bilder, Kelly King, Catherine Ogletree, Lia Thomas, and Kevin Maher, guided six groups of students to practice skits then act out the scenarios while recording them with school iPads. The videos are on the Crawford Rodriguez website for staff to access and play during non-instructional time.

The staff and students at Crawford Rodriguez enjoy watching their peers perform and look forward to future ACTing club projects. ■



Holman Advanced Math Students Study Volume

This year, the Advanced Math students at Holman Elementary School, taught by Miss Mayer, received hands-on experience when learning about volume.

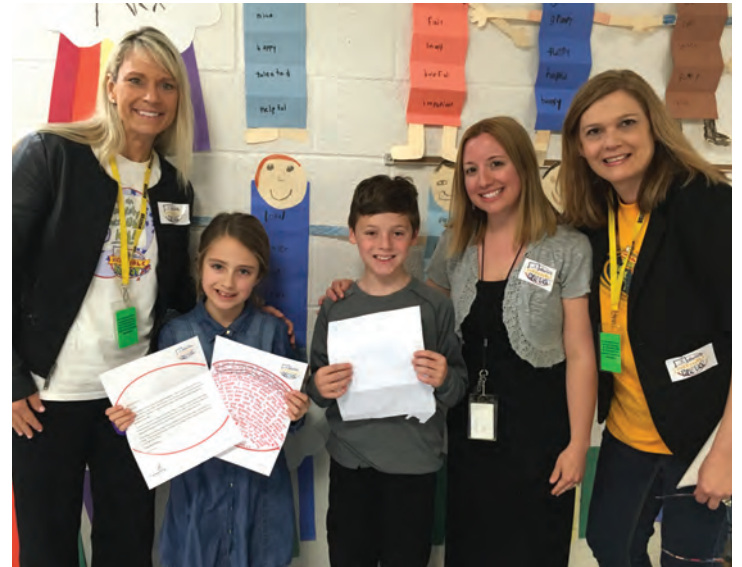
The students were tasked with creating three different-sized cereal boxes: a regular size box, a mini-size box (half the size of the regular box), and a jumbo-size box (three times the size of the regular cereal box). Working in teams, they had to create a plan to construct their cereal boxes out of pieces of regular copy paper so that the boxes would stand on their own. All of the students worked cooperatively with their teams to build their boxes, and the projects were put on display in the main entrance of the school. ■



Switlik Obstacle Course

On Thursday April 6th, Switlik Special Area Teachers organized a special event for all students called the 2017 Switlik Obstacle Course Challenge! Classes in each grade level had the opportunity to challenge each other

in a fun and friendly competition that emphasized teamwork, perseverance, strategy, and fair play! All students enjoyed the activity, which included a drop and roll, high jumps, balance beams, and even a slalom style run. Special thanks to the Switlik PTN for providing water and treats which were enjoyed by all of the children after the event! ■



Elms Students, Parents and Teachers Celebrate *Absolutely Incredible Kid Day*

On April 21, Elms Elementary School in Jackson celebrated *Absolutely Incredible Kid Day*, a special day created by Camp Fire NJ, a youth development organization.

"The idea is simple: adults write letters to the absolutely incredible children in their lives letting them know they are loved and supported. A letter is personal, tangible and something a that can be held for years to come.

Children need positive reinforcement in their lives. The right words of encouragement can come at just the time a child needs them most, helping the child make better decisions, build self-esteem, and even be more compassionate and successful," said Kelly Nitti, Camp Fire NJ's Associate Executive Director. Camp Fire NJ's staff read a book to the second graders and they learned about finding their "spark". A spark is something you are passionate about and makes you feel good.

"This was the first Absolutely Incredible Kids Day in Jackson and in Ocean County. We wanted to make sure that our students know how important and loved they are!" said Elms teacher, Erin Schnorbus. ■

Jackson Education Association

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Carol Mould, *President*

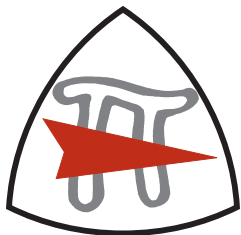
Lisa Crate, *Vice President*

Ellen McPolin, *Treasurer*

Stephanie Healy, *Corresponding Secretary*

Elaine Holleran, *Recording Secretary*

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Goetz Builders Club Donates to Make-A-Wish

Members of the Goetz Builders Club, along with advisors Susan Pennell and Heather Callahan, presented Make-A-Wish NJ a check for \$500.00. The Builders Club held a number of fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for this amazing organization. ■