

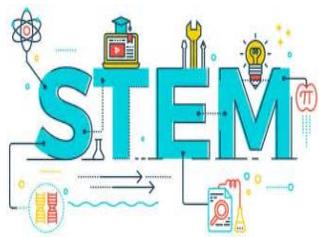
# The Crusader

Serving the Crusaders of Father Judge High School

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## JUDGE HOCKEY TAKES TO THE ICE

By Remy Garant

There is a difference between hoping and expecting. If a team in any sport were to say “we are hoping to make playoffs this year,” then it may indicate a lack of confidence in their playing ability. The varsity ice hockey program here at Father Judge does not hope to win a Philadelphia Catholic League (PCL) championship, but rather expects it.

So far, Father Judge is 4-0-0 (four wins and zero losses) this year, which is second place in the PCL conference. The first place team is Cardinal O’Hara at 7-1-0 with their only loss coming against Father Judge in the season opener. This season opening game was important since O’Hara was the defending champs, and it was essential for Father Judge to establish itself amongst its peers. Father Judge’s win against the defending champs ended O’Hara’s long win streak which they had expected to extend into the current season. The very true statement, “We are the team to beat in the PCL.”, said by Coach Morrison is repeated at practice and in the locker room before games to remind the team that they deserve a championship.

Seniors Mark Marron (#12), Vince Marroni (#91), and Justin Anderson (#17) are naturally some of the top leaders on the team; however juniors Chris Benedict (#28) and Keith Wiercinski (#87) also have an impact in the locker room preparing the team for the game.



The last two games before Christmas are important ones not only for standings but also bragging rights. On Monday, December 18 Roman Catholic squares off with Father Judge at the Northeast Skate Zone at 7:20 pm. Then on Friday, December 22 Father Judge battles Archbishop Ryan again at Northeast Skate Zone at 6:00 pm. These games are a sort of rivalry night for Father Judge, so be sure to support the Crusaders.

To keep track of upcoming information, there is a Facebook page that can be followed (Check out the Hockey Page on the athletics section of the Judge website.) These pages provide scores and upcoming games for all three of Father Judge’s hockey

teams as well as some pictures. Whether hockey is an interest or not, I can assert that a varsity ice hockey game is electrifying with hits, goals, and celebrations.



## IS THE XBOX ONE X IN YOUR FUTURE?

by Jarod Jagielski

The Xbox One X is the fourth console in the Xbox “family” created by Microsoft and available worldwide on November 7th, 2017 for a price of \$499.00 at most electronics stores (a special addition costs \$749.96 at QVC.com and includes Madden 18.) It comes with a storage of 1 TB (terabyte) and HDMI Input cord which when hooked up to a TV displays the home screen of the console. There are things that you can do besides playing games and other apps, such as play Blu-Ray discs without having to download an app, unlike previous consoles. This new console also has motion control which used to be the Kinect. Now, it has been reported that Microsoft no longer makes Kinect, meaning that the motion control will be inside of the console for the first time since it was introduced back in 2010 with the Xbox 360. It also has 4k capability with a resolution of 8.3 megapixels and aspect ratio of 16:9. It is one of the two resolutions of ultra high definition television, with the only other one being the 8k UHD, which is 33.2 megapixels. There is one thing that is the same about the Xbox One X, and that is the Xbox Live and Live Gold systems. They are a paid subscription of \$40 for one year, while before it was \$60 for one year. What Xbox Live does is that it allows people who subscribe the ability to play online with people not playing on the same console. The same games that you can play on the Xbox One are available to play on the Xbox One X.

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## Does the latest instalment of that "galaxy far, far away" live up to its hype?

by Colin Hughes

The ninth installment of the Star Wars franchise has garnered an expected amount of hype leading up to the film's release. "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" opened Friday December 15, earning \$220 million on the opening weekend, which is the second highest earning Star Wars film, coming behind its predecessor "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," according to CNNMoney. Some critics say it is the best installment of the franchise since "The Empire Strikes Back," but does it live up to the hype?

As an overall movie, "The Last Jedi" is a good and very enjoyable movie, with plenty of action and story, as is almost every Star Wars movie, but it may not live up to the expectations of certain Star Wars fans. There are definitely things to be applauded like moving away from mirroring the original trilogy, like in "The Force Awakens," good character development, and fine use of special effects. However, the movie does have its similarities to "The Empire Strikes Back." Many homages to the original trilogy appear in the film, which is very well done and nostalgic, but not overdone. "The Last Jedi" also brings a new flavor to the franchise with a unique aspect on the roles of the light and dark-side of the force, which is welcomed, new locations, and new creatures throughout the Star Wars galaxy. Acting has also stepped up a notch, with Mark Hamill's best performance has "Luke Skywalker," Adam

Driver's less whiny depiction of "Kylo Ren," and the addition of Andy Serkis as "Supreme Leader Snoke." It was also one of the funniest Star Wars movies with the humor being used just right to keep the movie from becoming too serious but without becoming too silly.

"The Last Jedi" is not without faults however. Despite good character development of some characters there were underdeveloped characters, like "Snoke" and "Captain Phasma." There were also subplots of the movie that seemed unnecessary, like Poe's rashness and the romantic aspect between "Rose" and "Finn." Certain characters, like Chewbacca and Princess Leia, were also underused, which is disappointing especially with Carrie Fisher's passing. The feeling of "there is no point to this movie except of money" also was hard to get rid of at certain points of the movie, but that also speaks to the previous "Episode VII."

Overall, the movie was very enjoyable and a solid addition to the franchise but certain parts of the movie could have been done better.



Images: The Walt Disney Company



# STEM Projects Move to the Front of the Class

by Paul Coates

Our teachers at Father Judge have been working hard to use project based instruction within their course instruction. Some teachers have begun incorporating S.T.E.M into the classrooms. S.T.E.M., an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, is a new approach in the academic curriculum that puts an emphasis on using those fields of inquiry to develop the critical thinking skills that many future jobs will require. Mr. Fiocco, Ms. Kots, and other teachers in the science department have been using this method of inquiry for a number of years; however, teachers outside of science and math also have found ways to incorporate S.T.E.M into their instruction.

While reading Rachel Carson's "The Marginal World" in their ELA class, Mr. Cramutolo's sophomores recently tested her theory that successful species need to adapt to their environment in order to survive. In the STEM lab the sophomores

used Lego MindStorm kits to build robots that simulated herbivores, carnivores, and plant life in order to see how well they would function in a harsh environment. Mr. Fiocco helped greatly in helping the sophomores to design computer programs that would allow the robots to act autonomously. The sophomores then worked in groups of four to build the robot and write the computer program. Mr. Cramutolo said, "Writing a computer program uses some of the same writing skills to organize a message. All of the critical thinking skills are in use."

Mr. Cramutolo's students are not the only teacher using the STEM lab: Mrs. Dwyer's senior classes are completing projects as well. In her senior theology classes, Mrs. Dwyer is teaching about social justice and how everyone should be cared for as God desires. Mrs. Dwyer gave her seniors the task of building a shelter to keep refugees safe. The shelter

must be structurally sound to keep the refugees safe. Students worked in the fabrication lab where they were given wood and tools, like to cut and measure the wood in order to construct the structures. The project was successfully required last year and this year's seniors were just as successful.

Ms. Jones and Mr. Hylan have also used the S.T.E.M. lab to further their curriculum. Ms. Jones' students built robots to illustrate Spanish culture, while Mr. Hylan history class designed water pumps to explain the importance of technology during the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century. The age of S.T.E.M. has arrived!

*(right) Sophomore Tareef Howell (center) helps write his team's computer program for its plant robot in Mr. Cramutolo's ELA class. Tom Lamplough (right) and Angelo worked on the design of the robotic plant, raising its light sensor high up in order to catch as much energy as it could.*

*(below) In Mr. Cramutolo's ELA class, sophomores Cade McKee, Paul Mangan, and Shane McGovern check their computer program of their robot. Their team needed to program the robots sensors to avoid predators while looking for food to survive the environment.*



***Our story is continued on page 7 with more photos.***

## The Judge Swim Team Prepares for its 2017 Season

by Matt Purcell

The Father Judge swim team has been practicing long and hard since the last week of October in preparation for the season which is rapidly approaching. Coaches Ed Quarry and Joe Fitzgerald have been leading the team in the water, while Coach John has been training the team in the gym. The swimmers practice for an hour and a half every night from Tuesday to Friday in the pool at Abraham Lincoln High School as well as on Saturday mornings at NEPSCA Pool, along with workout sessions every Tuesday and Thursday morning before school in the Mitchell Athletic Center. This vigorous, hardcore training schedule promises positive results in the upcoming season.

Last year the team said goodbye to eight seniors, but thankfully nine new additions to the team have made up for the loss. These first-year swimmers for Judge, along with the returning sophomores and juniors, have followed the example of seniors Chris Hunter, Colin Reilly (team captain), and Mike Sauer (team captain) to make Judge's team a definite threat to its competitors.

The Father Judge swimmers faced off against Archbishop Ryan's boys in their first meet on Thursday, December 14th, at NEPSCA, and easily won the contest. Next they go on to face Lasalle and then their archenemy, Saint Joe's Prep, in January of 2018. In the last two years, Father Judge has only lost to Saint Joe's by a few points, with both meets coming down to the last relay(s) for victory. There is no doubt that the Father Judge swimmers will be training harder than ever during Christmas break so that they can finally gain a well-deserved triumph over Prep.

## ...FROZEN GOLD...

### THE VARSITY FOUR EARNS FIRST PLACE



By Alex Coelho

Father Judge Crew finished off the 2017 fall season golden when their Varsity Four reigned victorious in the Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta. The team raced three regattas this season: The Navy Day Regatta, The Head of the Schuylkill, and the previously mentioned Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta. They raced a JV eight in their first two regattas, but, after average results, they shifted their focus to the Varsity four boat with the goal of finishing the season on top at their final race, the Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta.

On November 11, 2017, the team travelled to Lake Mercer in Windsor, New Jersey and prepared to row for gold in 30° weather. After waiting out delays due to cold temperatures, the crew launched off the dock and rowed up to the starting line. The race official signaled the start of the race, and Judge quickly secured a position in first place, never giving it up for the entire 2000 meters. After the race the oarsmen, Nate Tennesen, Jacob Rodriguez, Alexander Coelho, and John McLaughlin, and coxswain, Jack Gosse were awarded their medals in the frozen weather, winning another victory for

Father Judge.

Prior the Frostbite regatta, the team competed in two other regattas, the Navy Day, and the next weekend the Head of the Schuylkill regattas, both on the Schuylkill river. The Navy Day Regatta was the first challenge with the team spending from mid-September to the 14th of October preparing for the race. The boat consisted of coxswain, Jack Gosse, and oarsmen, Eldison Canaj, Thomas Gola, Christopher Capriotti, and James Cehlar, as well as the members of the Varsity Four; however, despite their efforts, they finished with a mediocre place. Following the race, the team also competed in the Head of Schuylkill regatta on October 28th, which once again produced disappointing results.

Now after redeeming themselves in the Frostbite Regatta the teams have left the river and enter the gym for the winter to prepare themselves for the coming spring season. For the next three months the team will be lifting, working the ergometer, and running in the Mitchell Center to train themselves for success in the future. Every workout for coming winter the team will spend thinking of the coming spring 2018 Manny Flicks and how they can work towards victory.

# Crusaders Wrestle Their Way To Success!



by Liam Logue

In 2016, the Father Judge Wrestling team was well organized and was able to have another successful year and win the Philadelphia Catholic League (PCL) for the second year in a row. We had a full lineup and were able to defeat the majority of our opponents during the season and even took third place in major tournaments like the Conestoga Valley. The main season was successful and we even were able to keep winning when major wrestlers, like Anthony Armstrong, were injured during the season. After a strong regular season, we were prepared to enter the postseason playoffs.

In the playoffs, the win against St. Joe's propelled us to the finals and we prepared to verse our rival and the team we defeated in the previous PCL Championship, Archbishop Wood. The match was tight, with many weights preparing for close matches against Wood, but big wins at 106 and 132 helped Father Judge defeat Archbishop Wood 32-27. Winning the PCL championship for the second year in a row emphasized Father Judge's dominance in the PCL and established our team as a main competitor for years to come.

After the PCL Championship, we moved onto

the individual post-season. In the sectionals (first round) Father Judge had eight wrestlers pass into the District XII Championships (the second round), with four champions. In the District XII Championships seven wrestlers progressed into the Regional Championships, with three champions. The Regional Championships are noticeably more challenging than the previous rounds, with top teams in the nation like Bethlehem Catholic and Nazareth competing in the same region. Most Father Judge wrestlers fell, but Trevor Elfvin and Liam Logue were able to both take third place and compete in the State Championships. Only three wrestlers have ever placed in the State Championships for Father Judge, with Pennsylvania State competition being some of the most fierce in the country. Trevor Elfvin was one match away from placing and Liam Logue was two away, regardless this was still one of the most successful Father Judge Wrestling seasons in history.

Father Judge's 2017 season started out with a disappointing loss against Neshaminy, 49-16. The team needed to improve and had to start implementing the new technique they had learned in the top and bottom positions, to effectively escape from bottom and to turn their opponents on top. The team began training much harder after this loss and stressing the

importance of using technique instead of going into the match without a gameplan. The first big event for the Father Judge team was the Abington Duels, a chance for redemption after the disappointing loss to Neshaminy. Father Judge started the day off with an impressive defeat of Pennsbury, 44-24. The next match would be closer, 47-33, against Upper Darby. With big wins in the midweights, Judge was able to prevail. The last two matches in the pool were against Upper Moreland and Wissahickon, they proved to be no threat to the team and Father Judge won the pool. There were two major pools in the competition; the top two teams in each pool would face off against each other in the finals. Father Judge now faced Springford, a strong team with many skilled wrestlers. Father Judge was not ready to repeat another disappointing performance, like the match against Neshaminy, instead they dictated the pace of the match and focused on completing moves and using technique. Father Judge was able to decimate Springford 48-25, with eight pins against the Rams.

The Abington Duels were a successful competition for the Crusaders and helped redirect their season towards another PCL championship.

# JUDGE INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD BEGINS ITS 2017 SEASON...

*By Pat Carolan*

The Father Judge Indoor Track and Field 2017-2018 campaign began with workouts in late November and will hit full stride with meets beginning on Saturday, December 16th at the Rauch Fieldhouse, Lehigh University's Indoor Track and Field facility. In Indoor Track, the track is only 200 meters long as opposed to the 400 meter track that is run on for Outdoor Track. Although the Crusaders travel to and from various meets together and even score as a team, there are really 3 different aspects of Indoor Track and Field training and competition that make up a complete team.

Distance running primarily involves members of the Cross Country team during this past summer and fall. Father Judge's distance members, led by senior captain Pat Carolan, will compete in events including the 800, 1600, and 3,000 meter run, which is an event that is only run in Indoor Track and not Outdoor Track. The distance runners will also compete in 4x800 meter relays and distance medley relays, which is consisted of four legs in the relay. One runner opens up running 1,200 meters, the next runs 400 meters, followed by an 800 meter leg, and finished up with a 1,600 meter run.

Another group of athletes at Father Judge that makes up the Indoor Track and Field team is the sprinters, who are

all about speed rather than the stamina, which makes distance runners great at their events. These sprinters, led by senior captains Joe Cassidy, Anthony Capwell, and Mike Baumgarten, often compete in a sprinting event such as the 60 meter dash instead of the 100 meter dash, a typical event in an Outdoor Track and Field meet. The sprinters will also compete in 200 and 400 meter races as well as the 4x200 and 4x400 meter relays. The Crusaders will also travel to various meets with their jumpers and throwers, led by throwing team captains Nick Murray, Angelo Matarazzo, and Justin Martinez. The throwers will compete in the shot put, while the jumpers will compete in the long jump, triple jump and high jump. With the return of many strong athletes from last year's team, the Crusaders are preparing to have another great season after finishing in 3rd place out of 14 teams last year at the Philadelphia Catholic League Championships.

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To make up a complete team, there are really 3 different aspects of Indoor Track and Field training.

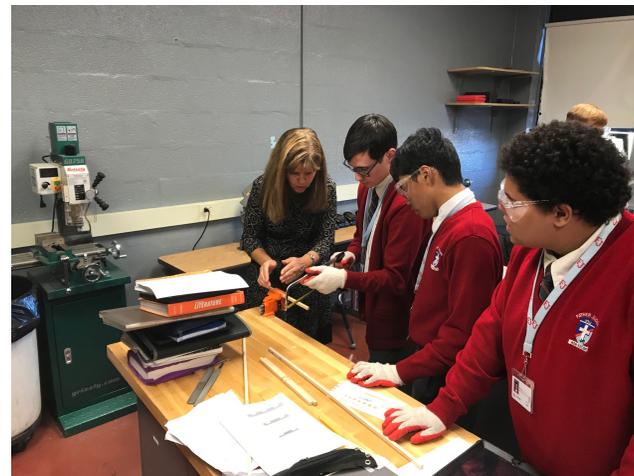
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*Briab Egolf shows the correct way to use calipers while completing Mrs.Dwyer's STEM assignment on designing structures that provide refugees from the elements of weather. The STEM project helped students to understand the principles of social justice.*

*(right) Mrs. Dwyer supervises the progress of her students' construction project in the third floor Fabrication Lab as they design refugee centers. The care of refugees is a major concern of the United Nations and other global social welfare organizations.*



*(left) Mark Midzak and Sean McAllorum measure the required materials to build their refugee center in the Fabrication Room.*

*(left) Mr. Fiocco helps sophomores Kevin Rue and Jeff Presock check the accuracy of their computer program while they prepare their robot for Mr. Cramutolo's STEM project.*



# **DON'T MISS OUR JANUARY ISSUE!**

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Spotlight on Salesian Spirituality..The Basketball Season so far: The road to the Playoffs...A Preview of the spring show..updates on the Bowling, Wrestling, Swim, and Chess teams...Academic Profiles

Merry  
Christmas  
and a Happy  
New Year!