

SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

FROM THE

Office of the Principal

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Mrs. Lori Trott, Principal

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ENGINEERING CLASS TO BE OFFERED IN 2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR AT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

About a month ago, SJA applied for a grant to participate in the *Engineer Your World* curriculum through the University of Texas and the Cockrell School of Engineering. Just last week we received news that our application had been accepted. On Monday, February 25th, I met with all of the current juniors and shared this wonderful news. We will be offering one class with an enrollment limit of 24 students. As you can imagine, we are all very excited to be able to add this science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) coursework to our college preparatory course offerings.



VIVA ENGINEERING 2013!

On Saturday, February 16th, fourteen of our Middle Division students participated in an engineering and design competition at the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas.



Left to Right: Jimena Padilla (3rd place), Luis Gutierrez, Jorge Lee, Angel Mayo, Jose Kauachi, Quirino Balderas, Hugo Sanchez, Marte Rodriguez, Victoria Zabarte, Hanna Villarreal (2nd place), Sebastian Monfort (back of girls), Alejandro Balderas, Calvin Walker and Marijose Garza (not in picture).

The students were required to design and create a cart that would contain raw eggs and have the eggs remain intact after the cart crashed in to a wall.



One team, headed by Jimena Padilla, came in 3rd place, while Hannah Villarreal's team came in 2nd place. Congratulations to all of our budding engineers!



WHAT IS SIR ISAAC NEWTON'S 2nd LAW OF MOTION?

The 7th grade students conducted an experiment on both gravity and air resistance to observe Newton's 2nd Law of Motion. Each team built three parachutes of different sizes (small, medium and large) and then determined what the successful landing results were for an egg using each sized parachute when dropped from the upper level of the Canales Field bleachers (about 13 feet).

The teams recorded the time it took for each parachute to drop and calculated the speed of each drop and rate of successful landing.

We've all heard of "Speed Dating" but have you ever heard of "Speed Dating with Books"?



Last month, the sophomores enjoyed a new experience in the Library making new "friends". Mrs. Quantz, our Library Media Specialist, placed a varied selection of books on all of the tables in the library. Some were old favorites while others were new and had never been checked out. The topics ranged from sports, science fiction, mystery, romance, biographies and autobiographies – something for everyone. The students were assigned to a table and given a rubric for scoring the book they selected to "meet". After 10 minutes, the students moved to another table and followed the same process. As the class time was drawing to an end, every student was required to check out their "date" and report on how this new relationship develops.



DO YOU KNOW WHO JODEE BLANCO IS?

On Tuesday, March 19th, we are thrilled that the New York Times bestselling author, Jodee Blanco, will be speaking at Saint Joseph Academy. She has written *Please Stop Laughing at Me* and the award winning sequel, *Please Stop Laughing at US*.

Ms. Blanco is a survivor, expert and activist and one of the country's pre-eminent voices on the subject of school bullying.

Often referred to by many as "the anti-bullying bible", her book *Please Stop Laughing at Me* is required reading in hundreds of middle and high schools and numerous universities throughout the country. She will be presenting her acclaimed anti-bullying program, *It's NOT Just Joking Around!*TM to the faculty in the morning and to the students in grades 7th through 10th in the afternoon.

From 5th grade through the end of high school, she was rejected and tormented by her peers simply for being different. Now she has committed her life to turning her pain into purpose. Ms. Blanco's anti-bullying initiatives are redefining the scope of possibilities for curbing suffering in our schools worldwide. We owe a large THANK YOU to our Positive Peer Leadership Team for helping sponsor this event.

SJA CONTINUES TO SHINE THROUGHOUT ALL COMPETITIONS

UIL Competition Results from February meet at Hanna High School – CONGRATULATIONS!!

David Rubio	Ready Writing	1 st Place
Javier Gutierrez	Spelling	2 nd Place
Joe Saldana	Numbers Sense	3 rd Place
Rogelio Cobian	Number Sense	3 rd Place
Alex Figueroa	Spelling	3 rd Place
Joe Saldana	Mathematics	6 th Place
Annie Hernandez	Mathematics	6 th Place



TAPPS Art Competition Results – We are happy to announce that SJA placed **2nd** in our district!!

All of the following students that received a 1st through 5th place will go on to the State competition in March. – CONGRATULATIONS!!

On-site Drawing

1 st	Courtney Connor
2 rd	Ana Karen Barrera
4 th	Andrea Lopez
5 th	Enrique Garcia
6 th	Karim Salhadar
HM	Ana Lorena Lopez
HM	Lucy Salum

Fabrication of pottery and ceramics

1 st	Maria Fernanda del Pozo
2 nd	Adrian Rendon
3 rd	Maricela Diaz
6 th	Pamela Escobar
HM	Fernando Cuellar
HM	Silvia Perez

Sculpture

2 nd	Carlos Revilla
4 th	Gina Valenzulea
HM	Jose Maria Hernandez

Ricardo Cobian

1 st	Printing
1 st	Communication design
1 st	Computer rendered art
4 th	Computer rendered art

Andrea Perales

1 st	Experimental Photography
1 st	Fashion Design
2 nd	Fashion Design

Rytchard Nunez

1 st	Applied Design
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Ana Lorena Lopez

4 th	Relief
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Miguel Masso

4 th	Printing
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Ashanty de Luna

5 th	Printing
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Silvia Perez

6 th	Printing
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TAPPS Academic Competition Results – CONGRATULATIONS to all participants.

Students placing 1st through 5th place will go on State competition in March.

Juan Antonio Nader	Spanish	1 st place (tie)
David Rubio	Ready Writing	2 nd place
Rogelio Cobian	Calculator	3 rd place
Enrique Ibarra	Spanish	4 th place (tie)
Luis Fernando Mendoza	Calculator	6 th place
Rogelio Cobian	Number Sense	7 th place



SJA TEAM MAKES HISTORY IN MASTERMIND COMPETITION

For the very first time, a 7th grade student was a member of a Masterminds team! I am happy to let everyone know that on Monday, January 29, SJA beat Harlingen 405 to 205 and will move on to the next round. **GO SJA!!**

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, March 10th at 11:00 am** to view Saint Joseph Academy compete against Harlingen High School on KRGV – Channel 5.

The Masterminds Team members include: Gilbert Hernandez (11th grade) Captain, Aldo Banuelos (10th grade), Shreya Mohanty (7th grade), and David Rubio(11th grade).

NEWS ALERT: BREAKING NEWS TO REPORT FOR MASTERMINDS.....

On Monday, February 25th, Saint Joseph Academy competed against Lopez High School and won the match **315 to 310** – what a heart stopper!! We will now move on to the Quarter Finals later in March. This competition will be aired on KRGV-Channel 5 on **Sunday, May 5th at 11:00am**.

BANSA AND DIOCESAN SPELLING BEE PARTICIPANTS

The following Middle Division students represented SJA in the Brownsville Association of Non-Public School Administrators (BANSA) spelling bees held at Incarnate Word Academy:

Caroline Loop
Golbanoo Setayesh

Daniela Gonzalez
Cecilia Gomez

Caroline Loop (pictured here) will be representing us in the Regional Spelling Bee in early March.

