

## An "Out of this World" Field Trip!

by Gianni Penson, 4th Grade

On Monday, March 5th, my classmates and I went to the Challenger Learning Center in Hammond, Indiana. We learned about Moon phases, lift and thrust, and electrical (light) pollution. We know that the sun is the closest star to Earth. We experimented with Snap Circuits, making a robot with sounds and many colors. My favorite part was when we met the astronomer's fictional friend, Coyote. He was very funny!



## Challenged at the Challenger!

by DeAndra Cooke, 4th Grade



Today I'm going to tell you about the things I learned and did at the Challenger Center in Indiana. The first thing was meet this nice lady, Astronomer Jeannie. Then we went into this cool room- a planetarium. The whole class met 'Coyote'. Coyote had a lot of wrong answers (misconceptions) about the stars and our universe. After that, we watched a movie on the planetarium ceiling about the stars and planets. Then we did this cool project- Moon Phases. Everybody was a moon and a lightbulb was the sun. We were moving around to make the different phases of the moon. Then we made electricity by making these Snap Circuits. My group made an alarm- it was so cool. Then we saw another movie about airplanes. After that, she gave us paper airplanes to take home! My most favorite part was when we made Snap Circuits, #electricity.

**Note from Principal Santellano:** DeAndra and Gianni's essays were chosen out of the submissions from Ms. Aguirre's 3/4 Grade class. They win a prize pack of books and candy! Thank you also to Damienne McCottrell, Daniel Wallace, Raigen Hudson, and Mia McGee for their great submissions.

## Here's What's Coming Up at St. John de la Salle!



Friday, March 16th: SJDLS Fish Fry- Mrs. Lyles will not be able to be in charge this time. Principal Santellano will be donning the hairnet and manning the kitchen. ANY and ALL help is appreciated! Also Friday, FREE DRESS DOWN DAY in honor of St. Patrick's Day! Students must have on GREEN clothing to participate in this free Dress Down Day. Students or teachers with the most green on win a prize!

Saturday, March 17th: All Big Shoulders Fund Scholarship recipients are asked to attend the St. Patrick's Day parade to walk with the BSF float. It's just one small way to say thank you to them for all of the support (Secret Word 1: gratitude) they give us through the year.

Wednesday, March 21: Coffee with the Principal at 8:15 and Student of the Month Mass: recognizing Gentleness at 9 a.m.! Join us!



Friday, March 23rd: LAST FISH FRY of the year! Please support our parish if you are able and purchase a perch or catfish lunch or dinner- take it home so you don't have to cook for the family!

Monday, March 26th-Monday, April 2nd: SPRING and EASTER BREAK!



April 6th: The Gradebook will close to parents in preparation for the Progress Reports/Conferences.

Our LAST Book Fair of the year- Buy One, Get One Free will take place from Friday, April 8th to Thursday, April 12th.



Sunday, April 8th: Our April Family Mass will take place at 10 a.m., hosted by grades 3 & 4.

Thursday, April 12th: This will be a half day for all students, and Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place in the afternoon. THERE IS NO AFTER CARE ON THIS DAY. For this set of conferences, teachers will request conferences with certain families, and families are likewise, able to request a conference, but it will be different from our previous conferences with scheduled conferences for all. Look for more information to come out about this when we return from Spring/Easter Break.

Friday, April 13th: There is NO SCHOOL due to Professional Development for our teachers.

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### **TAX CREDIT NEWS/REMINDERS:**

Last week Empower Illinois began sending emails to families in batches with the next steps. Parents will then have seven days to complete the application. Don't forget to check your email!

As for the Big Shoulders Fund Tax Credit, from **March 5- April 5:** Big Shoulders Fund will award scholarships on a rolling basis- subject to funding availability (approximately 1,500-2,000 scholarships). They will communicate with schools about their awardees throughout the month. Please be patient.

**Week of April 16:** BSF anticipates that we will be able to share lists of all applicants and their current status with schools. Note again that status is subject to funding and as such family status on the waitlist may change.

**Remember: You will need an acceptance letter from Principal Santellano to send to the SGO as a final step to receive the Tax Credit scholarship. These acceptance letters will be written for families who have applied for next year using the new application as well as paying the family registration fee of \$150.**

### **PRAYER CORNER**

*Please lift up in prayer the wife of Mr. Williams (Music Teacher) who was recently hospitalized. We are praying for her healing!*

*Want to add a prayer to the list? Our SJD1S community will storm Heaven for you. Email [ssantellano@johndls.org](mailto:ssantellano@johndls.org) to add any special intentions.*

