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MAR 2019
March Mammal Madness

Mrs. Hallal's and Mrs. Esposito's biology students are competing to be March Mammal Madness champions! March Mammal Madness is a tournament of simulated battles between living organisms. Like the NCAA championship, the MMM bracket includes 64 combatants vying to reach the Elite "Trait," Final "Roar," and ultimately become The Champion. The tournament inspired students to create an in-depth scouting report on one of the combatants, then use knowledge of ecological interactions to make their own bracket predictions. The battle outcomes are determined by scientific research and probability, then narrated live on Twitter.

MMM is intended to inspire students to spread scientific knowledge and awareness for conservation efforts. This year's divisions include "Jump Jump" (animals with unique jumping abilities,) "WaterFalls" (animals who live in or near freshwater ecosystems,) "CAT-e-Gory" (animals with names that sound like cats but aren't!) and "Tag Team (organisms in symbiotic relationships.)

It's incredible to see the rest of the student body invested in the tournament. Students pass by the giant bracket in the hallway and check in on their favorite animal! Freshmen Annika Bredel said, "I enjoyed learning about different animals that I had never even heard of. I learned about the animal's adaptations, what they eat and their habitats." Denny Fischer said, "I've liked that there is many unexpected victories and losses." We can't wait to see who is crowned as champion next week and are excited to bring March Mammal Madness back every year! for more information on March Mammal Madness, follow the official Twitter account: @2019mmmletsgo

Engineering Students
Teaching and Learning

We could write paragraphs on what engineering students are doing, but pictures are worth thousands of words...Look for yourself!

Engineering II students teaching Engineering I students how to use the Makerspace's 3D printers.

Engineering II students used the Epilog Laser Mini (shown above) to create nearly 400- 70th Anniversary Gala gifts. Shhh.. It's a surprise until April 6.

Building bridges is interesting when using a deck of cards and popsicle sticks. Everyone was holding their breath and waiting to see how much weight the popsicle stick bridge could handle before it broke...75 lbs!

Students stop by and check their picks against the giant bracket.

The bridge held 75 pounds of everything that could be put in a bucket!
EC. EXE Robotics Club Going to WORLDS!

Our EC.EXE Robotics Club participated in the Buckeye Regional Competition held at the Wolstein Center in Cleveland, March 28-30. The students and their robot “GOOD’NUFF!” competed with 59 other robotics clubs. EC.EXE was excited to be a part of this competition which drew clubs from as far away as New York and Kentucky.

EC’s Rookie Team was comprised of 6 sophomores, one junior and one senior, all with interests in engineering or science fields. Their robot “GOOD’NUFF!” was constructed in EC’s new Makerspace and was made possible by the following sponsors: NASA, Nordson, Ridge Tool and Bendix. To build their robot, the team members met 3-4 days a week for 6 weeks, which totaled well over 100 hours. They specialized in function: system, mechanical, electrical and programming. The students focused on 1 function until it was done, becoming “hatch masters.” They rapid prototyped 4 concepts (claw, suction, grabber and Velcro). To prepare for this competition, EC.EXE attended a scrimmage on February 19 at the CORI Invitational.

We are excited to share that the Rookie team did quite well in its first competition. They took home two awards, the Highest Rookie Seed Award and the Rookie All Star Award, which qualifies them for the FIRST Championship being held in Detroit, MI, April 24-27. Congratulations EC.EXE and good luck Panthers!

Mamma Mia! What a Show!

The cast and crew for this year’s spring musical, MAMMA MIA! did a phenomenal job of entertaining the packed house each night of its three night performance, March 13, 15 and 16. As always our Theater Department did not fail to give it all they had while inspiring fans to sing along with the musical score by ABBA. The time and energy that these students invested in rehearsals paid off. Not only did they sing dance, create the set, run the lights and sound, but they encouraged each other to reach down deep and find their hidden talent. We see bright futures for these students.

Best wishes to seniors Alexis Casner, Stephanie Dempsey, Malik Gaddy, Ivie Gracia, Norm Hobbs, Megan McCaffrey, Beth Parkey, Jonathan Woodward and Nick Ziegelmeyer. Thanks for the MEMORIES!

A special shout out to Maggie Hricovec, 5th grader from St. Mary Avon, who portrayed young Sophie. She was spectacular!

A special thank you to the team’s mentors, Michelle & Peter Hoffman, Jim & Terry Ziegelmeyer, Walter Santiago and John Congdon. Because of your dedication this Robotics Team became a reality!!
Pillars of Compassion

“I expect to pass through life but once. If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again.” - William Penn

The Pillars of Compassion were awarded in the month of November to four of our students.

Mrs. Ziegelmeyer nominated a freshman, Emmie Robertson, who exemplifies the Pillar of Compassion after observing her reaching out to others to cheer them up or help them with a problem. Emmie is one of the most happy and upbeat students Mrs. Ziegelmeyer has ever encountered and always has a smile on her face and kind words for others. She is an enthusiastic member of Key Club which allows her to share her compassion and kindness outside of EC.

Mrs. Bradesca nominated a sophomore, Natalie Byrne, who is sweet, attentive and kind. She does her work well, spreads kindness and includes other students. She can be put in any group and will find the positive. Often she is seen in the halls living her faith with sincerity and quiet leadership. Her mornings start in chapel to get fuel for her day and she continues to spread compassion with students and teachers alike. Mrs. Bradesca said her day is made better because of Natalie’s grace and positivity.

Mrs. Butler nominated a junior, Will Myers. He puts others’ concerns in the forefront of his own wants and needs. His thoughtful actions of coming to administration to ask permission to start a garden with the intent to donate the produce to the needy is a testament to his selfless nature. He came up with the idea, the design and funding to get the project off the ground. He provided hours of sweat equity in the summer sun to plant, weed, water and care for the garden…in return he received the priceless gratitude of helping those who are struggling to make ends meet.

Senior Leighton Banjoff is witnessed helping others, often times in little ways. He is always willing to assist when called upon. One instance was when he was asked to assist a student who needed help and his response was “I’ve got this!” His “I’ve got this” attitude extends to every student who would need him and to his family as well. His heart is in the right place and he knows how to put others before himself. While this student is often recognized for athletic accomplishments, what really stands out is the quality of character and the way this senior treats others with kindness and compassion. This student helps out other EC students, including younger ones, in the hallways and in the cafeteria. The help is given with a smile and a kind word and is always done in such a manner as to ease the stress of the student receiving the help. Leighton’s acts of kindness and compassion extends beyond the hallways of EC and has been observed being kind to his younger sibling as well as to prospective EC students. For all of these reasons, Ms. Lanzola, Mrs. Ziegelmeyer and Mr. Fox nominated Leighton.

At the end of the school year we will deliver these to the Ronald McDonald House in Cleveland. They will recycle the tabs and the funds received will benefit the activity fund at the house.

Photograph of one of the bins filled with pop tabs. We call it, “Pull Tabs for Patients.”
**Lenten Reconciliation Service**

We had 12 priests from Lorain, Cuyahoga and Medina counties assist in providing the annual Lenten Reconciliation Service to our students, faculty and staff on Wednesday, March 27.

"The reconciliation service was very humbling by how so many students all participated as one to receive something so beautiful"

-Natalie Byrne ’21

"Seeing the whole school come together for the service was truly amazing. I hope it showed the priests our family aspect at EC."

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**Elyria Catholic High School Received the Faithful Servant Award**

Elyria Catholic High School was presented with the **Faithful Servant Award** from the Catholic Action Commission of Lorain County (CACLC) at the 29th Annual Peace & Justice Dinner on March 23. Accepting the award were junior Will Myers, and seniors Jaiden Frantz, Kayla Jessie and Emily Garapic.

Elyria Catholic was selected for this honor because of its commitment to servant leadership, its living the gospel call to care for others, its strong commitment to the issues and principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and its integrity, vision, and ability to collaborate with the wider community.

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**Living Stations of the Cross**

Our students began the 2019 season of the Living Stations of the Cross on March 8. This production now in its 22nd year is made up of a cast of dedicated high school students from Elyria Catholic. Every year, this group travels all over the western part of the Diocese of Cleveland to present this prayer experience. The full schedule can be found by at [elyriacatholic.com](http://elyriacatholic.com)

The Living Stations of the Cross cast contributes a portion of its proceeds to “The Scott Holland Memorial Scholarship”, and “The Jakob Hwang Memorial Scholarship” which are awarded to an Elyria Catholic junior each year to assist with their tuition.

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Click on the schedule to the left for location and times.
Pillars of Tradition
“Loyalty That Never Dies”

Four students were recognized following our Ash Wednesday Mass for their commitment to and respect for tradition at EC.

Mrs. Ziegelmeyer nominated Alex Carandang for he exemplifies the Pillar of Tradition—“a loyalty that never dies” in a number of ways. Alex’s parents, sister and several other relatives are proud graduates of Elyria Catholic. This student has already begun to make his mark at EC both athletically and academically. He received a varsity letter in football and played basketball for Elyria Catholic this year, while also earning first honors for the first two quarters. He has also been instrumental in our Panther for a Day program.

Ms. Lanzola nominated Karolanne Foisy, a member of the Living Stations of the Cross choir for the past two years. In fact, this is the 9th straight year there has been a member of her family in the Stations. This year she is taking on a leadership role, knowing how important this Lenten tradition is to our greater community. Additionally, she embraces the spirit of Elyria Catholic by being involved in a well-rounded amount of extracurricular activities while also focusing on her studies, having earned first honors for the first two quarters of this school year. As the 7th in a line of siblings to attend Elyria Catholic, she truly has the spirit of a panther and bleeds green and white!

Mrs. Stites nominated Brenna Pitts a third generation panther who grew up surrounded by people who exemplify “loyalty that never dies.” Brenna cheers on our Panthers and understands the traditions at EC. She is always able and willing to help when needed, and works to make our school better. As Mrs. Stites’ office aid, this student takes charge and works diligently to assist alumni through projects like archiving old photos for online access, writing thank you notes, and having a “what's next” attitude. It is apparent her loyalty to the traditions of EC are unwavering. She is a true and great representation of loyalty that never dies with her involvement at EC. She also has earned first honors for the first two quarters of this school year.

Senior Megan McCaffrey is the daughter of an alum, a member of the National Honor Society and who Mrs. Stites says is the personification of the phrase “loyalty that never dies!” The true beauty of this iconic tagline in our Alma Mater is that it can and does mean so many different things. Megan is loyal to so much in this school. It is specifically apparent as she took on the role of Director of Choreography for our Spring Musical, Mamma Mia! Megan’s loyalty to her peers, this program, and making everything she does the best it can be is a tradition hoped to be passed on to her younger cast-mates. You can see she values the traditions of EC, especially the tradition of leaving Elyria Catholic better than she has found it. Mrs. Stites said Megan is a true blessing to anything she is involved in and is grateful to have her part of theater.

Seniors, Jaiden Frantz and Max Menner, two of the ten 2019 Cavaliers/Huntington Scholarship Winners, were the only two high school students from Lorain County to receive the scholarships this year. Over 300 students applied for the scholarships. Jaiden will be attending Hillsdale College in Michigan where she received a full-tuition scholarship and Max will be attending the University of Alabama where he received a full—ride plus stipend. Congratulations Jaiden and Max!
Panthers were out and about at the Lorain County Resource Fair Night at LCCC volunteering to face paint young visitors at the event on March 12.

It's a Great day at PenOhio at Tri-C in Highland Hills. Paige Miserandino, Jacob Walther, Nick Ziegelmeyer, Natalie Byrne and Cara Finnegan showing their excitement as they attended on March 9.

Senior, Connery Van Dyke earned his Eagle Badge August 21 and senior Frank Krupka earned his on September 18. Connery and Frank were honored this past weekend at the Lake Erie Council Eagle Scout recognition dinner held at the Cleveland Renaissance hotel by the Boy Scouts of America. Congratulations!

Engineering students get creative with the 3D printers in the Makerspace.

It was a busy couple of days at the Model United Nations Conference held at Case Western Reserve University for our students on March 6 and 7.
Celebrating
70 Years with US!

We are excited to welcome Bishop Perez back to EC and all of our friends and family for this special occasion this Saturday, April 6. We look forward to seeing family and friends come together to walk down memory lane and witness all of the exciting new changes and updates to Elyria Catholic. We thank all those who have had a hand in Moving Elyria Catholic Forward.

If you are not able to attend, please follow us on social media as we share photos throughout the evening and say Thank YOU for 70 years!

Panther Pride Productions
February & March Newsletters

Our students are happy to share the February and March Video Newsletters. As they put the finishing touches on the Gala videos they are diligently working with the Elyria Sports Hall of Fame board to create videos for their special event. Our broadcasting and photoshop students are putting those talents to work to create memories for EC and those in our community. Please click on FEBRUARY and MARCH to view the videos.

7th Grade Experience Day

Register HERE or at elyriacatholic.com for a chance to experience some of the amazing classes Elyria Catholic has to offer. The day begins at 8:00 a.m. and finishes at 2:30 p.m. Lunch is provided.

What is this?

If you don’t know, then you may need to visit our Makerspace and see what our students are busy creating. Check out the prowling panther on the cover….Yep…it was printed on our 3D printer too!