



## MAY NEWS

*End-of-the-Year Dates ... Faculty Spotlight: Mrs. Cyburt ... Middle States Update .... SFU Institute for Energy Labs ... Summer Learning ... TSA Champs ... and more!*

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

*The end of the school year means concerts, field trips, sports banquets and more.  
Here's a summary of key dates to keep in mind for May and June.*

**5/1** - PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm, BMCHS  
**5/3** - PreK-8 Race for Education, East Campus  
**5/8** - Spring Concert, Gr 4-6, BMCHS, 7 pm  
**5/9** - DMCA Athletic Banquet, BMCHS, 6 pm  
**5/10** - Dress Down Day (PreK-6)  
**5/14** - Night at Races Tickets Due  
**5/15** - Car Raffle Ticket Money Due  
**5/17** - RICH T-Shirt Day (PreK-6)  
**5/17** - PreK-K Summer Camps Final Registration

**5/18** - Night at the Races  
**5/24** - Dress Down Day (PreK-6)  
**5/24** - Noon Dismissal (PreK-8)  
**5/27** - No School - Memorial Day  
**5/31** - PreK and K Graduation, East, 9 am  
**5/31** - PreK and K Graduation, West, 12:30 pm  
**5/31** - 8th Grade Graduation, St. John Gaulbert,  
Pictures: 4:30 pm, Mass: 6 pm  
**6/5** - 6th Grade 'Move Up Day' and Last Day  
**6/10** - Last Day of School

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## *Heading to Nationals!*

Congratulations to **Mary Smith, Ava Mitchell, Charlize Amper and Paige Grove** who are headed to the 2019 National TSA Conference in Washington, D.C. after placing 2nd in the state in the Inventions and Innovations category at the recent TSA state conference. The female powerhouse, who honed many of their skills in the STREAM lab, developed "Cool Field" to cool synthetic turf fields. In addition to this winning quartet, six of the eight DMCA and Bishop McCort TSA students who attended the 2019 PA-TSA Conference placed in the top 10 in Pennsylvania in one or more event.

*BMCHS freshmen Mary Smith and Paige Grove teamed with DMCA 7th graders Ava and Charlize to compete in the TSA middle school division (grades 7-9). **Brandt Hutzel**, Technology and Engineering Education and STREAM teacher at Bishop McCort and DMCA Middle School, coaches the TSA.*



**Mrs. Marian Cyburt**  
**5th and 6th Grade Science and Religion**

Johnstown's Catholic schools, sharing her passion for the classroom with hundreds of students through the years. Whether she's guiding students through scientific experiments or helping them grasp the tenets of their faith, one thing has remained constant: her commitment to hands-on, independent and collaborative learning.

"I've always believed that students need to be able to apply what they've learned, whether it's in the classroom or in life," Mrs. Cyburt said. "That's why there's nothing better than seeing that light bulb go off for students when they 'get it.'"



This month, Mrs. Cyburt's 5th and 6th grade science students at DMCA East will join Mr. Hicks' 4th graders from DMCA West for the annual 'Trout in the Classroom' trout release. Practically considered a rite of passage on the East campus, students on both campuses have nurtured the trout since the fall to prepare for their release in an area stream.

*Fifth grader **Sadie Instone** (above right) looks at rocks she and her classmates painted to celebrate the Easter season; Mrs. Cyburt observes while Sadie and 6th graders **Logan Heptner** and **Ethan Volciak** test the trout tank water in preparation for the trout release on May 10.*

## We're Growing!

Our **PreK program** is expanding!

- 3 yr old - 5 days/wk and 2 days/wk
- 4 yr old - 5 days/wk and 3 days/wk
- Full day and half-day options
- Certified early learning teachers
- [Click here](#) to see our video and learn more about our program!



# Sustainability Powers SFU Labs



Students from PreK - 8 just wrapped up their final sustainability labs of the year. The hands-on labs, conducted in partnership with Saint Francis University (SFU) Institute for Energy, help illustrate the effectiveness of sustainable practices.

The grade-level labs are just one piece of the DMCA/SFU Institute for Energy partnership, the only partnership of its kind in the region.

Other interactive components include analyses of weather data uploaded to Weather Underground from recently installed DMCA weather stations; the DMCA Sustainability Library; SFU Mobile Power Lab visits to DMCA campuses; professional development for DMCA teachers to integrate the SFU curriculum into other courses and STREAM labs; and at-home family activities.



A sample of April lab activities included air quality analyses for 8th graders (above left), water analyses to check for contamination for 6th graders, composting activities for 3rd graders (above right) and plastic recycling for 2nd graders. Visit our [St. Francis Sustainable Energy website](#) to learn more about this innovative partnership. Look for an expanded partnership next year.



## PICTURE THIS

*Capturing the everyday spirit of DMCA*



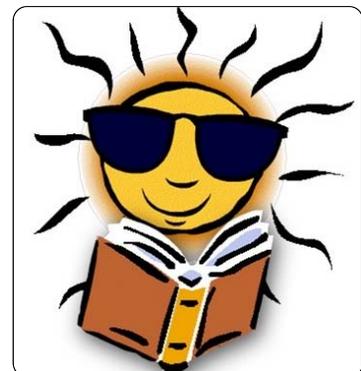
**Top:** Mrs. Klein's Kindergarten class 'operated' on words to to build literacy skills; ACE students recently toured PSU with area DMCA grads. **Bottom:** Mrs. Jones' first grade class brought history to life; Congratulations to DMCA's reading teams - Our Beast from the East reading team (in red) recently placed 2nd in the IU08 Reading Competition.



## Don't Close the Book on Summer Learning!

Summer will be here before you know it. Check out these PreK - Grade 10 programs that keep the learning going.

- [The Learning Lamp](#)
- [St. Francis University Science Outreach Center](#)



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## And for Grades 1-6

- **July 8 - 11: First Lego League (FLL)**
- **July 22 - 25: Visual Storytelling**
- **July 29 - Aug 1: The A in STREAM**

The all-day camps will immerse children in the FLL experience, robotics and maker spaces. They'll learn the basic of video production and delve into art forms, including sculpture and painting. Fees range per camp and include transportation, snack, t-shirt and book bag (children bring their own lunch). Call us at **539-5315** for more info or [register here](#) today!

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Thank you for your input and support during the recent Middle States (MSA) accreditation process. The team spent three days at our campuses, examining everything from our curriculum to school improvement planning and from finances to assessments and evidence of student learning. Our review was completely deficiency-free, paving the way for MSA to renew DMCA's full accreditation through 2026. Thank you!

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Be sure to check out the [DMCA Google calendar](#) for school-wide events and specific happenings at each campus. Our 7th and 8th graders should also review the [Bishop McCort calendar](#) for important dates throughout the year.

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*The mission of Divine Mercy Catholic Academy is to empower our students through Christ-centered academic excellence within a safe and secure environment that will create a solid foundation of values, leadership, and commitment to self and community.*

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