



Saint Timothy Catholic School
Chantilly, VA



National Blue Ribbon
School of Excellence

tigertracks



The
Next Frontier,
to explore
new worlds...

The STS Enterprise

- **Academics:** Exploring new worlds and seeking out new ways of learning
- **Traditions:** Creating events and memories that help the curriculum come to life through hands on learning
- **Extracurricular Activities** Fully developing each child
- **Faith Formation:** Catholic leaders for the next frontier
- **Alumni Spotlight:** Past crewmen of the STS Enterprise shaping the future



SUMMER 2014

*"when a priest administers any one of the Sacraments,
it is actually Christ
Who is performing
the action"
(CCC 1120)*



Gift of the Priesthood

I love being a priest. To be a priest is to be given a precious gift and invited to serve people and work for the greater glory of God in a special way. I realize that such convictions may strike some as inconceivable in today's world, but they are true for me and for so many men who have chosen to minister as priests in the Catholic Church. It is by the grace of God, not because I have earned or merited such a vocation. When I review my life as a priest over the past 40 years, I see the evidence of grace and freedom only given by Our Lord to shepherd his people.

Participation in the priesthood of the New Covenant (or ministerial priesthood) also involves offering the Sacrifice of the Mass, as well as administering the other Sacraments instituted by Our Lord. Have you ever stopped to think where we would be without the priesthood? There would obviously be no Eucharist, no forgiveness of sins in Confession and no Anointing of the Sick. Without the priesthood there would be no Confirmation, thus limiting the growth of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. There would also be no bishops or pope to guide the Church. The priesthood allows Jesus to continue working in His Church for when a priest administers any one of the Sacraments, it is actually Christ Who is performing the action (CCC 1120).

From the beginning, the followers of Jesus Christ have responded to the Lord's command to "go...and make disciples" by proclaiming the Gospel message throughout the world. "Catechesis is the word used to describe this essential ministry of the Church through which the teachings of Christ have been passed on to believers throughout the ages" (National Directory for Catechesis, 1).

As pastor 15 years here at St. Timothy's I find great joy in the community of the parish and the school. As the school provides an education rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ; it complements Jesus' teachings and guides the students on the path of Catholic doctrines, and values, prepares each student for a life of faith, service and integrity.

I thank God also for good, committed and responsible parents here at St. Timothy's. The Catholic School, however good, is complementary to the parents and the home. It is the duty of parents to impart knowledge of the Faith and to make a purposeful effort to teach their children how to really live out that faith.

Parents, please continue to accompany your children to Mass. Pray frequently with them and help them to be sincere in prayer. Make the home a place of security and love.

God bless you and your loved ones.

Reverend Gerald Weymes





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PRINCIPAL'S LOG / STAR DATE: SPRING 2014



Our students are approaching the final frontier...

We are the community of the STS Enterprise; our mission is to expose our students to strange new worlds, to support life at all stages and explore new civilizations...

To boldly go where no man or woman has gone before...

As the stewards of our world's future, students of the STS Enterprise are assuming their place as Catholic leaders in a world craving truth, reason, goodness and faith.

The STS Federation (school community), our Officers (teachers) and Officer Trainees (students) have succeeded in many of their missions this past year. Since our last report (Tiger Tracks), our school has accomplished the following academic, religious, service based and competition milestones:

- 2014 Battle of the Books Grand Champions.
- Achieved school-wide X-Stem Certification.
- 100% pass rates on Algebra and Geometry High School Placement Exams.
- 8% increase in Terra Nova Math scores vs. last year.
- Youth Apostles Pro-life Essay contest winner.
- Amazing Wizard of Oz Drama Club Production.
- National and Intra-school Math Competitions.
- Expanded our Extracurricular and elective course offerings.
- Received over \$20,000 in parent and Business Partner STEM grants.
- Our students raised over \$10,000 in donations for local, national and international charitable causes.
- 8th Grade Confirmation, 2nd Grade 1st Communion and numerous baptisms (students and family members).



Although our missions can be intimidating and overwhelming, we can find inspiration to see the mission through from the words of one of our greatest leaders, Saint Pope John Paul the Great: "I plead with you—never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."

We'd also like to congratulate and share our appreciation for our school's spiritual Admiral and Pastor, Father Gerald Weymes, on his 40 years of service as a Catholic priest. We greatly appreciate his tireless support of our parish and school and pray that he remain at the helm of the STS Enterprise for 40 more years.

Of course, our ship and mission would not be able to continue without the aid of our generous benefactors. We greatly appreciate your contributions on behalf of our students.

Have a peaceful summer and God bless you,

J McLaughlin

Joseph M. McLaughlin
Principal (Captain)
Saint Timothy Catholic School





Exploring New and seeking out

Academically, the 2013-2014 school year blended new programs and distinguished teaching to meet the individual learning styles of students. The Terra Nova scores reflect the success of this merger. Additionally, St. Timothy Catholic School became a certified X-STEM school.

As an X-STEM school, St. Timothy School partners with USA Science and Engineering Festival to promote student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math activities. Middle School students on the robotics team serve as school-wide ambassadors and support in-house STEM activities.

This school year saw the launch of Lab Learner, a hands-on, no textbook, lab-driven science program for grades K-8. Lead teachers found Lab Learner to be a well-coordinated science program. It enhances our primary and intermediate science programs by providing the opportunity for weekly science labs. The labs require higher-level reading, measurement, and math skills that challenge students. The program provides professional



grade science equipment for student use. In addition, lead teachers have access to professional scientists as back up for science questions.

This year, teachers across the grade levels set strategic goals in math. Teachers combined quality-teaching methods in the classroom with Moby Max, an online program that helps teachers create an individualized education plan for each student. Provided with a fully individualized program, each student is able to practice math skills at his or her own level and at his or her own pace. As a result, the students achieved higher levels, as evidenced by the Terra Nova scores.

With STEM initiatives established and solid gains in math, the academic focus for 2014-2014 is in Language Arts with the introduction of the 6 Traits + 1 writing model. The 6 Traits + 1 model was developed almost 30 years ago. Research shows that this method of teaching writing can significantly raise the level of student writing achievement on standardized tests. Piloting the program during the 4th quarter, the first grade and middle school teachers are excited to report a measurable change in student performance and attitude toward writing.



Worlds

new ways of learning

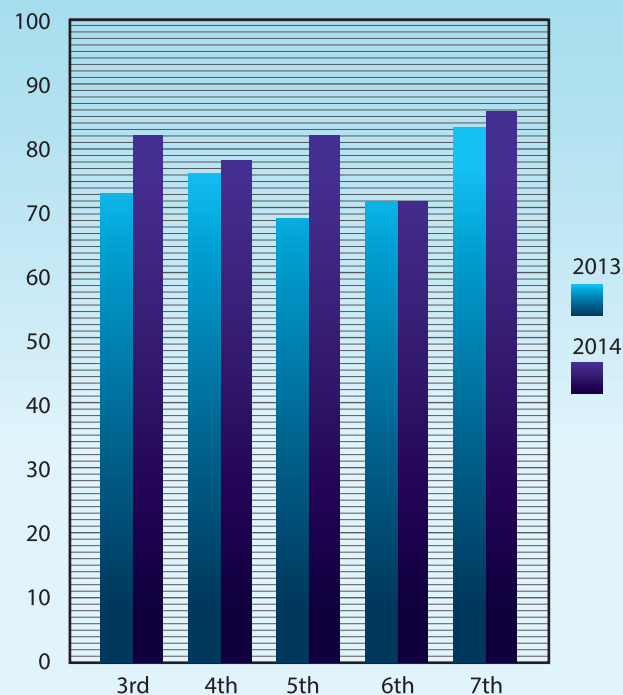


The six traits, including idea, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, voice and convention, are the traits that teachers, writers and readers all agree are important in good writing. In the classroom, teachers weave the six traits into the standard writing process. Mentor texts are used as models of good writing. Teachers and students collaborate during the writing process and students create original works. Rubrics are used to define expectations and standardize grading.

Good writing skills, like good reading skills, help in all content areas. Students write to show not only what they have learned, but also to apply what they have learned. Showing deeper understanding and higher order thinking. Good writing requires creative and critical thinking skills, and developing these skills in students is paramount.

Teachers who are dedicated to student success, combined with cutting-edge technology and solid, substantial resources create an exceptional educational experience for students. The mission at St. Timothy Catholic School is to provide students with a challenging and rigorous curriculum that prepares them for success at the next level and beyond.

- Every STS student who took the Algebra & Geometry Placement Exams passed!
- The overall average for STS students for the Algebra exam was 87%. This was 10% higher than the diocesan average and 29% higher than the non-diocesan average.
- The overall average for STS students on the Geometry Placement exam was 92%! This year our Terra Nova Math Scores increased significantly across the board; an 8% average increase for students in grades 3 through 7.
- Please note that 8th grade students do not take the Terra Nova exam. Fifth Grade alone saw a 19% increase over last year!



Math composite score by grade level

Extracurricular Activities

*Each child will **boldly** soar to new heights,*

RUNNING TIGERS



MATH CODE BREAKERS

The St. Timothy School clubs blasted off back to planet fun this year while also exploring strange new worlds with some exciting brand new clubs.

ROBOTICS

The students, teachers and volunteers enjoyed the classic clubs STS has seen before: Tigers on the Run running club, chess club, the Mission Commission, drama club, and cross-stitch club. The running club enjoyed the fall and spring weather while working on their cardio. The chess club has gotten together and checked their way through the year (it is even rumored a member beat Mr. Cinalli in a game this year!) The Mission Commission was busy throughout the year providing service projects around



2014
Battle of the Books
Grand Champions!

embracing their true potential.

CHESS CLUB



the galaxy. One project included decorating the chapels of the National Basilica in Washington D.C., for Christmas. The drama club performed a remarkable off-Broadway masterpiece of The Wizard of Oz to two capacity audiences.

This spring Mr. Muha, our PE teacher and STS alum, organized some wonderful new clubs for our students including volleyball and the 3v3 co-ed basketball tournament. The volleyball club is run by Mrs. Nash, a former volleyball coach at Duquesne. She has been teaching girls the fundamentals of play to help them improve their game. The 3v3 Basketball Tournament had a fantastic turnout! Our winners received medals, as well as the honor of being able to take the trophy around for a day and having their names engraved on it forever.

IMPROVISATION CLUB

DRAMA CLUB



The clubs at STS give our students a chance to have fun and explore new interests and activities. We appreciate all the hard work our teachers, parents, and staff put in to making these clubs a successful part of our extracurricular community. Next year we will soar into great new adventures and further our exploration of fun!



33 Years of Traditions Continue!

The STS Enterprise embarks on fun and memorable events bringing the curriculum alive through hands on learning, songs, plays, crafts and service.



Fourth grade
Colonial Day



Medieval Day

Our dedicated teachers believe in providing students creative opportunities to participate in activities related to the curriculum to make the learning experience more meaningful and enjoyable for everyone.

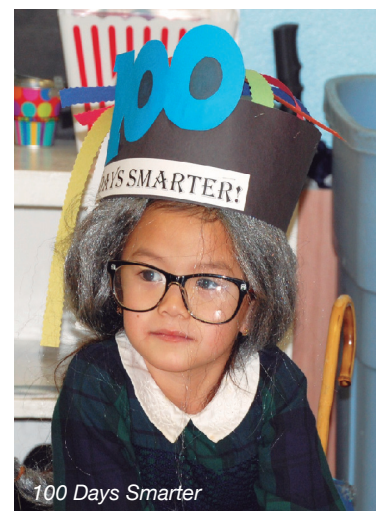
Our Kindergartners celebrate their 100th day of school playing math games, reading stories and imagining being 100 years old. Kindergartners close out the year in a musical graduation ceremony highlighting Spanish and school songs, poems, and nursery rhymes they have learned throughout the year. The stage is decorated with their masterpieces created during art class.

Presidents' Day finds the first graders dressed up as first ladies and presidents, escorted by secret service agents that bear a striking resemblance to their parents. They parade through the halls of Saint Timothy visiting other classrooms and educating our students about their lives. Their public speaking debut is always greeted with enthusiasm and encouragement by the upper grades. Come the month of May, the second graders makes their First Holy Communion, the following Friday at the school Mass, they come dressed in their First Communion attire and participate in a special breakfast for their parents concluded with the May Crowning.

After spending the year studying the good ole' USA and the nifty fifty United States, the third graders perform in an inspirational patriotic Americana Assembly with songs and trivia for the entire school. This special day is celebrated with an out-of-uniform occasion for the third grade to dress in red, white and blue, naturally.

Fourth graders take part in Colonial Day, students dress in colonial costumes for the day, are treated to a visit from a Colonial Soldier, and are immersed in authentic colonial era activities including calligraphy, wax stamping, nail and copper art, corn husk dolls, and an excavation dig in the Science Lab. The students learn the Virginia Reel in P.E. classes leading up to the big day which is then performed for the parents and teachers. Traditional colonial fare is served for lunch on blankets on the school grounds.

A study of Mexico for our fifth graders brings a Cinco de Mayo Day where they perform the Mexican Hat dance, sing Mexican songs, create Mexican crafts including a yarn God's eye, tissue flowers, tie dye t-shirts, and eat a delicious Mexican lunch topped off with fried ice cream.



100 Days Smarter



The presidents and first ladies visit Saint Timothy!

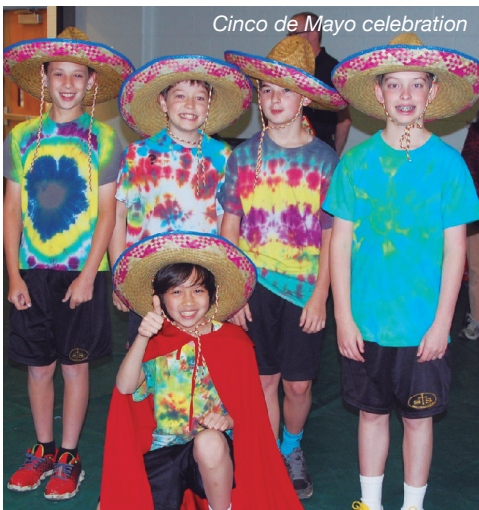


Kindergarten Graduation

Sixth graders celebrate a year of learning about medieval times with a day in festive costumes, packed with student-directed and produced Shakespeare plays, and medieval arts and crafts. After an opportunity to take a fencing lesson, the lords and ladies enjoy a medieval feast true to the time period - no forks allowed!

In seventh grade, the students host a Pro-Life slogan contest in honor of their first year participating in the March for Life field

trip. The winning design will be featured on car magnets, buttons, and t-shirts. Then, in May, they host a baby shower for the Tepeyac Family Center. Students bring in baby gifts, diapers, wipes, formula, and outfits that are donated to this Pro-Life organization. During the shower they play games, eat cake and hear presentations about the lives their donations will touch.



Cinco de Mayo celebration

In honor of their final year at St. Timothy's, the eighth graders' final week is jam packed with events to commemorate the end of their journey at STS. The week-long celebration is kicked off with a lunch prepared by our Pastor, Father Weymes at the rectory followed by an ice cream social and yearbook signing

party on the back lawns of the school. The high point of the week is an appreciation dinner and talent show prepared by the students for their parents and faculty members featuring a video which has been prepared for the students highlighting their journey through all the special moments over the years at St. Timothy and is thoroughly enjoyed by the students and parents alike.

The week ends with a tearful school-wide farewell assembly complete with inspirational songs, a dance, and "Happy Trails" of course. The final event of the week is the Graduation Mass!

Bollywood comes to Eighth grade Appreciation Dinner



Tearful Eighth grade farewell



Faith Formation

Catholic Leaders for the Next Frontier.

As a school community, we put our faith into action by receiving the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. We celebrate our rich Catholic faith through monthly Adoration at the school and the spring tradition of the May Crowning of Mary. Our students learn from their first days at St. Timothy that it doesn't matter how little you are, everyone is called to make a difference. At STS we help our students find concrete ways to put their faith into action on a daily basis. We live our faith by tending to the needs of people in our community through our annual Pro-Life Baby Shower held for the Tepeyac Family Center, praying the rosary for 40 Days for Life at an abortion clinic, collecting food for the Saint Vincent DePaul Society food pantry, and sponsoring out of uniform days supporting charity groups.

Mary's Corner was initiated in 2012 in response to our Holy Father's call to make it the "Year of Faith." Mary's Corner consists of three programs designed to unify our St. Timothy's Catholic Community, strengthen our commitment to prayer, and deepen our faith in the Presence of Our Lord in our daily lives. These programs are the The Pilgrim Virgin Statue Visitation Program, The Family Rosary and Prayer Requests.

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue Visitation Program

Brief History: The world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was

sculpted in 1947 by Jose Thedim, based on the description of Sr. Lucia, one of the three young seers who saw Our Lady each month from May to October 1917 in Fatima, Portugal. Sent out to bring the Message of Fatima to the world, the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue has traveled the world many times, visiting more than 100 countries, including Russia and Red China, bringing the great message of hope, "the peace plan from heaven," to millions of people. Many miracles and signal graces are reported wherever the statue travels including shedding tears on many occasions.

In honor of this tradition, St. Timothy's has a Pilgrim Virgin Statue modeled after the image described above available to visit your family in your home for a week. To schedule the Statue's home visit email maryscorner@sttimothyparish.org

The photo below is taken at the home of the Joseph's family, a St. Timothy's Catholic School family. Each year on their children's birthdays, the Joseph family has the Pilgrim Virgin Statue in their home. What a beautiful faith-filled tradition which



Joseph Family



Students pray the rosary for life



Mary Crowning

First Communion 2014

surely reminds their children that Our Blessed Mother is deeply involved in their lives. Perhaps you and your family would like to have the Pilgrim Virgin Statue visit your home soon...maybe during a time of celebration or perhaps during a time of need!

The Family Rosary

In honor of "The Year of Faith", each St. Timothy family is asked to pick a date they can commit to saying the Family Rosary each month. For example, if your family chose the 4th then each month on the 4th of the month your family will pray the rosary together for the Intentions of the families of St. Timothy's Catholic School and St. Timothy's

parish community. To commit to your date, please email maryscorner@sttimothyparish.org.

Let us pray for you!

As a faith-filled Catholic community, we are called to pray for one another. The intentions written in our Prayer Request Book in the lobby of the school as well as those shared through emailing maryscorner@sttimothyparish.org will be lifted in prayer each day by our families praying the Rosary and during each First Friday Rosary.



Altar Servers



Past Crewmen of the STS Enterprise Shaping the Future



"I can confidently say that my Catholic education has been a major factor in shaping me into the person that I am today"

Spotlight on **Alexa McCarthy** (STS 2005, PVI 2009) Alexa McCarthy graduated from UNC Wilmington in 2013, where she majored in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing and a minor in English. She also received a Professional Writing Certificate and graduated magna cum laude.

Alexa says, "I can confidently say that my Catholic education has been a major factor in shaping me into the person that I am today. Being educated in a manner that incorporated religion on a daily basis truly helps drive home the importance of performing the will of God by service unto others. A major lesson that I learned through my many years in Catholic school is the importance of the way one treats others that can do nothing for them. I have come to find this to be a true judge of character in others. I believe that learning this has helped me develop a willingness to put others before myself, which is something that has helped me get into the position that I currently have in life, not just with my career, but in my relationships with my family, my friends, and with God. This skill is something that I originally learned from my mother and was then further instilled and encouraged at school. Above all else, my Catholic education taught me that there is always potential to be a better person than I was the day before, the importance of forgiving others and yourself at the most difficult of times, and to keep God close always, through the successes and the struggles."

Alexa McCarthy currently is one of seven Account Executives for the Nationals, Ballpark Enterprises events department. Her department sells and coordinates non-game day and game day events, essentially gaining ancillary revenue for the team outside of normal game day ticket sales. "We organize any kind of event you can imagine, from corporate receptions and summer outings, to weddings, public festivals, and the Congressional Baseball game and the summer concerts," says Alexa.

Alexa believes this is definitely her dream job. Sports have always been a huge part of her life. She was a competitive gymnast, then switched to diving and dove all four years in college for an NCAA division one program. There is truly never a dull day! Overall, getting this job was the culmination of years and years of hard work, perseverance, and dedication, which are all skills that she started developing in her years at STS, mixed with good timing and a little bit of luck. Every day she thinks to herself how lucky she is to have found something that she can excel at and genuinely love at such a young age. She is definitely on the right path to having an amazing career in the events industry on the platform of professional sports.

Patrick Zanelotti graduated from St. Timothy School in 2000, Paul VI Catholic High School in 2004 and received his BA in International Studies from the Virginia Military Institute in 2008. In May of 2008, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. He was deployed to Afghanistan in Operation Enduring Freedom and led a platoon of 60 who all returned home safely after a year and in time for Christmas 2010. He achieved the rank of Captain and graduated from Ft. Benning Ranger School in 2011.

Patrick completed his commitment to the military and after an honorable discharge, returned to civilian life in Virginia. During his time in the army, he received numerous commendations and awards for leadership, including the Bronze Star. Patrick authored "Hands On, Proposed Solutions to "Warlord, Inc." a working paper submitted to his commanding officer for the Under Secretary of State's visit to Afghanistan in 2010.

Patrick currently works in Washington, DC and has returned to Paul VI to coach boys' varsity lacrosse.

