

# CEDARCREST STEM/SCIENCE NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 2018: MORE THINGS...TO HOWL ABOUT...

OUR CEDARCREST STEM/SCIENCE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN EVEN BUSIER DOING ENGAGING, MINDS ON/HANDS ON LESSONS HERE AT CEDARCREST.

### 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE SCIENCE:

Ms Kukull and MS Koznek's students started learning about the interesting things light can do by participating in their FIRST complete Science Lab. They applied skills they developed from previous weeks to test what happens when the distance between a light source and a shadow is increased. They also worked on vocabulary development by creating "Foldables" which are one of many AVID strategies used by the Science and STEM departments to help promote literacy skills.





# **6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE 21<sup>ST</sup> Century Skills:**

Mr. Shreeve AND Mr. Overland have continued tasking their 6<sup>th</sup> grade 21<sup>st</sup> Century students with the engineering

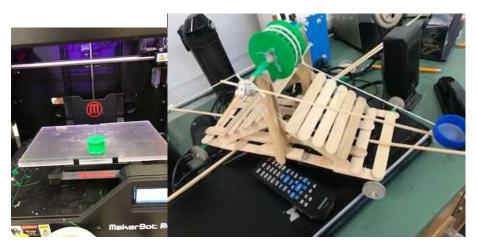
challenge to reverse engineer a historically accurate scale model catapult.







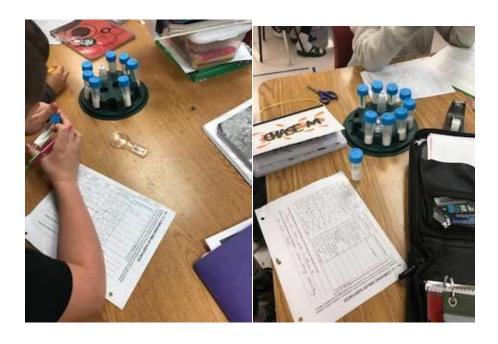
(The students and Mr. Shreeve even 3D printed a part for the Da Vinci Catapults—SUPER SCIENCE!)



21<sup>st</sup> Century Students use an electronic journal called Seesaw, Google classroom and Canvas. This allows them to keep all of their work online and it can be easily accessed with their Chromebooks. Please have your son/daughter share their work with their Chromebooks.

### 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE SCIENCE: Ms. Dainard and Mrs. Delazarri's

Students are mixing chemicals to create chemical reactions to try to identify the 2 substances that make up a specific "mystery" mixture.



They also helped prepare students for their chemistry unit where they must try and identify a mystery element through observation, experimentation, analysis, and collaborative work.

### 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STEM ROBOTICS with MR. SHREEVE:

This week students are working through the engineering process of researching, designing, building, programming, testing and optimizing EV3 LEGO MINDSTORMS ROBOTS.

They incorporated various forms of technology including their smart phones (for blue tooth control of robots), Chrome Books (for research etc...) and CTE/STEM laptops (for programming the robots) to explore some of the capabilities of the EV3 Lego Mindstorms robots.



All of the assignments for **STEM ROBOTICS**, including their research, diagrams, notes, QR Codes, Scripts and even videos will end up on Seesaw. It is an electronic journal for the class. **Please have your son/daughter share their work with you in their electronic journal.** 

### LEGO LEAGUE—AN AFTER SCHOOL ROBOTICS CLUB:

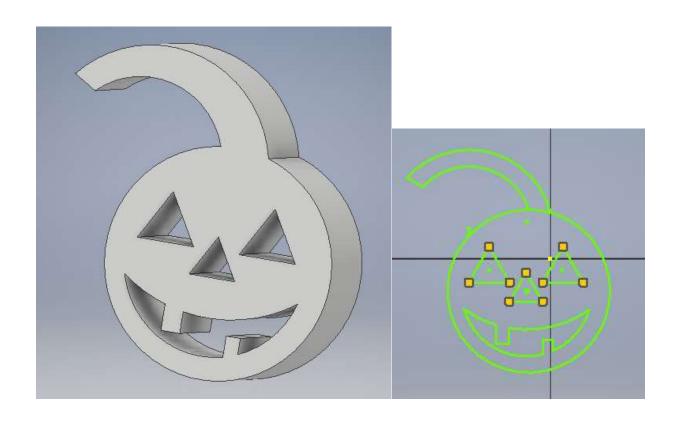
The club Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is RUN BY Ms Kukull and Mrs. Delazzari. With assistance by Tim Erickson who is a business and Industry Advisor from Expedia, and STEM advisors Mr. Shreeve and Mr. Deschaine.

First Lego League gets students to think like Scientists and Engineers. Their challenge this year is **INTO ORBIT.** Currently, students are researching about plants in space as part of their overall challenge.



### MR. DESCHAINE'S STEM TECH (7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE):

In STEM Technology students are learning to Sketch drawings and turn the sketches into 3D models by extruding them using the **3D** modeling software "Inventor."



## MRS. MACK'S STEM CLASSES(8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE):



In Mrs. Mack's Nutrition and Fitness students have completed their first unit study. Students learning focused on the following questions......

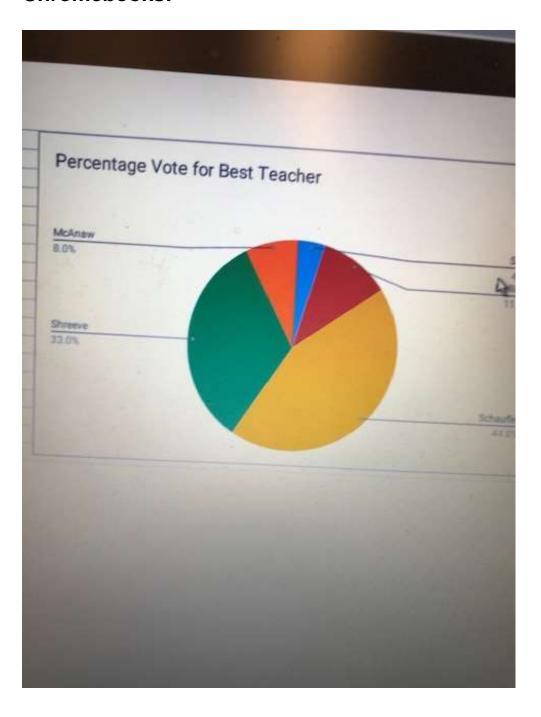
- 1. What are health and wellness?
- 2. What are the three areas of the wellness triangle and how do we promote wellness in each area?
- 3. How do our +/- lifestyle choices effect our overall wellness
- 4. Define the terms anatomy (what our body is) and physiology (what our body does)
- 4. What are the stages of the human life continuum?
- 5. What are developmental characteristics of each stage of human development?

Students are currently working on Systems of the Body.

### **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCIENCE:**

#### Mr. Schaufler and Mr. Overland

Mr. Schaufler and Mr. Overland will incorporate technology into their lesson by having students create different graphs such as the one below using Google Sheets on their Chromebooks:



All of these activities were designed by the STEM/Science staff at Cedarcrest to encourage Engineering and Science concepts with fun, engaging activities that may help students throughout their careers.

On behalf of the Staff in the STEM/Science Department, **We are** committed to making this the best year ever for your child here at Cedarcrest Middle School.

Sincerely,

#### The STEM/Science Staff at Cedarcrest

Ms Kukull, MS Koznek. Ms. Dainard, Mrs Delazzari, Mr. Schaufler, Mr. Overland, Mr. Deschaine, Mrs. Mack, and Mr. Shreeve

6<sup>th</sup> Science, 7<sup>th</sup> Science, 8<sup>th</sup> Science, STEM Foods, STEM Tech, STEM Robotics, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Foundations.

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