

CONTINUING OUR IB MISSION TO

challenge & inspire

The energy was as high as ever this year at LCA. It seemed that each week was filled with creative, rigorous experiences resulting in inspiring student growth. IB Middle Years students and teachers challenged themselves to inquire, learn, design and share.

The mission of the International Baccalaureate Organization is to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through education that builds intercultural understanding and respect. To that end, the IB promotes ten **Learner Profile Attributes**. Development of these attributes is front of mind in our unit planning and school wide experiences. Each Monday, we take time to recite the IB Pledge. *The pledge is a reminder that as IB learners we strive to be...*



inquirers



*We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research.
We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with
enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.*

Students became the teachers as the sixth graders were given time to pursue their **Passion Projects**. Once they identified topics, they dove into this open ended learning experience. Passions included improvisational theater, coral reefs, sports, baking, outer space, and much more. **The Passion Project Exhibition** proved to be an engaging and enlightening experience for parents, teachers, and students. Open inquiry is one way LCA Saints learn to become their own best teacher.





knowledgeable

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

Fifth graders blasted off into **Saints Soar**, an interdisciplinary space themed unit. Students began their inquiry in Literature class with the book *Team Moon: How 100,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon*, by Catherine Thimmesh. Highlighting the diversely talented teamwork essential to the 1969 moon landing, this award winning book helped students gain new appreciation for setting and achieving big goals. The unit continued with a **Space Challenge Day**, a field trip to the Great Lakes Science Center, and an opportunity to build and launch rockets. Blast off!

thinkers

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

Sixth graders explored the science of surface temperatures and how albedo, or reflectivity, impacts the **Urban Heat Island Effect**. They simulated city planning, choosing roof colors and surfaces on the **Amplify Science** platform. During a visit from an LCA alum majoring in environmental science, students tested surface temperatures on campus and discussed the impacts of landscaping decisions. Future leaders in all fields must be thinking about environmental impact, and our students are ready!



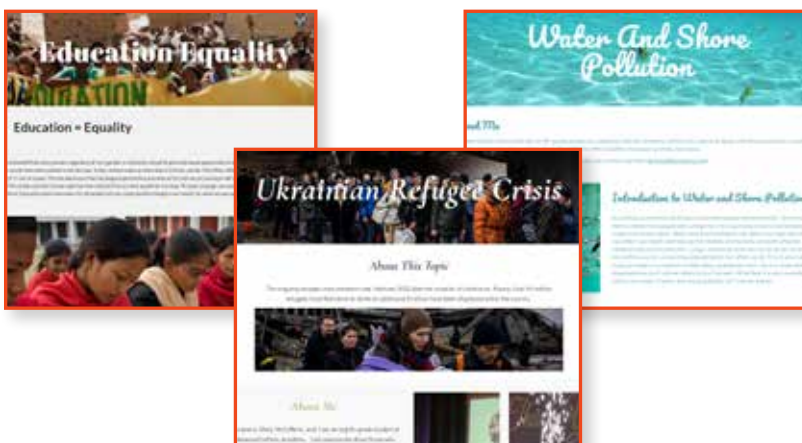
communicators

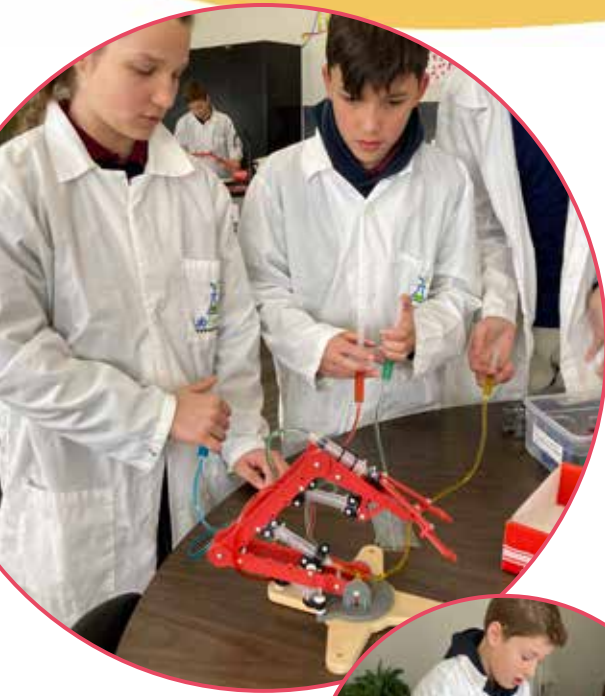
We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

The eighth grade **IB Community Project** is a culminating service project whereby students identify a need in the local, national or global community and address that need. Eighth grade students were challenged this year to take their Community Project one step further. In order to advocate and educate on the important causes reflected in each project, students developed TED talks. Six of the most impassioned students were chosen to present their **Community Project TED talk** to all MYP students and a panel of judges. These students opened our eyes to important local and global needs while mastering a challenging and impactful presentation style.

Each eighth grader can be proud of the effort put forth in their Community Project.

VIEW PROJECTS





principled

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

When LCA first became an IB World School, a veteran IB educator encouraged us to design curricular experiences that strive to answer the question, "What am I learning that causes me to do good in the world?" What an awesome high bar to work towards! Mrs. Petty's **Limbs project** in Health Class directly connected learning experiences with the worldwide need for prosthetics. Students were exposed to advances in biomedical engineering and were then challenged to design a working prosthetic, first out of recycled materials and finally from a STEM kit. Following these challenges, students raised money for *We Help Two: Socks for Legs* by spending a school day using only one arm while eliciting sponsors. Five individuals received new limbs with the proceeds raised from this principled group of students. Problem solving and engineering skills were promoted through this Health project, but just as importantly, students empathetically experienced work that can do good in the world.

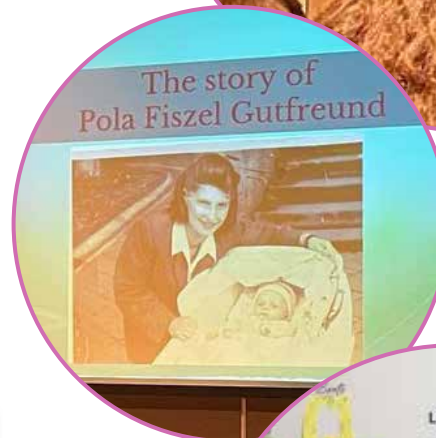
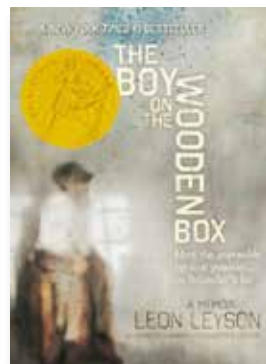
We Help ^{TWO}



open minded

We critically appreciate our own personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

Our sixth grade students had the opportunity to hear from a third generation **Holocaust survivor** and to explore the **Maltz Museum**. This was in connection with their reading of *The Boy on the Wooden Box* in Language & Literature class. Through these experiences, students were able to further develop their sense of empathy and understanding of the historical time period. As a culmination to the unit, each student created his/her own museum artifact representative of the Holocaust. Some artifact ideas included: the Jewish Star of David, typical daily rations of the concentration camps, life in the ghettos, the use of propaganda, and challenges faced by survivors. While very sensitive in nature, this unit of study certainly made an impact on our Saints.





caring

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

At Lakewood Catholic Academy, we honor a commitment to service and Catholic Social Teachings. This year, our sixth students hosted an interactive community event for middle school families designed to bring hunger and poverty issues to life. This event served as a metaphor for how food and other resources are inequitably distributed in the world. Guests at the **LCA Hunger Banquet** drew tickets upon arrival, and each person was randomly assigned to one of three income classes based on the latest statistics about global poverty. Each group then ate a corresponding meal, from nutritious to sparse. Our student leaders shared facts and stories about real life inequality and invited guests to discuss their own experiences with the Hunger Banquet. In addition, we heard from Kristin Warzocha, President/CEO of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, who helped to identify a need within our own city, the importance of our support, and ways in which we can contribute and help.

risk takers

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination. We work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenge and change.

Budding entrepreneurs linked arms to feature LCA's inaugural **Fifth Grade Christmas Market**. Led by Design teacher Mrs. Crabb, students teamed up to design and build products that were sold to visitors of our annual tree lighting ceremony. Charming, hand made items such as ornaments, picture frames, and chocolates were sold and proceeds were donated to the people of Ukraine through Catholic Relief Services.



balanced



We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives – intellectual, physical and emotional – to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

Teacher and student generated clubs are places where LCA Saints can share interests and develop talents in a friendly, non competitive environment. Middle Years Artists meet weekly to explore new methods of making art, including paper engineering, sculpting and working with clay. Singing Saints share their love of music, learn vocal techniques, and bring joy throughout the year. Members of Singing Saints perform at school Masses and are invited to perform at community events including parish Masses and holiday concerts. This year, a group of passionate Lego builders lobbied for and organized Lego Club. Lego Club met throughout the first semester, eventually identifying Christmas as a theme. Unique sets were brought to Ennis Court Senior Living to be enjoyed by residents during the holiday season. Another student generated club was Chess Club. Interested students met during recess to play chess while learning with and from each other. Joining together to celebrate shared interests balances our busy lives and connects our community.





reflective

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

As an IB World School, we recognize the importance of developing lifelong learning skills, or in IB lingo, **Approaches to Learning Skills** (ATLs). Key to this development is to help students recognize and reflect on growth over time. Each semester, our Middle Years students completed self-reflections on targeted skills. They then commented on their strengths, weaknesses and goals in these skill domains. Teachers collaborated to pilot personal interviews with grade 6 students to discuss their skill evaluations. Recognizing that each student is the most important member of the learning team, these interviews provide essential feedback as we support them in their learning journey.

Approaches to Learning Skill domains include: communication, organization, affective skills, collaboration, information and media literacy, creative thinking, critical thinking, transfer, and reflection. IB recently featured the skill domain, creative thinking, in its featured link from the World Economic Forum, [The top 10 Learning Skills of the Future.](#)

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