

# Good News



Sept. 27, 2021

## Willow Brook

Willow Brook now has a Lego Robotics program. The program begins with an entry level Lego Stem class in which scholars learn how to read blueprints and follow directions. They will also have exposure to basic coding methods with OSMO Coding. The next level of instruction is Lego Boost. In this class, scholars learn to code and build Lego robots while using visual programming applications on iPads. This class will excite scholars as they design, build, and code their own robots while developing critical thinking, communication, and team working skills. The final level of instruction is our Lego Mindstorm EV3 class. This is our advanced robotics class in which our scholars will take the knowledge they have gained from previous classes and apply their building and coding skills to real world problems. Participation in this course is aligned to our Portrait of a Graduate and will help ensure that Willow Brook scholars are ready for robotics at the middle school and high school levels.

Art teacher Sara Cochran submitted 2 pieces of art to the Dogwood Arts Festival Student Art Exhibition and both were first place winners for their grade levels. Daniela Angulo Huerta won first place for Kindergarten for her pumpkin painting. A'Siyah Ward won first place for 2nd grade with her Kooky Cats mixed media piece. Both pieces were professionally framed and returned to the students. In addition, the winners received a bag of art supplies, a certificate, and a cash award.

4th graders are working on storytelling in their classrooms and in the library. In the library, they have picked a personal family story to tell, learned how to write the story structure, and are now memorizing their stories to share during our "storytelling festival" that we hope to have in the library in two weeks. Some have recorded themselves on our Padcasters to see how they can improve their storytelling delivery.

## RMS

Oak Ridge Schools have nine students who were winners in the recent Mira Kimmelman "Learning from the Holocaust" contest sponsored by the TN Holocaust Commission and the Kimmelman family. The contest honors our local friend and Holocaust survivor Mira Kimmelman, who spent decades of her life educating the Oak Ridge and East Tennessee community about the horrors of the Holocaust until her death in 2019. Mira's son Benno attended Oak Ridge High School, and her son Gene attended both Robertsville (RJHS) and ORHS. They generously initiated and sponsored this contest for students across the state of Tennessee last spring. We are thrilled that two teams from Robertsville and one individual from ORHS took the top spots. The Kimmelmans are seeking to continue their mother's legacy and Oak Ridge students are leading the way in keeping this important topic alive. Mrs. Julie Kinder-McMillan, RMS 8th grade ELA Teacher, is a Teacher Fellow with the THC as well as a member of the planning committee for this contest.

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## ORHS

Art Department students received eight (8) awards for submissions to the TVA Student Art Exhibit. Categories for these awards are:

Best Photograph

Best Mixed Media

12th grade submissions – Second and Third place

10th grade submissions - Honorable mention

9th grade submissions - First and Third place

Congressional Medal of Honor

ORHS Boys Varsity Cross Country Team finished fifth out of 37 teams at the Cherokee Classic in Knoxville.

All 15 clinical students in ORHS Health Sciences received their OSHA Healthcare Certifications.

The Microsoft Certification process has just begun at ORHS and seven students have already earned their Specialist Certification in Word 19.

## JMS

The three JMS FIRST Lego League teams participated in a programming boot camp on Saturday, August 28, 2021. The Boot Camp was run by Dr. Jeff Thomson from the East Tennessee Robotics Foundation. Team members learned how to drive, manipulate attachments, and use various sensors. Members from the Secret City Wildbots, FIRST Robotics Team 4265, volunteered as mentors. It was a successful day and a great start to our Cargo Connect Challenge.