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Online Vol. IV No. 2

# East Catholic High Observer

# Catholic Schools Week

By Owen Smith



During the week of January 30th to February 5th the East Catholic community celebrated Catholic Schools Week. This week was highlighted by a celebratory advisory breakfast, faculty appreciation break-

fast, and a special mass led by Archbishop Blair of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Each of these events were created to appreciate a different part of the community while at the same time providing fun events for the students and faculty. The breakfasts focused on a celebration of the community and the faculty that made it possible. The Mass provided an opportunity to honor the Sisters of Notre Dame, who have been serving, improving, and assisting in making the community great since East Catholic first opened. I had the pleasure of speaking with the president of East Catholic, Mr. Brennan, upon the topic of Catholic Schools Week. Despite never experiencing the week as an administrator at East Catholic, Mr. Brennan was excited about the "celebration of the environment in Catholic schools." At the same time it was also about "welcoming people into the community and the school." For students looking to get more in-

volved in this week and its traditions for the future, Mr. Brennan suggests getting involved in "Campus and Peer Ministry as they head many of the events during the week" and provide



an opportunity for students to step up as leaders. With the success of this year's occasion, plans for the future are already being made. Mr. Brennan hopes to add "another community event during the week" where "younger generations can be taught about the culture of East Catholic." The hope is also to add an opportunity for students of East Catholic to speak with the students of Catholic middle schools in the area and explain the positive community and collection of opportunities that come with attending a religious school.

In conjunction with Mr. Brennan's interview, I also took the opportunity to interview several students at East Catholic about the benefits that come with a Catholic education. One student emphasizes

how "going to East provides a small classroom environment which allows students to receive more personalized education as compared to a large public school." This student also reflected on how "the smaller community allows for a greater sense of unity in which students and staff actively look out for each other." Another member of the student body focused on the ability of East to "prepare me for further education while allowing me to practice my faith at the same time." Not only does a Catholic school offer educational advantages, but as another student commented, it "provides sports programs which foster great friendships and create a sense of brotherhood among the players." Attending a Catholic school gives students an unique opportunity to further their education, practice their faith, and form lifelong friendships in many extracurriculars.

Catholic Schools
Week celebrated
these achievements and the
ability to foster
them in a Catholic environment.



# Father Jaime's Perspective on Lent

By Norah McCauliffe

Another Lenten season is upon us and Father Jaime is here to educate us about the spiritual meaning behind such a time in the year. As he explains it, prayer, action, and almsgiving are three components of the purpose of Lent. First, Father Jaime stated that the Lenten Season is a time for prayer, when we reflect on ourselves and our actions. Next, Lent calls on us to be active. To help us become more active, we need to be open to selfreflection and analyze ourselves with a critical and honest eye. Some questions we should ask ourselves during this time, he suggests, include: Are we spiritually active enough? Do we do enough for others? If the answer is "no," some things we can always do more are pray, go to Mass, and make sacrifices. Sacrificing something we care about or want is a way of showing appreciation to God. A sacrifice could be as simple as not buying that desired bag of candy, or choosing to watch a friend's favorite movie instead of one's own. It helps us become selfless and empathetic. It also helps us think about why we are saying "no," which then serves as a reminder of God and what he has sacrificed for us. This is a way God builds trust in us

through our relationships with our friends and families.

The third and final purpose of the Lenten Season, according to Father Jaime, is almsgiving, or taking time from the usual routine to do a nice act for someone else. An example Father Jaime gave for this is as follows: Imagine you're going to the store to buy a new phone, but instead of buying the phone that you wanted, you buy the cheaper one. Then when you're done buying the phone, you use the leftover money that you have from buying the cheaper phone and donate it to a charity.

When Father Jaime was asked about how he personally prepares for Lent, he talked about his time in Puerto Rico. While there, he did the traditional walk around the street for the Stations of the Cross. Now, he honors the Stations of the Cross within the church itself. Since sacrificing something during Lent is important, he mentioned that he has sacrificed listening to music because he loves music so much, and in his heart, giving it up shows his appreciation to God. Father Jaime recommends that we participate in sacrificing something during the time of Lent as well.

Another way Father Jaime recommends we prepare ourselves for Easter is talking to God; the best way to repair our relationships with God this Lenten season is to simply talk to Him. He explains that through talking to God we will find our spiritual way or path.

When asked about the meaning of Easter and what it personally meant to him, Father Jaime stated that it meant happiness and joy. He shared a memory from his childhood when he was little and his mother hid Easter eggs for him and his older sister to find. He described his feelings during this memory as "awesomeness." He detailed that Easter is a major feast, and a major source of happiness at home.

Father Jaime also share some helpful tips for maintaining our faith at this time. First, he wants to remind us that struggling is okay and we must accept that. This stage also includes asking the existential questions in life, which can be about oneself or God. Moving past this questioning stage, we can seek out these answers and come to terms with them. Father Jaime's final advice is to always re-

main humble and have faith in God. He does have answers and can always exceed our expectations whenever we are willing to listen.



#### Kairos 26



By Avery Osborn

On March 16th, 26 upperclassmen retreatants, accompanied by a team of faculty leaders, left East Catholic to attend the highly anticipated spiritual retreat: Kairos 26. "Kairos," translated from the Greek word meaning "God's time," is an intense three-day experience of reflection and mindfulness that is offered through Campus Ministry. This year's retreat was held at Holy Family Retreat & Conference Center in West Hartford, featuring a group of six student leaders from the Class of 2022: Ally Carra, Ben Carso, Emma Dutil, Ashley Maningas, Elizabeth Orchen-Baker, and Paige Sciarra. Overall, the retreat is grounded in Christian theology and is intended to be a time of spiritual reflection where retreaters are encouraged to partake in relationship and trust building activities through prayer, liturgy, and community. Despite having coordinated and attended a handful of Kairos retreats before, Director of Campus Ministry Mr. Patrick McLaughlin said Kairos "...specifically stood out to me because everyone truly took the time to consider their relationships with God, themselves, and their peers on a completely new level. I am tremendously gratified to have had the March Kairos return with such a deep level of participation from those who were in-Thanks be to God." Likewise, Mr. McLaughlin was not the only one to speak highly of the retreat, as many others had much to say about their positive experiences. In regards to their Kairos journey, senior Kairos leader and Peer Minister Elizabeth Orchen-Baker said, "I would rate it a 10/10. It was one of the best experiences of my life. Even though I went once before as a retreater, this time was better as a leader because it offered me an entirely new perspective." Regardless of the ongoing pandemic, our community was able to continue the school tradition of Kairos. Not only is Kairos the culmination of East Catholic's spirituality, but it also encapsulates our school's values and aligns with our themes of selflessness and community. Clearly, Kairos 26 will be one to remember.

# **Grandparents Day**

By Katherine Santini



On March 3rd, East Catholic was pleased to host its annual Grandparents' Day celebration after taking a two year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For this

special day, students were invited to bring their grandparents to school, allowing them to get a better understanding of East Catholic. Therefore, grandparents were ultimately able to obtain a higher understanding of their grandchildren's academic and social life here at East. At the outset of the event, the grandparents were warmly welcomed by a thoughtful speech from Mr. Brennan in the cafeteria, where both music from East Catholic's orchestra and food were provided. Following the speech, Mr. Brennan established a comfortable environment in which students and grandparents were giv-

en the opportunity to directly ask him questions pertaining to the school and to its mission statement. Additionally, grandparents were given personal tours of the school from



their grandchildren, who were able to show off their course schedules and classrooms. Finally, grandparents along with their grandchildren were invited to watch the dress rehearsal of Stage East's production of *Where's Charley?* Overall, through this enriching experience, grandparents and their grandchildren were able to achieve the ultimate goal of the day: to spend time bonding with one another. In fact, junior Jacob Taylor shared that Grandparents' Day was particularly meaningful for him as he was able to hear more about the "history of his family with East Catholic." Similarly, Mrs. Almagro, grandmother to



junior Alex Almagro, summed up the experience by reporting that, "It was a good way to expand the grandparents' knowledge about the school, meet other grandparents, and learn how the school is in a comfortable atmosphere," while she also added that "The food was a nice addition." Lastly, senior Ashley Maningas reflected on her experience by sharing

that "It was a great opportunity to show my grandparents the school, meet some of the staff, and watch the play. Everyone was enjoying themselves." Clearly, both the students and their grandparents benefited from this experience and appreciated this valuable bonding time.



#### **Kindness Club**

By Emma Dutil

The Kindness Club is a club that aims to spread kindness around East Catholic and create an inclusive environment for all. During the holiday season, Kindness Club members put candy canes on people's cars to spread some holiday cheer. In recent months, the group has taken on some amazing projects. First, the club held a twin dress down day/bake sale where they raised close to \$600 for moving the school's statue of mother Mary and creating a Mary garden. Overall, this is a great club to be a part of and they are always looking for new members. If interested, feel free to contact Emma Dutil, Emma Masselii, or Mrs. Kathy Reilly.

### **Math Team**

By Michael Flores

Math Team is run by Mrs. Bushnell and Mrs. Noryk. They practice every Thursday and compete every month. Math Team competitions consist of solving challenging math problems in order to score points for your school. I asked a number of members what their favorite parts of Math Team was and here are what a few of them said:

• "The people and the friends I made there" - Marko Paxi, freshman

- "Being able to come together with other students that share my interests" Constantinos Soteriou, senior
- "The math, John Candle, and the happiness it makes me feel as a contribution to the greater math community" Nate Posniak, senior
- "I like the community aspect and the kindness everyone shares"- Kevin Leger, senior

Overall, the math team is a fun place to hang out with friends and do challenging math problems. Plus, there is pizza and cookies on competition days.

#### **Club Med**

By Kaitlyn Nyberg

With the return of many of East Catholic's traditional clubs after a year of hiatus due to the Covid pandemic, a very popular and educational club has made a return: Club Med. Club Med is an after school club that aims to let its members further explore their interests in the medical and/ or health science field. This may be done if one is interested in pursuing a medical career in the future, or if one is just interested as a hobby. The club's two officers, seniors Farah Suede and Benedicta Agbonor, and moderator Mrs. Hicks, host the meetings once a month after school in Mrs. Hicks' room for approximately one hour, typically held on the second to last Thursday of each month. At each meeting, there is almost always a speaker; this year in particular, however, all speakers have been students presenting research that they completed on a particular topic that interested them.

On March 14th, junior Jillian Vichi presented a PowerPoint detailing the process on how to become a Physician's Assistant and what prerequisites/requirements are needed as well. Another junior, Arianna Scibek, presented at the meeting prior to March 14th on the psychology of adolescent mental health. This year, senior and club officer Farah Suede also presented, detailing the science of the Covid vaccine and highlighting the research she had done for the

past few months. If a student is interested in presenting, students usually ask the two club officers at the prior meeting, who consult with Mrs. Hicks

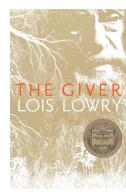


in order to help the student narrow in on what they will present specifically. These presentations can range from specific medical careers and their education process to work specificities—the possibilities are wide open.

Besides presentations, Club Med is very interactive and seeks to provide its students with not only knowledge and resources, but also opportunities. Club officer Farah Suede remarked about how they find "resources for everyone. Mrs. Hicks and myself work to provide printouts of relevant articles, research or clinic opportunity applications, shadowing opportunity paperwork, and when possible, field trips to exhibits or medical career fairs." Because of the great leadership of those in charge of Club Med, all members are bound to not only reap the benefits of pursuing something they are passionate about, but also get to enjoy learning in the process.

#### **Book Club**

By Emma Dutil



The book club has been having a strong year, reading piles of great books! In the Christmas months, members read Dash and Lily by Rachel Cohn, a love story about a girl who leaves a notebook full of dares for the right guy to attempt. In January and February, members read the classic The Giver by Lois Lowry, which is about a society that is presented as a utopia. However, as the book progresses, the reader recognizes

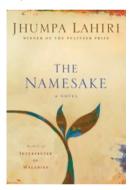
the faults in devoiding a society from emotion, color, and history. Members also gathered together to watch

the movie version of the text to compare it. In the coming months, the book club is planning to read Renegades by Marissa Meyer, The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan, and The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid. If you are interested in joining, feel free to contact Emma Dutil, Emma Maselli, or Mrs. Miller. We are always looking for new members!



# Book Review: The Namesake

By Cecelia Johnson



Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake* is JHUMPA LAHIRI a fictional novel intended to portray an American lifestyle through the perception of a boy who struggles within two internal lensesone of his family history, his Bengalian heritage, and the other of the life he currently occupies in America. Lahiri first delves into the perspective of his mother, Ashima, and it is soon administered that she holds immense love

and attachment toward her home country, Bengali. A series of intriguing events leads her to America alongside her husband, where her son is born. Part of the cause for the boy's inner adolescent conflict stems from the choosing of a name that does not reflect his Bengalian history-a name not chosen by his grandmother, as names in his parents' culture are meant to be. The name chosen for the boy, the name never intended to be his good name but has become so nonetheless, is Gogol. This name is based on a near-death experience of his father, a story that Gogol is unaware of for some time. And while he dismisses its meaning and tries his hardest to replace it in formal, legal terms, "Gogol" is always a part of him.

The heart of this story is really to illuminate the significance of composing one's identity and the trials that weigh on our conscience as we do so. Identity is something to be interwoven with heritage, persona, and in some cases, a name. An affectionate nickname, or, as Gogol perceives his, an unfortunate one. In China, a "milk name" is reserved for loved ones to use, intended to serve as the child's name before the formal one is chosen. Superstitions state that repulsive milk names can ward off evil spirits. Zulu, a South African nation, shares this sentiment in the form of a "home name," which is a name that often reflects the context of the family's circumstances at the time the child was named. All around the world, names and the process by which they are chosen are of varying consideration, and Bengali is no exception. The text mentions that pet names, daknam, are reserved for the intimate friends and family to use as a "reminder that life is not so serious," whereas good names, bhaloman, are for the outside world to see, a name of dignity. Gogol's pet name, which he prefers to be addressed by as he believes it is less unusual, is Nikhil.

For so long Gogol refused to associate his identity with Bengali – not because he was ashamed, but because it seemed to be a place that was almost alien to him, whereas his parents carried it with them in their hearts constantly. Their feelings on Bengali and America compared to his are switched, for they are the foreigners in the world he is accustomed to; "For being a foreigner, Ashima is starting to realize, is a sort of lifelong pregnancy-a perpetual wait, a constant burden, a continuous feeling out of sorts" (Lahiri 49). The reader ventures through Gogol's entire life beside him, but they also undergo specific timelines in his mother's story, most of which revolve around Gogol, and the two alternating perspectives each demand their share of spotlight. Eye-opening and enriching, the art of belonging and not belonging in different worlds, intermingled with two starkly different cultures, is beautifully encompassed in this story.

# **Spring Musical:** Where's Charley? We Finally Found Him!

By Eleanor Mund



On March 4, lights came up on the first Stage East musical production two years: Where's Charley?. The musical comedy, written by Guys and Dolls playwright Frank

Loesser, first debuted on Broadway 74 years ago in 1948. Set in 1892 Oxfordshire, England, Where's Charley follows the young love of two couples, Charley Wykeham (Brandon Macaluso) and Amy Septtigue (Kendra Obrycki), and Jack Chesney (George Koulisis) and Kitty Verdun (Eleanor Mund). Unfortunately, the girls' stern guardian, Mr. Spettigue (Giovanni Esposito) disapproves of their love, and the couples are societally unable to meet without a chaperone. When Charley's aunt, Donna Lucia (Farah Suede), fails to show up (or so they think), Charley dons a dress and wig to take on his aunt's persona. Little does he know that his aunt, under a false surname, has been observing the entire time and reigniting an old flame with Jack's father, Sir Francis Chesney (Lucas Audette). Amidst ro-

mantic ballads, frenzied stage chases, and layers upon layers of subterfuge, the young lovers will do anything to get Mr. Spettigue's approval of their marriage.



The production of Where's Charley? was a labor of love beginning in early November of 2021, when auditions were held. The cast list was released soon after, and rehearsals began in earnest. Actors quickly noted the almost ridiculously detailed stage directions provided by the playwright. Due to the musical being a physical comedy, lots of extra care and attention was placed on the blocking, especially for the almost-silent comical scenes between the characters Mr. Spettigue and Charley (disguised as Donna Lucia). In addition to this, cast members had to



learn many different dances and songs, and crew members worked tirelessly on perfecting their scene changes. The pit orchestra, as well, began rehearsing

for at least two hours each day beginning in late December. After eight weeks of incredibly hard work, all members of the Stage East community were ready to put on a showstopper.



And a showstopper it was. From opening night on Friday, March 4th, to the third and final performance on the following Saturday night, the Stage East players prompted laugh after laugh with their sharp comedic timing. Audiences were swept off their feet by lovely romantic ballads such as "My Darling," "Lovelier than Ever," and slightly faster tempos had toes tapping to "Make a Miracle" and the fan favorite "Once in Love With Amy." The ever-talented Stage East ensemble delighted audiences with their energet-



ic dancing and gorgeous harmonies in group numbers, such as "The New Ashmolean Marching Society," "Pernambuco,"

Charley," 'Where's and, of course, the hilarious "The Gossips."

Aside from the beautiful singing, the audience was left in stitches after hysterically awkward, dynamic scenes depicting Charley desperately trying to work out how to act as his aunt. Standout scenes included various hapless proposals to "Donna Lucia" (Charley)

from both Sir Francis and Mr. Spettigue, an uncomfortable tea party wherein the real Donna Lucia quizzed Charley on "her" life, and a dramatically hilarious reveal of Charley's deception in the end. The incredible efforts and talents of the cast, crew, and pit earned them a well-deserved standing ovation on closing night, leaving Where's Charley? a rousing suc-





The past few years have been a difficult time for the theatre industry, and the same goes for Stage East as their stage for formal plays had to go dark for the past two years. The triumphant return of the spring musical is a wonderful sign for the future of the theatre department at East Catholic. Theatre allows students to experience something new, learn how to connect with

others and tell a story, and to gain confidence in themselves. Theatre offers an irreplaceable opportunity to find community and build upon both creative and practical skills, and Stage East certainly offers this to its members. Many seniors leave the department feeling they have grown and learned immensely from their experiences. Whether participating for on-

ly one show or eight, theatre is an invaluable artistic pursuit. This author would encourage any current East Catholic students who are interested in trying something new to audition for the next Stage East production; you will not regret it!



The 2021-2022 season of Stage East is now closed, but excitement lies ahead. Stage East senior actors included Lucas Audette, MJ Kirsche, Eleanor Mund, Jorryn Wilson, and Farah Suede; senior pit members were Heidi Li, Lindsey Wearne, and Jason Wellings Jr.; senior crew members entailed Margo Kamis, Ally Carra, Mainz Mutsengi, Nathan Gryzbowski, and Ryan Turco; and of course, fearless stage manager, senior Rachel Donnelly. These seniors have a bright future ahead of them and a rich store of memories made from their time in the theatre department, and all fans of the theatre have much to look forward to for next season. For certain, whatever sto-

ry the Stage East players will bring to life next year, it will be "lovelier than ever before"!



#### **New Faces and Sports**

# Introducing Rebecca Rumley

By Cecelia Johnson



Ms. Rumley, East Catholic's new Advancement Assistant, feels that she has been welcomed wholeheartedly as a member of East, describing it as having been introduced to one big fami-

ly. When asked to provide one word to sum up this school, "family" was, in fact, what she chose—she explained that teachers, staff, and students alike, were all included in this picture, and that as a school it was clear to see that new additions to the community were always appreciated. All of her siblings had attended East, and although she herself is not an alumna, she gathered nothing but positive impressions of East when she first decided that a change from her former job was necessary. Ms. Rumley wished for a better fit, a job with room for growth in all aspects, and she feels that, in accepting this position, she has been able to fulfill these goals.

As someone who arrived at East eager to develop her knowledge in Advancement, she maintains now that there is a lot of work and dedication, most of which is done behind the scenes, to make such events come together. Her job in Advancement entails planning fundraisers and school events, as well as sorting out donations and ensuring that said donations end up where they are intended to go. The fundraisers themselves, once set in motion, also contain yet even more work—sending out invitations, organizing RSVPS, preparing the food and setup and other duties that fuel the success of fundraising events.

She also played a large role in the great success of Grandparents Day this year. She noted that when the actual event came around, the real reward was in seeing others enjoy it. The tremendous amount of thought and effort that goes into this job makes it so that there is always more to be learned, and she expressed that she was excited to do so in the school year through upcoming events such as East's retirement party, golf tournament, and a special spring event titled "Denim and Diamonds," which featured a live auction and a band.

There is much to be grateful for at East, and it is important to give recognition to the people who help all of it come together. We welcome Ms. Rumley as a new and valued member of East who has been learning much in order to help contribute to the things that make our school a brighter, fulfilling place.

# Meeting Mr. Birdsong

By Nicole Barnes

Some may recognize Mr. Derrick Birdsong from the role he has held as the Assistant Girls Basketball coach, but this year he will play an even bigger role in East Catholic Athletics as Assistant Athletics Director. He was motivated to apply for this role because he had fallen in love with sports management



in college and felt he had the background and preparation that the position needed. He also loves the East Catholic culture overall, but especially when it comes to athletics.

Growing up in an athletic family, he always knew he wanted to pursue something in the field of

athletics. He played Division 1 basketball at the University of Rhode Island and studied sports management and coaching. After college, he was inspired to become an assistant director as a person who loves sports and is eager to give back to students and make an impact on their lives, both in athletics and beyond, as many had done for him growing up. His uncle, Otis Birdsong, who played in the NBA and coached many young athletes, taught him what it means to be a role model for young athletes. He has several goals now that he is taking on this new position. The first is to get to know every student athlete on a personal level. He also hopes to create an athletic department at East that lives up to the saying "inspiring excellence," loving that it goes beyond sports and exceeds in all

Mr. Birdsong is inspired by his mother, who was a single parent and molded him into the person he is today. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with family, watching college level athletics, playing basketball, and traveling. He knows the spring sports season will be a crazy time for athletics at East Catholic and is grateful for the support of Mr. John Dahlquist, the Dean of Wellness and Athletics, and Mr. Chad Malone, who previously held the position.

### Girls Basketball

By Kayliana Salazar



I had the honor to work alongside my peers to accomplish my final year of high school basketball, which ended on an exciting win against South Windsor in mid

-February. Coaches Chad Malone, Derrick Birdsong, and Yas Lynch set the tone from day one, making it a comfortable environment fir success. Considering we spent hours in the gym each day, we created unforgettable memories that will be key to all of our high school experiences. Despite the not-ideal outcome of this season, we were able to take away the good from each loss in preparation for building the future of East Catholic Girls Basketball. I was co-captain with Zoe Latina, whose leadership skills were displayed throughout the entirety of the season. Some key players throughout the year were freshman Rosie Sadlak and Kailani Galan. We also wouldn't have been able to do it without Shea Boyle, Lindsey Barfield, Alexis Jablonecki, Brianna Bak, and many more. The

core of our intense bench energy was Jillian Vichi, Jada Blocker, Jade Colon, and Gabby Thompson. Although the season ended, our girls are still working hard, taking advantage of open gym times in preparation for a successful following season. I can't wait to watch this group of girls grow and develop as players and people

under our amazing coaching staff.

#### **Indoor Track**

By Isabella Jensen

This 2021-2022 Indoor Track season went very well. There were two individuals and two relays that qualified for states. During the indoor season, the team practiced in the upstairs hallway after stretching and conditioning in the small gym. Israel Caro, Isabella Jensen, Aiden Mateo, Andrew Tansil, Andrew Alberts, Chaedon Rosemond, and





Ben Creamer all qualified for State Championships. A big congratulations goes out to the Sprint Medley relay team, and to Israel Caro in the 1000, on medaling at State Championships. Aiden Mateo, Andrew Tansil, Andrew Alberts, Chaedon Rosemond, and Ben Creamer all qualified for states in relays. Israel Caro individually qualified in the 1000

and also the SMR relay. Isabella Jensen also qualified in the 1000m. In regards to this past season,

Coach Baron commented, "We were very pleased with the effort and performances of our team this winter. Even though our numbers were small, we managed to win 5 medals in the Class S State Meet. We need more athletes for our team to be even more successful in the spring." Good luck to the track team on their outdoor season!



# **Boys Basketball**

By JJ Hay

On most days after school during





the season, the Boys Basketball team gathered to practice in the gym, doing drills to help the team prepare for upcoming opponents. These drills obviously worked, because the Eagles Boys Basketball team won the state tournament by one point on March 20th at the Mohegan Sun arena. The team's

overall record for the regular season this year was 15-5. Led by junior captains Luke Reilly and Leandre Sanchez, the entire team looks forward to a great season next year. Great job, boys!



# **Robotics Update**

Congratulations to the AETOS DIOS Robotics team for placing third out of 37 teams at the New England District Western New England event, part of the FIRST Robotics Competition.



#### ECHO STAFF

Contributors: Nicole Barnes, Emma Dutil, Michael Flores, JJ Hay, Isabella Jensen, Cecelia Johnson, Norah McCauliffe, Eleanor Mund, Kaitlyn Nyberg, Elizabeth Orchen-Baker, Avery Osborn, Kayliana Salazar, Kate Santini, and Owen Smith.

