



**St. Eugene School**  
Guiding hearts, growing minds

## 2014-2015 HIGHLIGHTS



**The 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Eugene School** was celebrated with a joyful Mass, open house, alumni reunion, and dinner party attended by school families, alumni, and current and past teachers and administrators.

**The religion curriculum was supported by** daily prayer, weekly Mass, classroom visits by our associate pastor, Fr. Jacob Strand, Advent and Lenten prayer services, Living Stations of the Cross, and Worship Circle. Service projects benefitted our Ugandan sister parish, the Hunger Task Force, Guest House, Milwaukee Catholic Home, and other local organizations. The Panther Way, our character building program, expanded in its second year, with many students earning “golden panther paw” awards. Students honored our pastor, Fr. Jerry Herda, for his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priesthood.

**Academics flourished** with an increased commitment to meeting all students’ needs through differentiated instruction and expansion of the 1:1 iPad program. St. Eugene School received Exemplary Recognition by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for innovative programming. Selected middle school students participated in challenging projects offered by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Discovery Project and the Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth.

Our team of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students won **1<sup>st</sup> place** in the **Dominican Academic Challenge**, competing in core academic subjects against eleven Catholic grade schools from the north shore area and beyond. Our MathCounts students took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Milwaukee chapter competition and 9<sup>th</sup> place in the state competition. Our team has qualified for state in 12 of the past 13 years, and has placed in the top ten at state four times. Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade team was named “best business” in the Junior Achievement Biz Town program. Three students in our Math Olympiads program were ranked in the top 10% of students from 5000 schools worldwide.

**Our faculty completed a full year of rigorous self-study and long range planning** in preparation for the September of 2015 accreditation visit by a team from the Archdiocese and WRISA (Wisconsin Religious Independent Schools Accreditation). They compiled 150 pages of documentation accompanied by 400 pieces of evidence fulfilling 12 standards of leadership, curriculum, student services, resources, communication, Catholic identity, and more.

**The Class of 2015** chose Dominican, Marquette, Nicolet, and Brown Deer High Schools. Two graduates were awarded **academic merit scholarships to Dominican** and another received a Knights of Columbus merit scholarship to Marquette. Older graduates were named National Honor and Jesuit Honor Society members and campus ministry leaders. Two alums now in college joined parishioners on the summer trip to our twinning parish in Nkonkonjeru, with gifts from our current students and plans to use technology to connect our students with the Ugandan students during the upcoming school year.

**Student athletes** participated in several sports, and earned Seton and Padre Serra Tournament invitations for volleyball and basketball teams. **Students performed** in Christmas and spring concerts, and displayed their creativity at the annual art show. Middle school students presented the musical *Willy Wonka, Jr.* Our Lego League robotics team earned the Innovative Solution award in regional competition. Preschool families enjoyed Story Time, Summer Play Time, and the new Music Time programs. Many other extracurricular programs, from chess club to scouting to ski club and more, provided new and exciting experiences, talents, and camaraderie for our students.