

SKOS Interscholastic Science Fair

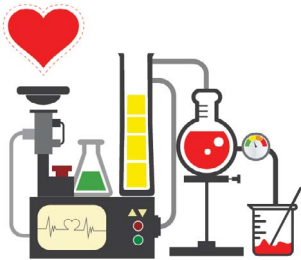
Students of St. Maarten's six Catholic primary schools put their research, creativity and presentation skills on full display on June 5 for the eighth annual Interscholastic Science Fair, hosted by the Catholic School Board SKOS at the Parish Hall in Philipsburg.

Each school presented two science projects, prepared under the guidance of their teachers, and judged by a profession-

al panel. All students did a great job. A celebration of knowledge and curiosity, the science fair has become an exciting highlight of the year.

The winning project was "Hydro Spark" from St. Joseph School. Second place went to the project "BIO degradable plastic: Why they work?" from Sr. Borgia Elementary School, and third place was awarded to "Water Filtration System" from Sr. Marie Laurence Primary School.

Congratulations to all winners and participants!



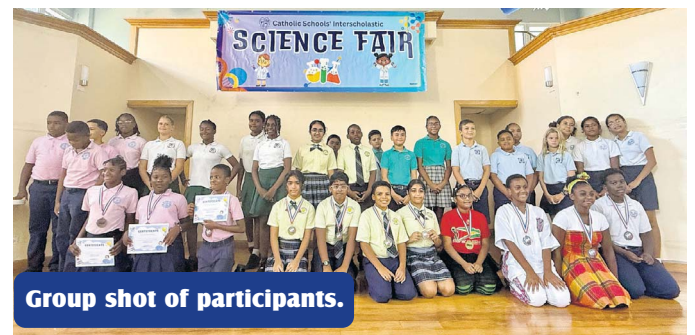
Winners, from St. Joseph.



Second place winners, from Sr. Borgia.



Third place winners, from Sr. Marie Laurence.

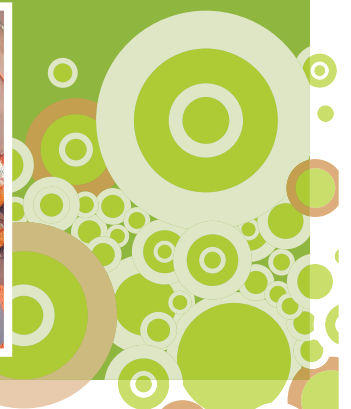


Group shot of participants.

We at The KIDS Herald hope you're staying active! Take a picture of you doing fun activities and send it to Darlene.Hodge@thedailyherald.sx and we'll publish it in the "Say Cheese" photo page.

Say CHEESE!

Check out these fabulous pictures of kids enjoying themselves. Do you recognise anyone?



FLAG DAY IN PICTURES

Last Friday, more than 700 pupils and teachers from Leonald Conner School, Sister Regina Primary School and Seventh Day Adventist School formed a colourful parade through Cole Bay and Simpson Bay, celebrating Flag Day. Following the Patriotic School Parade was a Flag Hoisting Ceremony, complete with musical and cultural performances at the Leonald Conner School. Along with many government officials, Ms. Roselle Richardson, who designed the St. Maarten flag some 40 years ago, was present for the special day.





There are several different types of switches. First are left- or right-turn.

Your train is going around and around. It runs great. The scenery looks terrific. But after about the third time around, you begin to ask yourself: "Is this it? Is this running a railroad?" The answer is no; this is playing trains.

So, get yourself four switches and four to eight pieces of extra track. Divide your layout into four sections. Open the first section and install

a switch with one or two pieces of track. Go quarter of the way around and install the second switch. At the half mark goes the third switch; and at the $\frac{3}{4}$ mark goes the last switch with a few extra pieces of track.

You now have four freight stops. Place one to two cars at each stop. Mix the cars up – maybe just box cars at the first stop; a gondola and a flat car at the second stop. Put two tank cars at the

third stop and the fourth gets two passenger cars. Now instead of having a few rail cars in a box or stuck on a shelf, they are on display on your layout and ready for use.

Be smart. Box cars carry a wide variety of products, so can be used at any industry. Tankers carry oil and fuel so can be included almost anywhere – but if you build a refinery, that will be their primary home. Flat cars can

go next to the auto plant to carry new cars to dealers.

Now as you operate your railroad, your loco pulls up to an industry. It uncouples and pulls forward past the switch. Throw the switch, the loco backs up coupled with the two empty cars and pulls forward.

The switch is thrown again – now the train reverses. Recouple with the main train and then drive forward past the switch and then back the last two cars in the open track. Uncouple and make first delivery.

On to stop two and three. Same procedure.

At the fourth stop, pick up passenger cars and leave the freight cars.

Now you are running a passenger service. There are two basic passenger trains – express and local. The express will only stop two or three times – once at the largest industry and the other two will be passenger service to a town or rural area.

The local passenger service stops at all stations and

factories. To keep the train running, go around the whole layout once or twice between stops to simulate distance.

Then it is back to freight service. Do that once more.

Then for a little variety, take the switch at the top and bottom of the loop and turn them in the other direction.

Now when you run freight, the first train will only pick up and drop off at two stops. Once done, turn the loco around and go the other way to pick up the other two stops. Same applies with passenger service – run the train one direction. When you get to the final stop switch the engine to the other end and go in the



Using two or more switches, you can make a rail yard to display your rolling stock – lots more fun than on shelves or in boxes out of sight.

opposite direction.

Time one loop of the train. Now you can make a timetable of what trains will stop at what times.

You are now operating a railroad instead of playing trains.

Until next time, hope to see you around the tracks.



A close-up of the switch shows how a piece of the track is used to divert a train from one section to the other.



Some switches are electric and the track moves with a push of a button. Others, like this one, are manual and you have to throw the switch to divert a train.

Science Jokes

Why can you never trust atoms?
They make up everything.

What type of fish is made of two sodium atoms?
2 Na. ("tuna")

Why did the germ cross the microscope?
To get to the other slide.

Why do elements make terrible friends?
They're always reacting.

Why are chemists great for solving problems?
They have all the solutions.

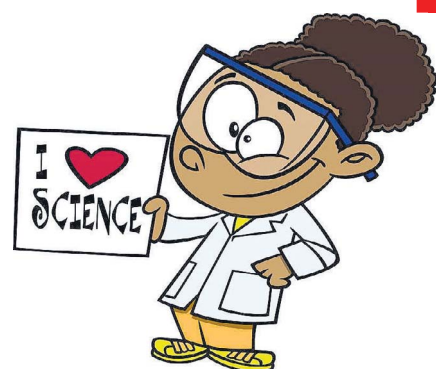
I was reading a book on helium.
I couldn't put it down!

Two blood cells met and fell in love.
Alas, it was all in vein.

What do protons and good teachers have in common?
They know how to stay positive.

What's a pirate's favourite element?
Aaaaargon.

What did the scientist say to the chemist whose lab smelled like eggs?
Sorry for your sulfering.



What did the helpless T cell say when facing the infection?
Is there antibody out there?

What do you call an acid with an attitude?
A-mean-oh acid.

What did the proton say to the electron to start a fight?
I'm sick of your negativity.

Colour me in!

