

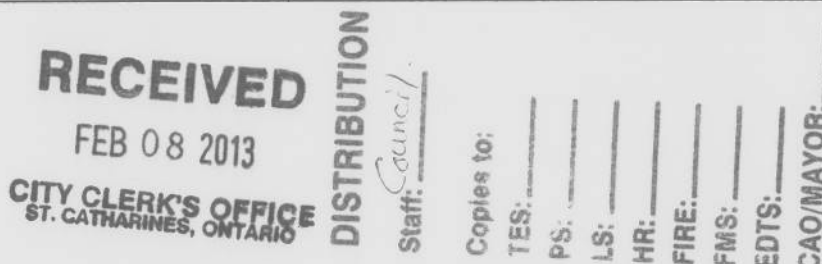


Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School

439 Vine Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2M 3S6
Telephone: 905-935-4343 Fax: 905-935-3943



February 6, 2013



Dear Mayor McMullan and St. Catharines City Council,

The Lego Robotics program has been in existence at Our Lady of Fatima School for the past 4 years. The program is based on the guidelines of First Lego League (FLL) and First Robotics Canada. In September of 2012, try outs were held for the Our Lady of Fatima Falcons Lego Robotics Team. A team of ten members, four junior mentors and three senior mentors were selected from the overwhelming number of children who tried out for the team. The team is coached by parent volunteers and a teacher.

This year's challenge put forward by First Lego League was Senior Solutions. The students were required to research a project based on the identified theme (Needs of Seniors in our Community), create a solution to the problem, exemplify the core values of FLL and program a robot to complete various missions based on the identified theme problems. In researching their project, the students worked with the residents and coordinators at Tabor Manor, the senior's residence near our school to help determine their project solution. The students developed the 'Helpful Harness' which would assist individuals walking up stairs so that if an individual lost their balance, the 'Helpful Harness' would stabilize them and the individual would not fall.

The team participated at the FLL Regional Tournament held at Niagara College in December. Winning 2nd Grand Champion and the Robot Performance Award qualified the Falcons for the Provincial East Competition. This is the 3rd time in 4 years the team has qualified for the Provincials. On January 12th, the Falcons were one of 40 teams participating in the First Lego League Robotics Provincial East Competition at UOIT in Oshawa.

At the Provincial tournament, the Fatima Falcons received the Robot Alliance Award and won the 1st place Grand Championship Award.

As a result of this win, we now have an opportunity to represent CANADA at the First Lego League North American Open Tournament in California this coming May. Winning teams from the United States and other countries will be participating in this 3 day tournament.



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School

439 Vine Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2M 3S6
Telephone: 905-935-4343 Fax: 905-935-3943



Our fundraising efforts are now taking place to ensure that all team members are able to pay the costs associated with such a venture to participate in the tournament. Representing our School, City, Region, Province and Country at this tournament is a once in a lifetime adventure for the students and your support would be greatly appreciated.

We are asking for your help in this endeavour. We request a grant of \$250 for each of the 17 members of the team and the 5 coaches to assist in the financing of the cost of attending the tournament. If you require more information about this venture, please contact either our lead coach Jane Babcock or the principal of Our Lady of Fatima School, Marilyn Burcsik.

Thank you so very much for your support.

The Fatima Falcons Lego Robotics Team

For further information please contact:

Jane Babcock

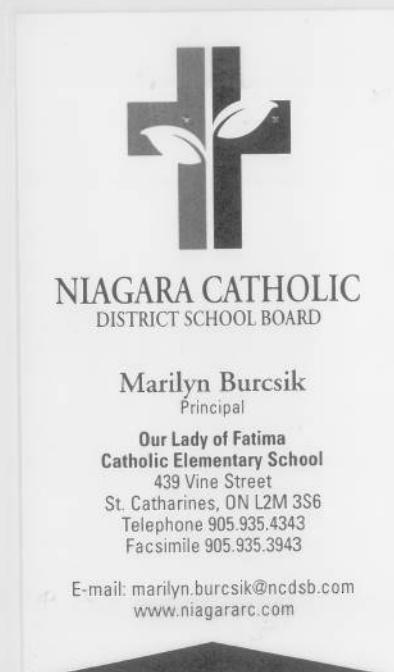
Bbabcock2@cogeco.ca

Home: 905-646-7951

Marilyn Burcsik

marilyn.burcsik@ncdsb.com

School: 905-935-4343





Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School

439 Vine Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2M 3S6
Telephone: 905-935-4343 Fax: 905-935-3943



We are reaching out to you as a coach or parent on behalf of the
Our Lady of Fatima Lego Robotic Team
From St. Catharines, Ontario.

Our team is made up of 10 team members, 3 junior mentors and one intermediate mentor between the ages of 8 and 12 years old, along with 3 high school helpers. In December our team attended the First Lego League Regional Tournament that was held at Niagara College. We took home the **2nd Place Grand Champions Award** as well as the **Robot Performance Award**, this win advanced us to the Provincial Tournament. The Provincial Tournament was held on January 12, 2013 in Oshawa at the UOIT (University of Ontario, Institute of Technology). At this competition our team won the **Alliance Teamwork Robot Competition** as well as the **FIRST PLACE GRAND PROVINCIAL CHAMPION Award** and now has the opportunity to participate in the **INTERNATIONAL LEGO TOURNAMENT** representing Canada at **LEGOLAND**, in **California** in mid-May of this year. It is our understanding that there will potentially be 85 teams from around the world competing at this tournament. This is a great honour for our small but mighty school.

As we look to planning a trip for 17 children and our 5 coaches, you can imagine the costs involved. We are in the process of organizing some fundraising events.

At this time we would like to ask our community for their support by way of donations for our Silent Auction, Penny sale and/or raffles. There is no item too big or too small to help with this initiative, and all donations will be recognized at the event as it is used. If you require any more information about this venture or would like to see what we do, please contact our lead coach, Jane Babcock at the number below. If you prefer or require school verification for this venture, please contact our Principal, Marilyn Burcsik at the number below. Contact with either of these representatives can also arrange for pick up or drop off of donations.

Thank you very much for your support.

The Fatima Falcons Lego/Robotic Team

Jane Babcock

Bbabcock2@cogeco.ca

Home: 905-646-7951

Marilyn Burcsik

School: 905-935-4343

Niagara Catholic District School Board