

# LEGO League 2007/ 2008



## St John Catholic School Team 89

A New LEGO season is upon us...

On Wednesday September 5th at 6:00 we will hold a meeting for all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, and their parents, who are interested in participating in this year's LEGO Competition. Both students and parents must attend a meeting prior to being considered for participation on a team. Every year we make changes in order to make the experience better for the team members.

If we have more than 10 interested students, then priority will be given to those parents and students who attend the meeting. If there are 20 students interested there would be a possibility of two teams, with some additional adult help. (We will teach you what you need to know.)

As always more adult help increases the quality of the team. If you have the time and the willingness to help, we will provide you with the knowledge to be an asset to the team.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Coach Steve and Mrs. Kramp

### General Outline

Already available:

- Building instructions and the competition mat
- Robots and lessons on how to build and program LEGO robots

Early September through the end of January

- Team sessions after school on Wednesday from 3:30 until 6:00 pm
- Note: If two teams, the second team will meet on a different day

Mid September

- The LEGO competition will be announced

Mid January

- Regional LEGO competition will take place at Trident Technical College

Late January

- The State Competition will take place, most likely, at Clemson University

### General Concept

The FIRST LEGO League competition is a team building and educational experience targeted at middle school students to teach them that math and science is fun. We are given tasks (missions) to complete in 2 ½ minutes. Whoever receives the most points is the winner of this portion of the competition. We design and build the robot completely out of LEGO pieces to perform the required missions. We also program the autonomous robot to move the three motors so the robot moves and performs as envisioned to complete the missions. Additionally there is a research project aimed at teaching us about a science subject—this year it is about alternative energy. We have to research the topic and make a creative presentation to win the research award. Two of the other awards are team spirit and innovative design. The competitions are fun filled exciting days for everyone.

This competition is different than sports in many ways. We rely much more on teamwork to win than on individual talent. We have sufficient talent and resources to be one of the top 10 teams in the state; we have done so virtually every year for the past 6 years. (Just look at our trophy case) You cannot say that about a sports team. We rely on thinking. We rely on discipline and work. Everyone participates and everyone is important! Since we are judged as a team, everyone must contribute to the best of their ability. No one sits on the sideline and watches. And win or lose, we have fun!

See [www.firstlegoleague.org](http://www.firstlegoleague.org) for additional information