



Annual Scholastic Book Fair Raises Money for Library Books

Spring at Newport Academy means IT'S BOOK FAIR TIME! The event is eagerly awaited each year and is always a source of excitement and fun for everyone at the Woodside Lane campus. This year's Spring book fair ran from March 16th-26th. To add to the excitement, prizes were given away and Curious George made an appearance passing out candy and posing for pictures in classrooms. Thanks to the support and enthusiasm of everyone involved, this was a very successful event. Total book fair sales were well over \$2,600 which translates into almost \$1,600 in new books and materials for the school library which serves as an invaluable resource for students and staff at Newport Academy and the Center for Autism. The importance of such functions in our setting cannot be overstated. Many of the students served by Newport Academy and the Center for Autism have not had the opportunity to attend book fairs in the past. The joy and excitement on the faces of the students as they shop, or their name is drawn for a prize is truly priceless.



Video Self-Modeling Proving Successful



The use of video self-modeling (VSM) at the Center for Autism is proving successful! Yo Dorni and Melonie Melton, instructors at the Center for Autism have helped a student master a goal that the student had made little to no progress on before using the video and they were able to make progress in increasing a student's ability to go through the lunch line with little prompting. The same student also showed an increase in his spontaneous language! Mrs. Melton also started using VSM with the Center for Autism workshop students and noticed an immediate improvement; the student's need for cues in taking a customer through their snack shop routine decreased. According to a study by Barbara Yingling Wert and John T. Neisworth of The Pennsylvania State University, "video self monitoring (VSM) is a promising intervention to teach new skills and improve the use of existing skills in young children with autism". — *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions, Winter, 2003*



Students Excel at FCCLA

New Horizons Early Childhood students excelled at the State FCCLA Conference held in Virginia Beach April 15th-18th. Three of our winners; Lena Nguyen, Bethel High; Brittany Mapp, Kecoughtan High; and Shenika Mcneill, Bethel High are eligible to attend the National Conference in July! Students demonstrated exemplary behavior the entire time they were in Virginia Beach. Congratulations and thanks to Penny Cooke, Sharon Dement and Kevin Watkins for helping to lead our Early Childhood/FCCLA students to excel. For a list of the 13 individuals who won either a gold or silver medal/trophy, [click here](#).

SkillsUSA Machining Competition

New Horizons' Machine Tech instructor, Greg Sprock accompanied two of his students to John Tyler Community College on April 16th & 17th for the SkillsUSA Machining Competition. Students represented the school well and Zachary Meermans of Jamestown High won the State Championship for Computer Numerical Control Machining. Zach is now eligible to compete at the National level in June! Congratulations to Zach and Mr. Sprock!

NASA Knights Team 122 Wins Again

[NASA Knights Team 122](#) has returned from the FIRST International Competition in Atlanta, Georgia placing 14th out of 84 robots in the Archimedes Division! Co-Captain Julia Thompson won some unbelievable prizes as one of the top 92 regional winners of the first ever Dean Kamen Award. The team qualified for the national competition by winning the most prestigious award given at the Regionals; the Chairman's Award. While in Georgia, the team also learned that it was selected as the Hampton Roads FIRST Robotics winner from the [Hampton Roads Technology Council](#) (HRTC). HRTC is the technology nerve center for Hampton Roads. This member-driven non-profit organization advocates an environment that fosters growth, education and communication within the region's high-tech community. Congratulations team!

