

It is that time of year again when we say goodbye to our eighth grade students. It is really hard to do since we have known them from the first time they walked into St. Patrick's School and even before that for some of them. They are a great bunch of students and each is unique in his own way.

I sat down and asked them about some of their best memories at St. Pat's.

Leo Guadarrama talked about a ride Erik Reyes and he were on at Arnold's park during their DARE trip. They were stopped at the top and the operator grabbed tools and walked over to the control panel and Leo thought they were stuck up there.

While on the same trip, Victor Topete laughed about getting lost in the mirror maze. He said it took him a while to get out of there.

Erik Reyes had a couple of memories to share. One was the time the sixth grade went to the Osceola conservation area to go fishing. They also went kayaking. He was in the same kayak with Leo Guadarrama and Leo kept trying to tip them. He also talked about the time they all went to Le Mars for a speech contest and Victor Topete spilled his ice cream on him. They were all a little wound up on the ride home and the teacher put on a video to calm them down. The only one she had with her was Bubble Guppies. They all calmed down and watched it.

Through the years they have enjoyed pranking the teachers, especially with a very "shocking" ink pen. It's all good kid fun. They also enjoyed making gingerbread houses this year. One was a high-rise hotel with a pool. The other was an Aztec temple. Their imaginations are amazing. They also did some coding using Ozobots. They are little robots for which the students drew tracks with color markers making the robots do a variety of commands.

This year they read "The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton. They really liked it and part of their lesson was a mock trial.

And as usual Cherri Mullin's cooking comes in first place as the thing that was the favorite through the years and the thing that will be most missed.

Speaking of most missed, Leo Guadarrama, Erik Reyes, and Alan Martinez say that they will miss the teachers most. Victor Topete and Mikey Lopez say that they will miss everything about St. Pat's. I know that we as a staff will miss them as well. We hope for good things for them and feel that they can and will do wonderful things.