

# MapleStone News

April 2019  
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## Dates of Interest:

- April 12 – Early Release @ noon
- April 16-19: April Vacation
- June 7: Graduation (early release @ noon)
- June 12: Last Day of School (early release @ noon)

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Please check out our new website at [www.maplstone.org](http://www.maplstone.org)

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## Environmental Science Group Projects By Environmental Science

Acton, Maine  
[www.maplestone.org](http://www.maplestone.org)

MAPLESTONE—Interestingly, the Environmental Science group, which is also a woodworking class at Maplestone, worked on a class project and individual projects this quarter. The class project was cutting, staining, and putting together the table base for our new octagonal table because our old one needed improvement in design. Our individual projects ranged from cutting boards to cabinets and shelves and TV stands. We also did community service locally, like pruning and shoveling and sanding for an elderly friend.

We had to cut wood for our new octagonal table. The first thing we did was cut the wood and put the table frame together which took four days. We needed to clean the sawdust off the base so that it didn't ruin the finish. Cleaning the base and putting finish on it took about a week. Then putting the table together took us two hours. We cut up the old table; we used the saw to cut it and the hammer to hit it and then we disposed of the pieces.

These are the individual projects we've done this quarter. Some projects have taken more than one quarter. Ryan is building an easel for his plaque. It took Ryan about four hours to cut the pieces for the easel and half an hour to plane them. Ryan also marked the pieces to cut them to angle, centered the line to drill holes for the easel legs, and measured the ledger to carve it for the plaque to sit in. Jon-

athan made two shelves. The shelves were made out of pine. He made them for himself for a TV stand. To make his shelves, he used the chopsaw, the jointer, the planer, and the bandsaw. Gavin made two cutting boards, one for his mother and one for his aunt. To get the wood for his cutting boards he had to chop through a foot of ice that had built up in front of the storage shed. Once he got the wood, he brought it in to warm it up so that he could cut and glue it. Gavin learned to use the belt sander and did a really good job sanding. Max's woodworking project this quarter was the repair of an old axe. Our favorite part of doing projects this quarter was building the table because it was a group project; it took a long time and we did a professional job with it.



## Our Third Quarter Adventures By Mechanical Science

ACTON, ME—After all the hard work that we accomplished this winter with craftsmanship, fabrication, automotive, and robotics, the Mechanical Science group was rewarded with go-karting at the NH1 Motorplex in Seabrook, New Hampshire. Go-karting was used as an incentive. It was fun and interesting because it tied all the subjects we've been learning about together and it added to our education in the trades we are interested in.

Interestingly, we are now using robotics as technology in the classroom. We received six Mindstorm EV3 kits and we have started building bots in

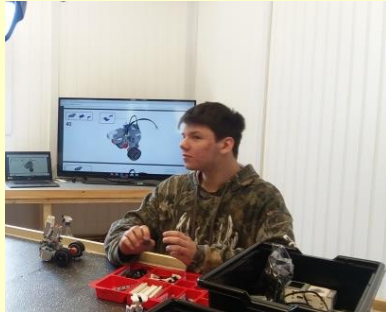
our new robotics room. Both students and staff were “blown away” with how amazing the room looks. Putting together the EV3 kits takes a lot of patience and we learned to slow down because following directions is so important. The more experienced guys were able to step up and help lead the less experienced through the first build.

Craftsmanship is a part of automotive and fabrication and everything that we do in the Mechanics Group. One of the most important projects of this quarter was replacing the lift. We started by taking



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**Mechanical science (continued)**



down the old lift and ordering a new one. We had the fire department come and do thermal imaging on our floor to find the waterlines. We determined that a two post lift wouldn't work because of what the fire department found and that we needed a four post lift. We, as the Mechanics Group, wrote a proposal hoping to acquire the new lift. We thank Maplestone for approving our request.

One of the more difficult, but educational, projects that we did this quarter was repairing a 1997 GMC 1500 pickup. This project was challenging due to the scope of the repairs. We repaired both the engine and the body. We learned

how to rivet and weld, which enabled us to have better craftsmanship when we worked on the pickup truck.

As an incentive for all of our hard work on robotics, automotive, fabrication, and craftsmanship, we went to the new facility, NH1 MotorPlex, that had new electric cars. Their top speed was 45 mph but it felt faster than it looked on the video. It was fun to watch us all scramble to the finish line. Everyone improved their time on the second race because we had a break where we reviewed our time sheets. We appreciate Maplestone for giving us this chance of a lifetime.

**Hiking and Sledding**

By Outdoor Adventure

MOUNT WILLARD—The Outdoor Adventure group went on the most extreme sledding challenge we've ever done. We started our hiking adventure to Mount Willard on January 29th. We wanted a challenge to push ourselves to the limit through the tough storms on the mountain. We had wanted to go on a hike for a while, but we had no idea how crazy it would be.

We went camping in the winter and there were crazy snow drifts, three feet deep. We went to learn about survival stuff. During the snowstorm it was very cold and very windy and some of us got wet.

We hiked up a mountain and we went sledding. We hiked and camped for two days and one night. It didn't take long to hike up Mount Willard. We were each pulling our own separate sleds and we slid down after. It's a lot faster sliding down than hiking up. Aaron broke a slide on a patch of sand. Conner had a sledding adventure. When he put his right hand into the snow to turn, the sled bounced off



a snowbank, went down the hill, and stopped right at the edge of a drop. The snow off the trail was chest deep. Dave came to help. Conner pushed the sled up to him and then climbed up himself. Dylan hit a log that lay across the trail as a jump. Aaron's sled was completely broken on the way down.

We made it to the survival lodge, a five-star luxurious lodge, called the Highland Center. It was near the White Mountains in New Hampshire. It was a nice lodge that had lots of bathrooms and bunk beds. The heater got broken, so there was no heat. There was breakfast the next morning that we enjoyed and at one point, we had hot chocolate and played chess, as well as ping-pong. It was a nice and fun experience for all.



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*Our sincere thanks go out to Joe Ganuscio of North East Digital Imaging and Carol Endicott of Endicott & Company for their donation of time, expertise in the design and production of new letterhead & In-Support stickers for MapleStone. Thank you!!!*

