

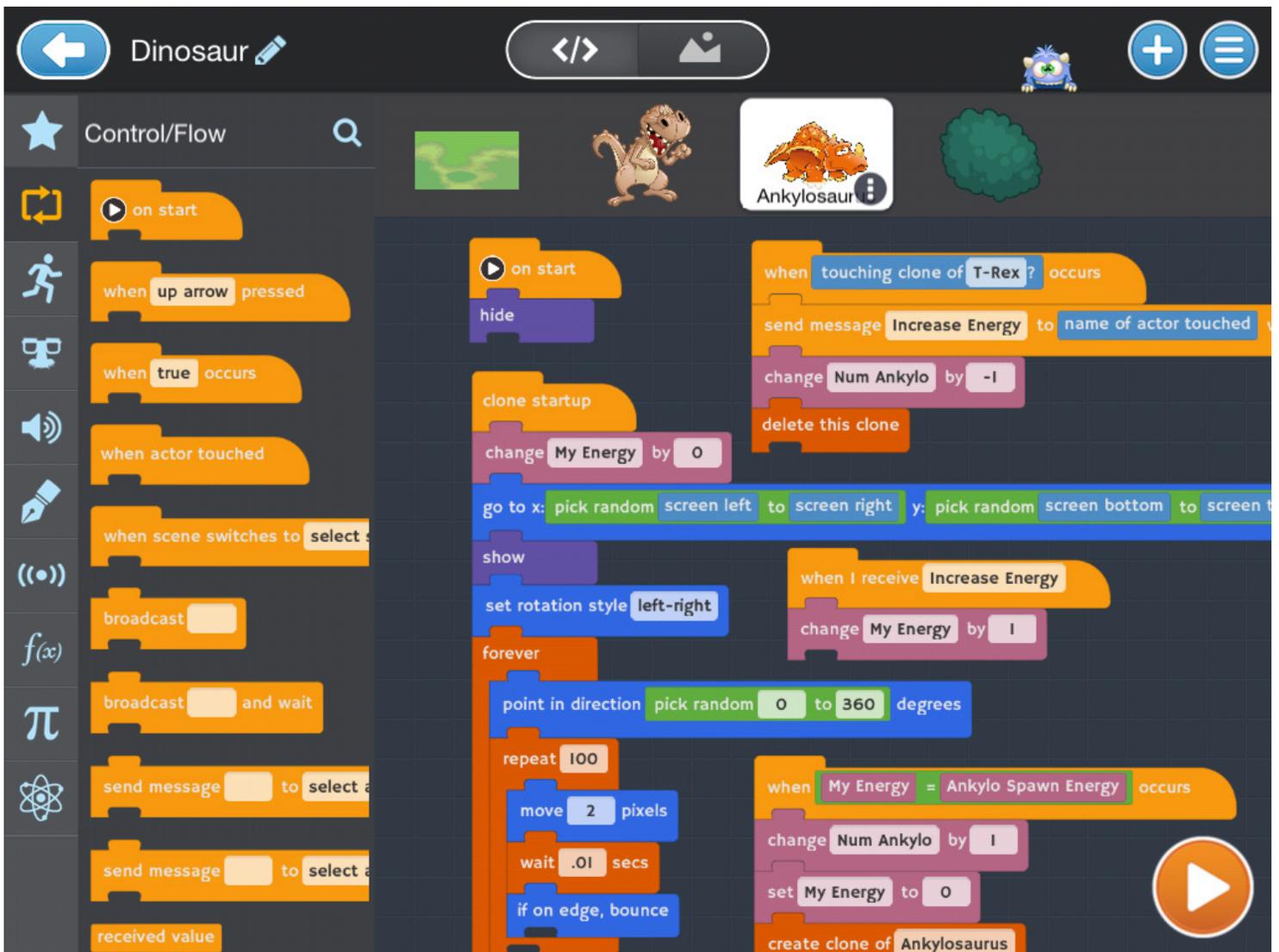
The Principal's Newsletter
October 6, 2017



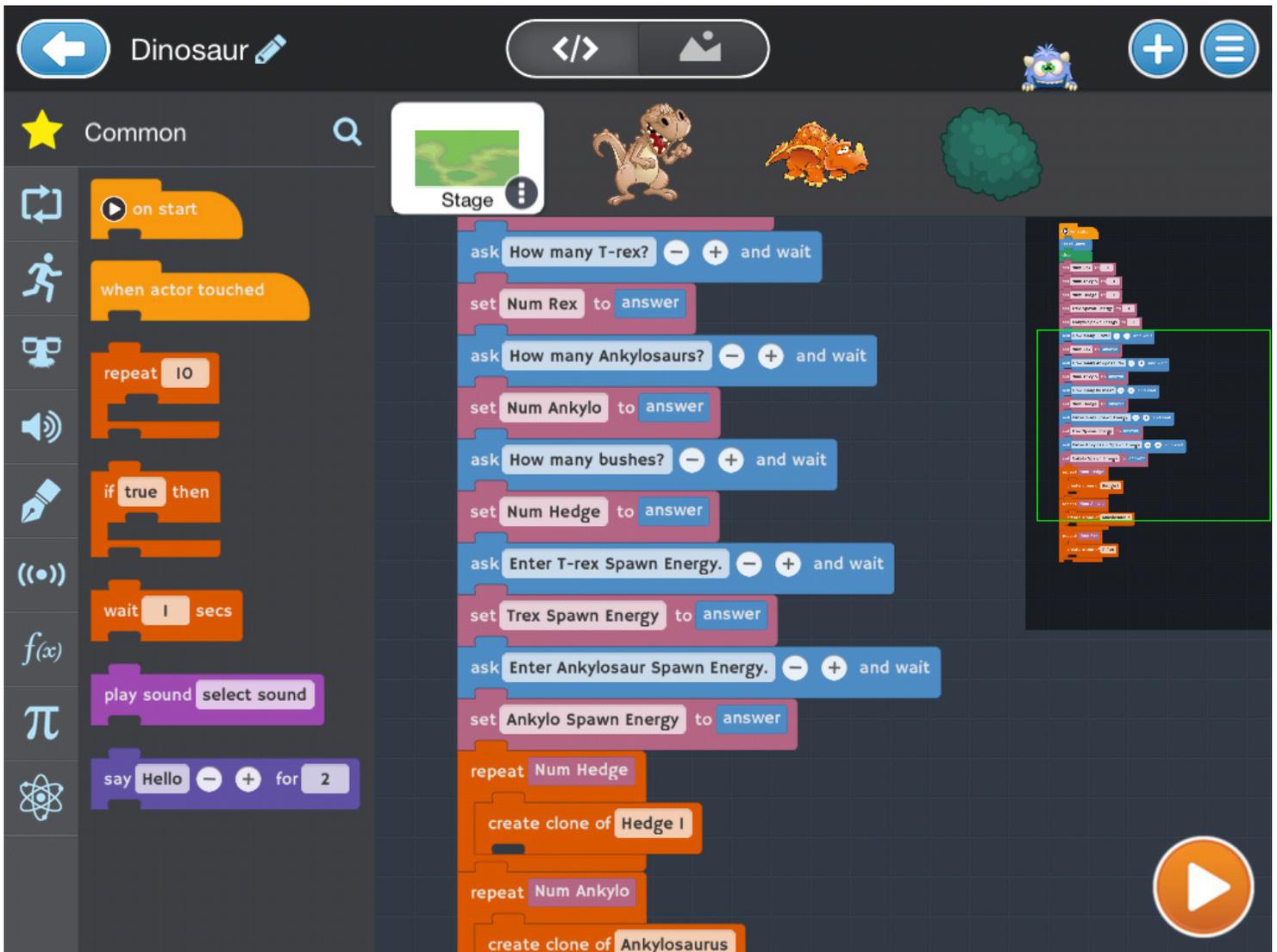
Educating * Mind * Heart * Spirit

"We are created in God's image." Genesis 1:27

Glory be! I never did this when I was in elementary school!



So what is it? Mr. Meyers 4th and 6th grade science students have been learning programming basics. The 5th graders started today, October 6th. Just ask one of them to explain the photos. All will soon be programming robots as part of STEM.



Upcoming Events:



In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, personnel from the Webster City Fire Department will be giving fire prevention tips to our young people on Wednesday, October 10th at 8:45.

*Friday, October 13 – Student Mass planned by the 6th graders
 October 13th is WC Homecoming – 2-hr early dismissal

Mrs. Tesdahl and Mrs. Schultz announce the theme for the St. Thomas Aquinas School float. "Toast the Cadets" will be the main theme of the homecoming float this year.

***Week of October 16th – Iowa Assessments for students in grades 1 through 6. Kindergarteners take the tests in the Spring.**

Level	Grade	Total Questions	Time to Complete
5-6	K-1	187	2 hr 40 min
7	1-2	278	4 hr 10 min
8	2	297	4 hr 10 min
9	3	365	5 hr 40 min
10	4	335	4 hr 55 min
11	5	361	4 hr 55 min
12	6	381	4 hr 55 min

**Iowa Assessments out in 2018-2019
American Institute of Research’s assessment likely in.**

September 28, 2017

DES MOINES - The Iowa Department of Education today announced the winning bidder for new statewide assessments of student progress in English language arts, mathematics and science to be given in the 2018-19 school year.

A formal notice of intent to award was issued naming a proposal from American Institutes for Research, an independent nonprofit organization. AIR’s proposal for an assessment called Independent College and Career Readiness Solution scored highest overall in a competitive-bidding process that followed criteria set by Iowa lawmakers this year.

Iowa will re-name the assessment once a contract is awarded.

Selection criteria followed requirements outlined in Senate File 240. For each bid, reviewers considered alignment with Iowa’s academic standards and federal law, ability to measure student progress and proficiency, costs, feasibility of implementation for school districts, time required to administer the assessments, and infrastructure and technology needs. Assessments must be available in both paper-and-pencil and computer-based formats.

Iowa students will take new state assessments for the first time in the spring semester of the 2018-19 school year.



Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future
School Tuition Organization

OCTOBER 1, 2017: 65% Iowa Tax Credit As an Iowa taxpayer, you can help families with demonstrated financial need attend any Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Dubuque through a contribution to the Our Faith School Tuition Organization (STO). Each contribution will receive an Iowa tax credit equal to 65 percent of the donation. The amount you contribute also qualifies as a charitable deduction on your federal tax return. Visit www.OurFaithSto.org or call the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 800-876-3546 ext. 219 or 307 to learn more.

What's this STO all about? The STO...is it too good to be true? NO! If you file an Iowa income tax return, your contribution to the Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future Student Tuition Organization qualifies for a 65 percent tax CREDIT. That means that every \$100 you donate, you receive an Iowa income tax credit of \$65. If you donate a \$1,000 you will receive a \$650 tax credit. How does that work? You will receive a certificate from the Archdiocesan STO and you merely enter the certificate number and amount on your Iowa tax form. You get an instant tax credit in that amount. In addition, the entire amount of your gift qualifies for federal deductibility. And that gift you made? It helps make a Catholic education affordable for every child. You are able to designate 50% of your total gift to St. Thomas Aquinas School. It's a win-win, folks! Please consider.