



For Immediate Release

Students Study Science Aboard the Denis Sullivan

Sixth graders learn about Lake Erie and the Bay

ERIE — September 24, 2009 — Students from St. Peter Cathedral School sailed aboard the Great Lakes Schooner, the Denis Sullivan learning about the science and history of the Great Lakes and Erie's Bay. During the three-hour day-sail the sixth grade students experienced hands-on experiments, which included water quality testing, studying organisms, such as zoo plankton and phylo, and analyzing data. Students both saw and touched bay inhabitants like zebra mussels. According to science teacher, Christine Stewart, "having the chance to test the water we're sailing on is great; it supplements the classroom experiments we are able to conduct and makes the process come alive for our students."

The Historical Officer on the Denis Sullivan regaled the students with tales of life aboard a ship in the 1880s and the history of sailing along the lakes. The students were also introduced to how understanding Science, History, Math and English can lead to an exciting career aboard a vessel like the Denis Sullivan. They also had to opportunity to assist in raising the sails on the ship and learned how to tie a number of nautical knots.

St. Peter Cathedral School | St. Peter Cathedral School is a Roman Catholic elementary school that educates students in grades Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth. Located in downtown Erie, the school is affiliated with the Cathedral of the Erie Diocese and has been educating the youth of Erie since 1897. St. Peter's is a Catholic Christian community dedicated to excellence in education.

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Images Aboard the Denis Sullivan



Raising the Sail



Learning the Ropes



Microscopic Research



Testing the Water