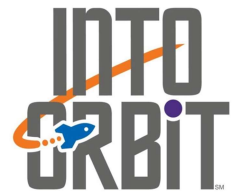




Attention AOOOL Rising 6-8th Graders!

Returning for 2018-19 AOOOL school year via the sponsorship & generosity of the AOOOL Fathers Guild, we are pleased to announce the **AOOOL Robotics Team – RoboNation** is back. Our goal is to create a competitive robotics team at AOOOL, as a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) initiative within the school to compete in the First Lego League (FLL) worldwide competition.

RoboNation is a TEAM, and NOT a club. Lego FLL league rules limit each team to a maximum of 10 members and 2 coaches. We only have coaches, sponsorship & resources to fund 1 team for the 2018-19 robotics season. Our 2 coaches for our 3rd the season will be Peter Hamilton & Mark Stappenbeck. Although the league allows grades 4-8 to participate we are limiting participation to 6-8th due to our limitations this season. Also unlike a club there will be **mandatory** practices on Sunday afternoons (3hrs) at 2pm in the STEM room behind the stage in the gym, as well as afterschool sessions to test/program robots under the supervision of the coaches/faculty at least one day during the week. The season runs from August-December. All details about the league, competition, theme for this year, and other relevant information can be found at: <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fll>



We strongly encourage girls & boys in grades 6-8th to apply for consideration to join the team. Preference is given to returning team members as well as those that attend a Lego Robotics Boot Camp at Don Bosco Prep during the summer. The challenge, both project & robotic game details will be released in August, and the regional Bergen County FLL completion will be held at Clifton High School end of November. We only have about 12 weeks to prepare for the regionals. Last year approximately 40 schools in the county, both public and private, competed to send the top 5 teams to the New Jersey State Finals. In 2015 our students made it to the NJ state championships.

During the August-November Robotics season our students will learn the following skills:



- Goal Setting
- Time Based Project Management
- Researching
- Presentation Skills
- Community Sharing
- Teamwork
- Strategy Analysis
- Building
- Programming Lego EV3
- Marketing
- Accountability/Empowerment
- Problem Solving

If your 6-8th grade student is interested in becoming a member of RoboNation **AND** can commit to a stringent practice schedule of 3hrs every Sunday Sept-Nov, plus at least 1 day afterschool (day to be TBD) then please send an email to Peter Hamilton at peterh4565@aol.com with your child's name for consideration by **July 1st, 2018**. All candidates will be assessed by the coaches, faculty, and principal on a first come first serve basis with preference for experience either from the Bootcamp at DonBosco or returning students from last year's team, so please send in your request to join as soon as possible. Please email Peter Hamilton above with additional questions/concerns.

PARENTS INTERESTED COACHING – If you are interested in being a coach for next year's **2018 season** either on the primary team or on a second team (provided we can fund a second team & expand membership from 4-8th grade) please also email us and let us know so we can mentor you this season. Strongly encourage 6/7th grade parents to consider helping out.