## council for life long engagement

Bones, Muscles, Brains & Nerves

Recently, Dr. Corning Benton, a Marjorie P. Lee resident, returned to Nativity for a fourth time to end the school year on a high note! Dr. Benton shared information about bones, muscles, brains and nerves with Mrs. Kathman's 5<sup>th</sup> grade science classes. As a part of the Council for Life Long Engagement's (CLLE) partnership with Nativity School in Pleasant Ridge, Dr. Benton has previously shared his experience and passion through sessions on space travel, a career in medicine and the circulatory system.

Dr. Benton started his presentation with a picture of a skeleton and asked students to name some of the major bones in the human body, including the skull, humerus, radius, ulna, femur and tibia. This seemed fitting since Mrs. Kathman has a skeleton in her classroom that the students love. Next, Dr. Benton showed a video detailing the bones and muscles in the human body. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders learned a lot from the visual examples in the video, including rollerblading, riding a bike, throwing a baseball, and different facial expressions.

Dr. Benton also revisited the giraffe example that he used earlier in the month when discussing the circulatory system with the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. He thought that a good way to teach 5<sup>th</sup> graders about the various bones in the human skeleton would be to show how human bones changed shape and

function in animals. "One of the examples I used was a comparison of the hand bones in humans with the foreleg hones in giraffes and the wing bones in bats," Dr. Benton said. The students were fascinated by the fact that humans, giraffes and bats have such similar skeletons! Finally, Dr. Benton explained how the brain controls the entire body and the students learned information about the different pieces of the nervous system, cerebral hemispheres, brainstem and spinal cord.

Mrs. Kathman's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were able to learn very valuable material about the circulatory system, and it's no surprise



that the students were encouraged to use Dr. Benton's presentation as a study guide for their upcoming quizzes.

## Confirmed partnerships for the 2011-12 school year...

Mount Notre Dame, Cincinnati Nativity School, Pleasant Ridge St. Mary's School, Hyde Park

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Encourage and enable elders to share their knowledge and talents with school children to reverse any negative aspects of ageism.