

# Collingwood students learn about the power of technology at coding camp

Collingwood Connection  
By John Edwards 

Students in Collingwood got a crash course in coding at St. Mary's School last week.

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The camp was open to students Grades 7-9 from both school boards and offered them a chance to learn about computer programming.

Greg Moneypenny was one of the organizers and said this was an extension of a coding club they have at St. Mary's.

He said students learned about coding using the scratch programming method, which was developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Moneypenny said they had theme days and activities throughout the week and they used their coding skills to create animation and program apps.

One of the activities was creating an app to control a robot that was used in the Robot Olympics on the final day of the camp.

"They can make it talk, make it drive and follow a path," said Jan Dance.

Moneypenny said they are learning more than just programming, he said the camp taught them about perseverance and patience.

"There is a lot more that they learn, that has nothing to do with technology," he said.

He said this is the future of technology and the camp gave kids a chance to learn it early.

"I'd like to see more of this in the high school," he said.

Student Lydia Mirrlees said she's always interested in computers and technology and enjoyed the camp.

"It's the future of technology and in the future, they'll need a bunch of jobs to fill and we can be the people that fill those jobs," she said.



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*Breanna Holzendorf and Lydia Mirrlees show off some of the tricks their robot can do at the Power of Coding camp held in Collingwood last week.*