



Bishop McHugh Regional Catholic School
Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bishop McHugh Partners with Stockton in Young Active Minds Program



*Pictured (L to R) are: **Front Row** - Andrew Catanoso, Grayson Barnoski, Greta Kleinman, Nathan Dempsey, Diora Fala, Makenna Hayes, Calixte LaRoche, Fiona Gleeson, Willow Patale. **Middle Row** - Nora McMahon **Back Row** – Nicholas Edwardi, Robert Noble (on lap), Dr. Kathleen Klein, Vera Nece (in front of Dr. Klein), Brynn Cunningham, Myka Morris, Finley Edwards, Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) student Gabrielle Richardson. Lexie Smith, Quinn Laricks, MSOT student Carly Jordan, Charlie Thompson.*

(February 5, 2016) Students in Bishop McHugh's Little Storm Preschool have begun Young Active Minds, a new initiative facilitated by Stockton University's Occupational Therapy Program that is designed to facilitate the self-regulation skills important to the young child. The Young Active Minds Program is being developed in collaboration with faculty and students from Stockton, and a generous donation of learning materials from the online equipment company, Fun and Function (funandfunction.com), which specializes in therapeutic learning tools.

“Self-regulation is a child's ability to develop and gain control of his/her emotions, behavior, motor skills and communications skills,” according to Dr. Kathleen Klein, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy, Stockton University. “It is an important life skill that children begin to develop from birth with the support of caring adults, and it's one that will help children maintain interest and attention needed for learning and good relationships.”

As part of the program, teachers will receive professional development in topics that include (a) Self-Regulation in Early Childhood, (b) Fine Motor Skill Development, (c) Challenging Behaviors, and (d) Best Practices in Teaching Pre-K Students. Teachers then work alongside Stockton graduate students and staff to co-teach with these additional learning experiences. Occupational Therapy Students Carly Jordan and Gabrielle Richardson will be working in the Bishop McHugh classrooms.

Bishop McHugh Regional Catholic School is a PreK-8 regional school in Cape May County with a student-centered curriculum grounded in the Gospel values. For more information, visit <http://bishopmchugh.com/mchugh/>. The community is invited to “Like” Bishop McHugh on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BishopMcHughRegionalSchool and follow Principal McGuire on Twitter at [@BMRCSPrincipal](https://twitter.com/BMRCSPrincipal).

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