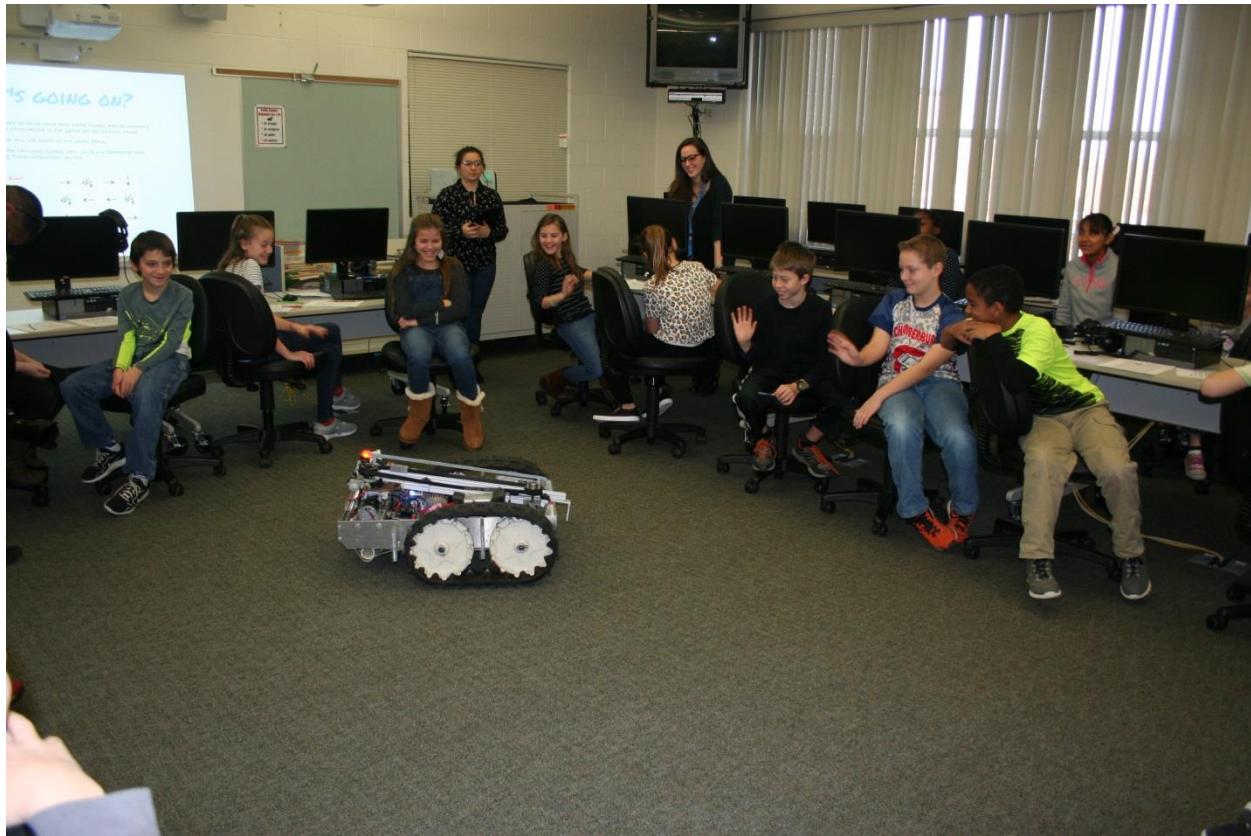


CMS Students Teach Coding to Fifth Graders at Scotland



Students from the Career Magnet School's Technology Club visited Scotland Elementary School recently to teach fifth-graders how to write computer code.

"The club members developed lesson plans and worked hard to figure out how to engage the fifth graders in how to write code," explained Chris Barnabei, Technology Club co-advisor.

The lessons were designed to show the students how to animate characters, make spheres move, and to direct robots. There were three stations setup for the workshop, explained Mr. Barnabei.

At one station, club members taught students the basics of coding and demonstrated how that could be used to control the club's award-winning robot that members brought with them.

The students also were taught how to control a Sphero app-enabled robot from their iPads at another station. They directed the Sphero to travel the school halls and they learned how turn it at designated times in a square pattern to get back to its point of origin.

At yet another station, they learned how to write code to make animated characters move on their computer, make spheres move and direct robots.

By the end of the hour-long coding workshop, club members had so much fun teaching coding skills to younger children that they didn't want to leave.

Club members had worked hard to get ready for the event, developing lesson plans and figuring out the best approach to take to get Scotland's fifth-graders interested in writing the code that runs the programs needed for the tasks at hand.

When it was time to head back to their home school, they felt a sense of satisfaction that they had been able to get so many of their younger peers interested in the technology of coding.

They were also reluctant to leave the younger students who were so eager to learn, and they knew they wanted to come back and repeat the experience.

Even as the older high school technology whizzes left the building, Scotland's fifth-graders were still crowded around their iPads, talking excitedly about the new skills they had learned.

During the hour CMS technology club members spent at the school, they manned three stations in the building's computer labs, working with each of Scotland's three fifth grades.