

# Kite and Leaf...

The good news  
email from TCS!

## Exploratorium: An Astounding Group Science Project from the Class of '22!

**E**nding their TCS careers with flair, the graduating class of 2022 put together a full-fledged physics "Exploratorium" to share with the entire school. The multi-exhibit presentation also made a fantastic conclusion to the first year of our enhanced middle-level science program.

Experience the Exploratorium and learn more in the video below:



**More on the First Year of Our New Science  
Program from Mr. Will Hudson**

Read a year-end reflection on the success of our enhanced middle level science program, and the many levels of learning it offered both our older and younger students.

[Read Will Hudson's Post Here](#)



## Congratulations to our 2022 Graduates

**Did** you know that TCS grads have attended more than 18 high schools and 22 colleges and universities nationwide, even though our school started in 2004?

On Thursday, June 2nd, we honored the 2022 graduating class (Barry B.Bensons) during a special outdoor commencement ceremony in our outdoor space. It was colorful, festive, and followed by tacos and ice cream - at the request of the class.



### Who Do You Want to Be?

If you missed the ceremony, here's a transcript of our Director of Curriculum and Instruction Ms. Christina Martin's graduation address. She challenged the graduates to dive deep into the question of "who" they want to be versus "what" they want to be.

[Read Graduation Speech](#)

Here is a list of the TCS Class of 22 and a bit about them -- some of which appeared in the graduation program:

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**Ben** started at TCS in Kindergarten, and will attend Oak Park River Forest High School. His favorite project at TCS was a 5th-grade project on space where they built a large model of the solar system. He enjoys math (in fact he says the most valuable skill he takes with him from TCS is algebra), creative writing, animation, and playing guitar. For his Capstone Project, he learned about and wrote fiction.

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**Asher** started at TCS in the 5th grade and will attend Chicago Waldorf School. He enjoys history, math, and playing hockey. For his Capstone Project, he researched and wrote a book about empires. One of his favorite memories of

TCS is the class trip, and his favorite project was his Capstone. He says that the most valuable skills he takes with him from TCS are critical thinking and deductive reasoning.

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**Owen** started at TCS in the 5th grade and will attend Oak Park River Forest High School. His favorite school class is P.W., and he also enjoys art and tinkering with electronics. His Capstone Project raised money for a climate change prevention charity through the sales of his original artwork. His favorite TCS memory is from 6th grade when he and his friends built a submarine. The most valuable skill he takes from TCS is getting things finished on time.

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**Kai** started at TCS in the 4th grade and will attend Oak Park River Forest High School. He likes math and bowling. For his Capstone Project, he wrote a book about stargazing. His favorite TCS memory is the class trip to Shedd Aquarium. His favorite project was his Capstone, and the most valuable skills he takes with him from TCS are time management and stargazing.

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**Fabi** started at TCS in the 1st grade and will attend Wolcott College Prep. His favorite TCS activities were P.W. and choice, and his favorite TCS memory was getting ice cream after the 8th-grade class trip. His Capstone Project was a documentary about a runaway train incident. His favorite project was the banana project where students could study whatever they wanted as long as they could connect it to bananas. The most valuable skill he takes from TCS is model-making.

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**Jamie** started at TCS in Kindergarten and will attend Chicago Waldorf School. This year he has enjoyed algebra, reading, and project work. For his Capstone Project, he wrote a beginners' guide to fishing. His favorite project at TCS was the India project and making the Red Fort. His favorite TCS memory was being in an escape room on a class trip and figuring out all the puzzles. The most valuable skill he takes from TCS is reading, which is necessary for math and writing.

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**Jacob** started at TCS in 6th grade and will attend Oak Park River Forest High School. His favorite school subject is history and he also enjoys video editing. For his Capstone Project, he wrote, recorded, and edited a video about the history of apples. His favorite project at TCS was the medieval project.

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**Emi** started at TCS in the 6th grade and will attend Morton West High School.

This year, she enjoyed ultimate frisbee, class meetings, and reading. She plays water polo and softball. For her Capstone Project, she planned and held a game day to raise money for Camp One Step. It was her favorite project, as she was able to raise money for a cause she cares about. She fondly remembers playing Blokus and bonding with her classmates. The most valuable skill she takes from TCS is learning how to learn and how to think about what she learns.

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**Liana** started TCS in the 1st grade and will attend Chicago High School for the Arts. She likes art, writing, and recess, and her hobbies include wheel throwing, skiing, and boating. Her favorite TCS memory is joking with Emi, Jamie, and Ms. Mitchell about Silento while playing Blokus in the library. Her favorite project was the 1918 project and making a radio show. For her Capstone Project, she created a diorama about 3-act story structure. The most valuable skill she takes with her from TCS is how to make friends.

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[Link to More Photos on Facebook!](#)

## Congratulations Class of 2022

Remember you are always in our hearts and

**you are always welcome here.**

