Niamh Conlon~

A Preconceived Notion

People often have a preconceived notion that our team creates, molds and controls a robot; whereas the robot creates, molds and controls us. Robots have a means of showing us that through its assembly and construction we were forming something greater than the sum of its parts. Precise, intricate and often seemingly unrelated parts sit silently in drawers. At times they are meaningless, lifeless, and small. On their own these pieces are useless, yet when combined they produce something incredible. What's happening alongside this construction is incredible. A parallel plane that mirrors every step taken and every lesson learned. Whilst the robot cannot think or talk or do anything of its own accord, it can teach us something.

The door to a good robot is nothing without the team that controls it, but doors can open from both sides. As we have ventured further into the world of robotics, our teamwork has slowly, but surely, become a force to be reckoned with. After all, what is the purpose of an exceptional robot with no team to guide it? We have learned through VEX robotics that we are the pieces, we are the robot, and we are greater than the sum of our parts. We differ from each other in almost every way, and yet robotics has managed to transform us into a team that truly works. A team that continues to work to break the preconceived notion of who and what creates, molds and controls a robot.