

Wider Horizons School

Every new challenge widens my horizons, strengthens my self-competence and heightens my enjoyment of discovery.

Remember Patriot Day - 9/11



News from the office

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 16 Solar Celebration
 September 18 Grandparents Visit
 October 12 **Columbus Day**
no school
 October 29 Biography Fair

PLEASE CALL WITH ANY NEW
 TELEPHONE, or CELL PHONE
 NUMBERS

SOLAR POWER DAY 9/16

We will be celebrating Wider Horizons School's move to solar power on 9/16 beginning at noon. Each class will be doing some activity from lecturing to experiments to art activities.

You are invited to come and share in the festivities. The activities will probably be over by 1:00 PM.

Don't Forget to Come Back to School at Noon on Wednesday for our Solar Power Day.
 Each class will have activities to do and show.

******OUR GRANDPARENTS******

**ARE
 SPECIAL**

For wisdom shared throughout the
 years,
 comforting arms that chase away
 tears,
 helping hands to show the way,
 the gift of time for fun and play,
 stories and treats that bring delight,
 words of praise that make smiles
 bright,
 for hearts filled with love far beyond
 measure-
 Grandparents are truly a family's
 treasure

GRANDPARENTS VISIT 9/18

**Grandparents are welcome to come
 and visit their grandchildren's
 classrooms at the following times
 on Friday, September 18th.**

Preschool: 11:30am- 12:00n

Primary: 10:30am-11:00am

Lower elementary: 10:30-11:00am

Upper elementary: 1:30-2:30pm

Junior/Senior High 1:00-2:30pm

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

*A school should be the most beautiful place in every
 town and village-so beautiful that the punishment for
 undutiful children should be that they should be
 debarred from going to school the following day.*

Oscar Wilde

**DUD PARENTS
DISABLE CHILDREN**

by Domenick J. Maglio, Ph.D.

Parents, teachers and other caregivers are often unwilling to tell children what they have to do and make sure they do it. It is too much work to correct a young child's actions even for her own good. Consistently enforcing respectful, appropriate behavior is an exhausting commitment to one's children.

Traditional parents knew the importance to their children of training them to be proper and decent people. It took immense time and energy to help the child learn the norms of society. The expectations and high standards were specific and were vigorously enforced. Some over zealous parents pushed too early and too hard, which produced some insecure and overachieving personalities. The immense effort and time needed on the part of the parents has been the major turn-off of these traditional child rearing practices. These realities of parenting have ushered in the permissive materialistic approach to raising children.

(Continued on last page)

PRESCHOOL

Mrs Colon and Mrs. Felts

We are doing simple addition and lots of counting. We love to count.

We have reviewed the letter A and B this week and their sounds. We have made letter booklets and practiced them all week long.

The children are starting to learn how to greet in spanish. We do it every morning. We keep reviewing our spanish colors as well.

The solar celebration in next wednesday, so we moved up our study about the sun to next week.

Have a good weekend!

PRIMARY

Mrs. Iannone and Mrs. Korthas

Just a reminder for our parents; please leave your child at the door. If you walk your child inside the school , please leave them at the second door and you may watch them enter our building. The safety of your child is our primary concern and unescorted adults are not allowed on campus for obvious reasons, and are immediately reported to the office by students and staff alike. Please give your child the gift of independence and allow them to walk to their classroom by themselves.

We need to have your child choose a historical figure to portray in the Biography Fair. Kindergarten children are strongly encouraged to participate. Three to five facts are enough for the kindergarten children to learn and seven to ten facts for first grade. A costume is customary but not a requirement.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gay and Mrs. Musselman

Biography Fair information was sent home last week. The person your child chooses must be of significant historical importance. In addition, the historical figure should be deceased. Research materials should be age appropriate and should include the use of books. As you have probably noticed, much internet material is too difficult for young children to comprehend. The library on Spring Hill Drive has a number of suitable books for elementary students.

All reports should be written in the first person. Example: 'Good Morning. My name is Susan B. Anthony'. Writing in the first person will make it easier for your child to memorize the facts.

We continued our study of Native Americans by reviewing what we had learned about the Inuit. A group of four students were selected to build a model of an igloo. They had a great time making the replica. By the end of our studies, all children who are up to date on their class work will have had a chance to help build a model of a Native American home.

Reminder: the first book report is due on September thirtieth

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Editors: Eleventh grade boys



Brad Kelley and Michaela Courtney enjoy learning math.

Alexandria Soares prepares the snack table.



UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Mrs. Graham,
Mrs. Petters, Mr. DeVore

The Biography Fair approved proposals were sent home this week. While you research, please pay special attention to what role your chosen persona has played in history. This will be the main component of the report. The next step of the Biography Fair guide will be due on the 16th. Please do not procrastinate, this should be an educational experience not a stressful one for the children.

In Art, we created several sketch models using wooden art models and will be constructing booklets of our drawings.

On the 18th, we will be inviting some of our grandparents to join us in a question and answer session where we'll learn a little more about our grandparents. Next week, we will begin our music lessons. All of our students will need to have a recorder in order to participate. Recorders will be available for \$5.00.

Although the first book report was completed in class, our next book report will be completed at home and will be due on September 15th.

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Bravo, Mrs. Ramirez,
Mr. DeVore

This week all of the junior high students should have completed their first novel along with their work. Another new novel has been given out. We have some students who work ahead and are already on their third novel for this quarter.

We follow our sciences in a sequential order just as I explained about Geography last week. Seventh grade students are in Earth Science and they are learning about material resources, renewable and nonrenewable resources and the importance of recycling. The eighth grade students are in Life science and beginning a chapter on active transport, diffusion, osmosis, etc. They are also learning to explain, describe and compare terminology and chapter concepts. The ninth grade students are in Physical science learning about Boyle's law, Charles's law, states of matter and properties shared by particles of all matter. The tenth grade students are in Biology studying about cell structure and function. Cell theory and characteristics of prokaryotes and eukaryotes are also part of this chapter. The eleventh grade Chemistry students are learning about atoms; the

building blocks of all matter. They are studying the philosophical idea to the scientific theory, the relationships between Dalton's atomic theory to the law of multiple proportions. Although this is a quick glance into our sequential science curriculum, much, much more information is learned and shared in every grade all year long.

Enjoy your weekend. Remember Grandparents are welcome to join us next Friday for a question-answer period.

PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs Wagner

In outdoor playtime this week we carried chairs to the field for a game of Fruit Basket Upset. Some children needed to be reminded of the correct way to carry a chair we had some foot races and a relay.

In circle we talked about nature. We made nature crafts using leaves to make leaf people. We used shells to make decorative plaques.

UPPER LEVEL AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Bennett

During our playground time the students participated in activities such as 4 squares, tag, relay races and dodge ball. They enjoyed spending time outdoors. The winner of last week's sit up challenge was Nika Gorski, who did an amazing 201 sit ups! Good job Nika.

For art this week the children completed their craft stick book marks and made a patriotic windsock in honor of Patriot's Day.

In circle time we discussed the importance of completing homework assignments and the benefits of doing it in afterschool. We also talked about Patriot's Day and events leading us to honor the day.

Have a happy weekend!

Continued from front page:

The modern way to train a child to listen is to bribe him to keep him out of your hair and to lower your personal expectations until they fit the child's inappropriate behavior. When there are no standards then there is no need to demand and train a child to follow appropriate "normal" behavior. In a world of no expectations and standards, normal behavior ceases to exist for too many children.

These children are the indicators of a weak, lazy and, worst of all, an unloving parent. The mental health industry does not label the parent with a DUD label: Detached, Undemanding Disorder, because the parents pay the bill for services. The present mental health process scapegoats the victim, the child, the product of a DUD disorder.

Modern children are not being trained in basic habits, skills, moral values and behaviors that traditionally were considered to comprise a normal functioning child. Toddlers were expected to respond to "no." "Stop biting your sister." "Hold my hand, don't run into the street" were routinely followed by children. Potty training was completed at 18 months to 2 years. Bedtime was shortly after dinner and wake up time was early in the morning. A young child learned to make eye contact and shake hands with the right hand, was respectful to everyone and did chores to help the family.

Too many modern American parents have lost their way. There are few firm schedules for children to eat, sleep, wake up or do chores. Often when a parent does announce a time frame the child fights it and the parent gives in. Parents are not establishing healthy habits.

The proliferation of labels being used: Asperger's disorder, ADHD, autism, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, reactive detachment disorder to identify the dysfunction of the family in most cases is far off the mark. There are some defective children who are beyond the scope of even the most committed parents to modify and correct. Although the majority of these so-called disabled children who would have received low doses of traditional parenting would never have reached this level of inappropriateness.

DUD parents ignore the lifelong stigma of being legally and medically stamped with the mark of abnormality and inferiority. Parents are not compassionate by consenting to and accepting a mental health label that places their child in a mental health box. They are selfish people not willing to understand that permissiveness and the lack of discipline is destroying their child's future. Most mature parents can change their lifestyle to help their child develop normal behavior.

It would take effort and time to retrain their children but it can be done. It does mean a parent will have to reprioritize life. Demands of job and personal interests may have to be renegotiated, careers changed or even dropped, interests put on hold for the necessity to spend more time with one's children.

The ultimate authority figures and best trainers of a child are her parents. We need to celebrate good parenting through social approval. People notice well-behaved children and should praise their behavior to the parents.

Detached and under-demanding parents can be energized to be more conscientious by others telling their child to listen to them. This hopefully should encourage the parents to raise their expectations. The parents of a child who does an inappropriate action such as a 10-year-old child bringing a stuffed animal to church or a 4-year-old who is not potty trained or any child who hits the parent should be politely reminded of the inappropriateness of the child's behavior by those close to the family.

Parents should understand the clear message that it is their duty to properly socialize their children. The community at large can no longer sit back and allow the child to receive the brunt of the ostracizing by society.

Parent's unwillingness to be involved and directed to help their children learn appropriateness can no longer be disregarded. The parents need to understand that other adults will hold them responsible for the child's inappropriateness. Responsible adults must direct their thoughts and feelings to the parents to encourage or pathetically shame them into doing their sacred duty as heads of their household.

The health of the children, marriage and community depends on the parents devoting their energy to doing the best job as a parent. When children are good, kind, productive citizens, everyone prospers.