

Wider Horizons School

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

Enjoy Your Columbus Day



News from the office

IMPORTANT DATES:

October 12 ***Columbus Day***
no school

October 20 Individual Photos

October 29 Biography Fair

November 11 ***Veteran's Day***
no school

November 24 Thanksgiving feast for students

November 25-29 ***Thanksgiving Break***
no school

Long sleeved uniform shirts can be ordered from the office until Wednesday, October 14. These are the regular uniform shirt except with long sleeves.

Quotes of the Week:

The object of teaching a child is to enable him to get along without his teacher

Elbert Hubbard

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should be doing for themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

MORALITY UNDERPINS OUR COUNTRY

Our founding fathers understood that our country is based on the premise that our leaders would be moral upstanding men. The idea is that every person granted the honor to serve the public, must maintain the greatest integrity.

We need to instill these same moral values and integrity in our children so they can grow up to take back our great country and bring it up to the level of strength and goodness it once enjoyed.

PSAT TEST ON OCTOBER 14

WHS is a certified site for giving the PSAT/NMSQT Test for students in the 11th grade. This is a qualifying test for Merit Scholarships and gives information on other scholarships as well.

It is recommended that students in grades 9 and 10 take the test as well for practice in taking the SAT and to do better on the PSAT when they are qualified to take it.

AFFLUENZA IS RETARDING ADULTHOOD

by Domenick J. Maglio, PhD.

America is one of the most affluent societies that ever existed on earth. Most parents can afford to give their children everything they dreamt of as a child.

They also have the affluence to give the child everything he could possibly desire. Our money power often gets in the way of raising healthy children. This reliance on money to raise our children is producing an illness called "affluenza."

Affluenza is the inability to appreciate anything except more expensive things. This modern illness can be prevented when parents control themselves from giving children too much. The more people get, children included, the more they want and the less they value. Children are not obliged to learn skills and habits needed to become independently functioning adults.

Today's children have little motivation to move into the more difficult position of growing up. Children have few expectations to meet including waking up and going to bed at a decent hour. There is no urgent reason to give up all the built in rewards and privileges of existing as a prince or princess.

PRESCHOOL

Ms. Thornton and Mrs. Iannone

We welcomed Ms. Thornton to the Wider Horizon Pre-school teaching staff this week. Ms. Thornton comes to us from the public school system where she taught the primary grades. The children are responding very nicely to Ms. Thornton and especially enjoyed her singing and guitar playing.

We began adding apples to our fall tree and we spoke about the many different kinds of apples we see in the grocery store. The children are making booklets about apples and coloring some for our growing tree.

PRIMARY

Mrs. Iannone and Mrs. Korthis

This week we traveled to Asia. The children learned about the Great Wall in China, a very cold Russian region called Siberia, and the great peninsula of India. By the way, what is a peninsula? Do you know? Ask your child. We also learned how the panda bear grows. We had no clue that when a baby panda bear is born it's the size of a pencil. It also has no spots yet. In math the kindergarten children are working on recognizing units, tens, hundreds, and even thousands. First graders are using materials to add, subtract, and even multiply units, tens, and hundreds.

Please have your children bring in their facts for the biography fair so we can practice at school.

Enjoy your time together this weekend.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gay and Mrs. Musselman

Congratulations to Alexa, Anna Marie, Ashley, Cameron, Charlie, Daniel, Keeley, and Zachary. Based on the results of their Mad Math tests these students have moved up a level in knowing the times tables.

In science this week we continued our study of the characteristics of birds. We spent some time examining the diet, nest, and eggs of the Florida state bird, the mockingbird.

Having completed our review of the Anasazi, we began to learn about the Northwest tribes of Puget Sound in Washington State. The west coast tribes were considered rich by the other Native Americans. The students learned what role nature played in this wealth. A team was selected to build a long house. The long house was the main type of shelter for this area.

The Biography Fair is fast approaching. Reports should be nearing completion and the children should start to memorize their presentations. There will be no book report due in October so that the children can focus on the Biography Fair. The next book report will be due on November 15th.

We hope you all enjoy your holiday weekend!!!

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Editor: Kingsley Barte

Preschoolers Kareem Bourghli, Elizabeth Gallimore and Erin Poroslay practice running.



Cameron Deam, , Beenish Hasan, Adriana Arevalo, Ammar Ali , Madyson Holop, Omar Sanchez, Kaitlyn Deam and Lauren Felts show off their native American pit house.



Upper elementary students, Brianna Trier, Lindsay Chua and Shannon Goode work on their cloud observation study.



UPPER ELEMENTARY

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

Fourth, fifth, and sixth graders are continuing their Landscape art project. Fourth graders are working on identifying details in paragraphs and grouping words and ideas.

Sixth graders will be testing in science and in history next week. Although, most students earned good grades on their last tests there are still some that are not sufficiently preparing for exams. We urge these students to take the time to review their notes and outlines a few days before the test. We would like to congratulate Samantha Wills for scoring 100 percent on her vocabulary test and Alexandria Soares, Asra Sami, and Sean Lund for scoring 100 percent on their history tests. Music lessons have begun and every student must be prepared with a recorder for Monday's class. Recorders have arrived, so students who need to purchase a recorder must bring in \$6.00.

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH

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

Next week the high school students will be taking the PSAT. We encourage each student to take this test in preparation for the SAT and ACT.

For the high school students who have quarterly exams, they will be given on Tuesday and Thursday next week. The PSAT will be given on Wednesday. Some junior high students have unit tests to prepare for. All novels for the junior high will be handed in this week. Please study hard, get your math folders in order and get sufficient sleep for your tests. Pull out this quarter strong.

Everyone should be working on their biography fair. Rough drafts should be complete by the end of next week. The following week, your final paper, along with your works cited page should be shown to your teacher just to make sure you are doing your work correctly.

Enjoy your three day weekend. See you back on Tuesday, well rested and ready to complete the first quarter.

PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs Wagner

Although the skies threatened rain in the afternoons, we were lucky and got some outdoor playtime. We played a circle running game of Run For Home, and enjoyed some free play on the bigger playground. During crafts we used various materials. A makeup sponge, burlap and felt, made us fun scarecrows when glued to a craft stick. Folded cloth around tissue paper holders turned into fabric kittens. The children really have a good time playing with their friends and learning new games.

UPPER LEVEL AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Bennett

In circle we discussed the importance of being responsible. The children talked about things that they are directly responsible for such as their behavior, homework, making sure they take care of their belongings. They also discussed things that they should be more responsible about, such as caring for their environment, making sure that they are respectful to others, and being a better example for children that are younger than they are.

On the playground the children enjoyed participating in activities and games of their choice such as soccer, kickball, hide and seek, tag, and of course their favorite, dodge ball.

During cooking the children prepared and cooked smores. During our time inside the children made wonderful creations by using the building activities. They made forts, rockets, and houses. The children also played board games such as wheel of fortune, chess, and mancala.

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Most children live in homes that employ lawn service — no need to mow — dish washers — no need to do the dishes — and have no need to learn to cook thanks to fast food, take out, frozen meals and junk food snacks. Their only responsibility is to do their homework, which often the parents wind up doing either through fear of the child's lack of ability, possibility of low grades or blatant manipulation by the child.

Instead of the children contributing to the family, children are placed on a merry-go-round of activities to keep them from facing the "dreadful boredom" of having too much time on their hands. Parents think that keeping them busy with professional activities will prevent children from blaming them the same way they did their own parents for the difficulties of growing up. The children are chauffeured from one activity to another. Dance, go-kart, soccer, baseball, gymnastics, music, drama or tennis lessons are scheduled for every out-of-school moment.

In addition to out-sourcing the responsibility for training and disciplining their child when introducing them to new activities, parents attempt to purchase "brownie points" by showering them with extraordinary experiences. There are trips to Disney, Universal Studios, cruises, water parks, specialized camps, electronic gizmos and enough toys to fill up ten Toys-R-Us stores.

Modern parents are overwhelmingly more concerned about the temporary feelings of making their children happy than doing what is right. They indulge their children without realizing it makes them more dependent beings. Children are being bribed to be happy and fulfilled but are not being prepared to leave the nest and fly on their own.

In the past, during financially difficult periods, parents had little money to pamper their children nor the time, energy or inclination to conceal their children's shortcomings. Children were held to higher expectations. When the adolescent acted more like an adult he was given greater privileges and even allowed to get a job. The successful transition through this rite of passage gave assurance to the parents that their children were on the right track. These greater demands gave the children motivation to want to mature to become viable adults.

The cure to affluenza is to view the child more as a giver than a taker. The child gains his independence through first contributing to the family. Children learn the good feelings derived from helping others and doing things well.

Personal pride is the recommended antidote to affluenza as well as the necessary push to become an independent adult. This old prescription still works today with more traditional American and recent immigrant families. When people have it too easy they do not develop the necessary competence and toughness to mature. This overwhelming affluence is producing more and more people without the ability to perform as adults. They often return to the "nest," their parent's home.

Affluenza is attacking the social fiber of our society.
