

Wider Horizons School

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

Wishing Everyone a Healthy, Happy, Prosperous New Year



SENIOR SAMANTHA PIPPIINGER
ALREADY ATTENDING
UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA



Samantha Pippinger joined Wider Horizons School in ninth grade. She quickly realized she had to adjust her study skills to a higher level to get the grades she wanted while attending school here.

Samantha worked hard to maintain high grades. She started taking dual enrollment classes at P-HCC at the end of her sophomore year. She completed advanced math at WHS during the first half of her junior year so she could attend junior college full time the second half of her junior year. Samantha continued at P-HCC even taking summer classes until she completed her requirements for both high school and for a community college Associate Arts degree this past fall.

While at PHCC Samantha was Vice President of Leadership in Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society and was a Senator in Student Government. Samantha has received over 100 hours of community service while at Wider Horizons and PHCC.

Samantha graduated from P-HCC in December and will begin classes on January 19 in the Honors program at the University of Tampa. Samantha will be majoring in forensic science. She plans on continuing her career to become a Forensic pathologist. With her fortitude and personal strength her future is in her own hands. Samantha will be receiving the Bright Futures Scholarship with a 3.78 GPA. Best wishes to Samantha.

WHS PARENTS ARE NOT LUCKY
BUT SMART

The payoff of a WHS education is fantastic.

As the number of students competing to enter college grows, the average SAT score needed to get into college is rising. A student might have been given a high GPA in high school with little effort but their low SAT score will screen them out of being accepted to many colleges.

WHS student's SAT scores are almost double what is needed to enter state universities. It is about the average that is needed to enter Ivy League schools.

"The state's (FL) average score is 993, unchanged from 2007, according to results released today. The national average also remained unchanged at 1,017."

"The scores are used by many colleges to make admissions decisions. As Florida's biggest public universities have become more selective, SAT scores are getting more attention, even if scores alone can't guarantee admission. For instance, 88.2 percent of freshmen applicants to the University of Florida for fall 2008 with scores between 1,400 and 1,600 were admitted, while only 11.5 percent of applicants with scores below 1,000 got in." Orlando Sentinel, 8/28/08

WHS students have achieved these scores this year: Ariana Bond, senior- 2170- with a perfect score of 800-in writing, Arish Hasan, senior -1880, Conor Zhang, junior- 1990, Pranav Lokin, junior- 1850, Melissa Holgado, sophomore- 1940.

The vigorous curriculum at WHS gives students the necessary discipline to do very well on the SAT exam. This means WHS parents do not need to spend thousands of dollars getting a test coach to get their child's scores high enough to even be considered for college.

WHS parents are paying now to insure their child is accepted in college, is eligible for many thousands of dollars in scholarship money, and most importantly is ready to do what is needed to COMPLETE the college degree.

News from the office

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 15 Brooksville Raid- jr/sr high, upper elem.

January 18 *MLK Day - no school*

February 4 Science Fair

February 15 Presidents Day- *no school*

February 18 Chinese New Year lunch

WELCOME TO THE NEW BABY- ANISHA AREMANDA, SHASHANK AND NISANTH'S LITTLE SISTER.

Quote of the Week:

Researchers at Harvard have discovered that a personal connection between student and teacher may be the single most important factor in encouraging students' growth and enhancing their own satisfaction with their education. Any teacher could have told them that.

PRESCHOOL

Ms. Thornton, and
Mrs. Cornelius

This week in Pre-K we talked all about snow and the winter season. We had a science experiment with water, ice, and frost. We also made snow flakes at the art table.

The children enjoyed coloring and cutting work, to make patterns at the art table as well.

When it was too cold to play outside, we played such games as guess the zoo animal. Each student took a turn being a zoo animal and the others guessed which one they were.

We hope you all had a great holiday and look forward to all we have planned for January.

We are pleased to welcome our new friend Kathlyn Berk. She has made many friends already and is enjoying school.

PRIMARY

Mrs. Iannone and Mrs. Korthas

Welcome back everybody! So good to see the children rested and ready to learn and work hard.

All this week we've been working on refreshing our skills in math and language.

The children had a lesson on the "magic e" in language. Very tricky that vowel! We practiced recognizing magic (silent) vowels in many words.

In math, kindergartners moved up in number writing, some of them began to multiply and work on dynamic addition.

First graders are working on dynamic subtraction and division.

In music, we spoke about instruments and different ways to play them.

We discussed wind instruments, what they were made of, how and why they work.

In geography we traveled around the world trying to recognize all 7 continents and oceans: one map without words, by shape and position.

Great job everybody, good to have you back.

Have a wonderful weekend and stay warm

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gay and Mrs. Musselman

The children were excited to be back to school after the long vacation. After sharing a few of the things they did over break, they settled down and got to work. They found new materials on the language shelves. This quarter we will focus on improving writing skills. We will be working on writing good topic sentences and stronger supporting sentences. The new material supports the writing process.

The Science Jamboree information packet was sent home this week. The date for the fair is February 4th. Topics need to be brought in for teacher approval by Wednesday, January 13th. Please do not start your project until it has been approved. Some of the students already have an idea of what they would like to do and are very eager to get started. The experiment or demonstration should be age appropriate. Your child should be able to explain the process and the result.

There will be no book report due until after the science fair.

Happy New Year to all.

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Editor: Kingsley Barte

[Third graders Andrei Quigley and Omar Sanchez work on geometry](#)



[First grader Dominic Nardini works on multiplication](#)



[Fourth grader Tristan Gerbolingo-Smith works on language.](#)



UPPER ELEMENTARY

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

In writing the 4th and 5th graders are learning to use more advanced "transition words" to help readers know when things happen and in what order. More advanced transition words include as soon as, meanwhile, when, etc. In addition they are learning to use "time words", such as "In the morning", two weeks ago, etc. Please encourage your child to use transition words and time words when doing their assignments.

In language the 4th graders are reviewing the rules of grammar and creating their own books to refer to when needed.

In spelling, the 4th graders are continuing to write a story using their spelling words.

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH

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

Our students do not waste any time getting back into academic mode. The first week back is over, and many students have already taken tests, completed chapter reviews, and written papers. All of this complete, without going outside for a P.E. break! It's just too cold to play sports outside! Desk ball was the inside game of the week.

The junior high students will be challenged next week in the Geography Bee. The question link on line that will give you ten new questions daily to practice for the test is : www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee. We will begin the Bee on Tuesday and eliminate all but the final ten players. A Geography Bee winner will take a 70-question test that will be sent into the state for grading. We wish you all (5th through 8th grade) good luck.

The Brooksville Raid is next Friday. This is the reenactment of the Civil War. The students always learn so much by being taken back into history and experiencing a real hands on experience in the years 1861-1864. The adventure is learning information from people that have transformed themselves(very realistic) into the time of the Civil War. The actors will live in tents, (off route 50 by the Boy scout camp) for the entire weekend waiting for the

general public to come to put on their shows, Saturday and Sunday.

Science fair papers have been sent home with your student. Whatever project or invention your student has chosen it should be on or above grade level. This fair is for learning about things you do not yet have knowledge about, but by using the scientific method, you find information and many scientific facts, then knowledges comes upon completion of your project. The two back sheets of the student's packets will be due January 15th.

Stay warm and see everyone on Monday.... don't worry, it should be warm enough to go outside next week!

PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs Wagner

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you had a peaceful and pleasant holiday and are looking forward to the days ahead. We have two new games added to the after school shelves. One is Rainbow fish, based on the book by the same name. The other is a fold-out play town with a tiny train going around the tracks. All the children seemed happy to see their friends and share their experiences while on vacation. In crafts we made painted snowflake pictures, coffee filter snowflakes, and snowmen.

UPPER LEVEL AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Bennett

Due to the cold weather our recess time was spent indoors this week. The children participated in activities such as musical chairs, 4 corners, freeze dance, doggie doggie and missing link.

In arts and crafts the children made 3D snowflakes and beaded animals using the perler beads.

During cooking the children prepared and cooked pigs in a blanket, which is cocktail hot dogs wrapped in dough and baked.

In Circle time we reviewed the rules of the classroom and playground just in case any were forgotten over the Christmas vacation.

Have a wonderful weekend.

