

PRESCHOOL

Ms. Thornton, and
Mrs. Cornelius

This week in Pre-K we are still talking about birds. We colored a booklet of the different parts of a bird. We also went on nature walks.

We talked about our teeth and how to care for them. We learned that we should brush twice a day.

Our character lessons have been on being a good listener. We are practicing our listening skills and following directions. This is a great thing to practice at home.

We practiced cutting fruit in practical life, and sorted fruits from vegetables. Your child can tell you if what you are eating is healthy.

Have a healthy, safe weekend.

PRIMARY

Mrs. Iannone and Mrs. Korthas

This week Primary traveled to South America. We spoke about the longest chain of mountains in the world - Andes and the country that stretched all along the Andes - Chile. The one thing we could not find out for sure is if the people of Chile enjoy chili peppers as much as we enjoy them.

We saw beautiful pictures of animals and colorful birds that are living in the rain forest.

In Spanish we continued practicing questions and answers. We added new work to the shelves, to reinforce these new lessons. We match Spanish words and sentences to English.

In math many kindergartners are now working on the times tables.

First graders are sharpening their skills in proper placement of numbers up to tens of thousands.

In language, 1st graders are attacking level 1 and 2 books and kindergartners are working on reading comprehension, with the "Bob" books.

The Science Jamboree is going to be on Thursday, Feb 4th. We can't wait to see all the experiments and presentations. Reminder: The day of the Science Jamboree is going to be a half day for students. The children can be picked up at 11:30.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gay and Mrs. Musselman

It is hard to believe that the science jamboree is just six days away. This week we allotted some time each day for the students to talk about their topics. Most seemed well prepared and were eager to share what they have learned. The Jamboree is on Thursday, February 4th. Parents will be able to come in to the classroom to view the exhibits at release time. The day of the fair is a half day for students. Day care will be available.

This week all third graders were tested on their knowledge of geometric definitions. The focus was on triangles. For the most part, they did quite well. Third grade students also continued to progress in solving two part math problems.

We completed our study of the Plains Indians with the building of four horse drawn travois. After the Science Jamboree we will move on to the Southwest. We will study the Hopi, the Apache, and the Navajo. A team of four will build a pueblo and each student will make a Kachina figure. Hands on activities are enjoyed by all the students. It was a very productive week.

Enjoy your weekend.

Reminder : The next book report is due February 26th.

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Enthusiastic students: Alana Jagger, Nika Gorski, Taylor Blackledge and Dario Montero



Upper elementary students play football each, wanting Sean Lund to throw to him or her.



Tim Foley tries pull ups on the rings.



UPPER ELEMENTARY

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

We have only a few days until the Science Jamboree and quite a few students are still not prepared to present; please take this weekend to complete research, and practice. We will practice every day next week until the day of the Science Jamboree. Please take note that Thursday will be a half day and Subway will not be available for those staying after the Jamboree.

The fourth and fifth grade writing groups are learning to use their senses to help with their descriptive writing skills. The fifth and sixth graders are learning the difference between metaphors and similes in literature. We are also reading poems that make use of these two types of figurative writing.

Fourth graders are learning about their classmates' likes and dislikes, and turning this information into frequency tables and bar graphs.

Due to the Science Jamboree, we will not have another book report due until the 15th of February.

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH

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

This has already been a year of many great achievements. It began with our juniors and seniors exceeding the average SAT score of 980 by twice and more. Even a sophomore excelled with over a 1900. We have more dual enrolled students going to P-HCC than any other year. Thursday we recognized two eighth grade students, Madison Kell and Tyler Miles, for moving into the Algebra I book. These eighth grade students are now receiving high school credit. Congratulations!

The science fair is next Thursday. Hopefully everyone is working diligently on their projects and experiments and we will all learn many new things. The science fair day will be a half-day, so please make arrangements to pick up your student. Have a great weekend.

PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs Wagner

This week we played some simple outdoor games like Duck Duck Goose. It is encouraging to see the second graders helping the youngest children learn the basics of the games, and to help them keep on track with turns. We talked about barnyard animals in circle this week. We made a 3-D barnyard scene in crafts including a barn and silo, a 3-D horse, and some children also made a foam decorated picture frame with magnetic backing.

UPPER LEVEL AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Bennett

On the playground the children played games such as football, soccer, red rover, Spud and football 500. The students also were able to take advantage of free play time at the end of the day.

The children worked hard on completing their homework assignments in after school, as well as playing with the various activities such as Dominoes and Legos. The children also built wonderful buildings using the connector straws and Lincoln logs. They enjoyed playing board games such as chess, checkers, sorry and monopoly.

In art the students made collages using various pictures that represented themselves.

Due to the behavior of the students we were unable to cook this week.

Have a nice weekend.

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We proceeded to give another math test that would show grade level and be a little easier for her, all the while feeling terrible for this student. People she trusted had been telling her for years that she was a good student.

I ask you, “How can you get credit for Algebra I, geometry, and be half way through Algebra II and not know how to do simple math problems? How can you take a vocabulary test and miss 15 out of 25 words and be an honor student? How can you write a two-paragraph paper and misspell at least twelve words, but yet have a 3.7 GPA? I asked this young lady if she had ever taken the SAT or the ACT and she said, “No.” Of course she did not take these tests because she knew herself she really did not know the subject matter and had many gaps. This is more and more prevalent in our educational system today.

Yes, we are a close-knit school here at Wider Horizons. We focus on academics and give you an honest assessment of your child. As a matter of fact that is why this student’s mother told us she brought her daughter here. We realize that many times a true assessment is not always easy to accept, but certainly is more humane than watching a student walk out of the office crying because people have been dishonest about the academic progression of her life!

Every parent here at Wider Horizons is a special type of parent. You have all had parent/teacher conferences, you have heard negative and positive things about your children and we know the negative is very difficult to hear, but to us it is a gesture of love. We want your child to be able to handle reality and be truly prepared to make good choices. It really did break my heart to watch that student walk out of here, not mad at us for being honest, but actually crushed and wondering what she should do next. Her mother’s last words as she left were I never even knew your school was here. The school her child was in, told her they were the only accredited private school in Hernando County, just another untruth.