

Wider Horizons School

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



CHINESE NEW YEAR-Year of the Tiger

Preschoolers Celebrate with a Dragon Parade



Elyse Maramara, Katherine Ringo, Shelby Goode, Andrew Zanos, Angie Thomas, Patrick Ritter make up the dragon.

+++++

2010 NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

NAEP Mathematics 2009

	Grade 4	Grade 9
Public	238	282
Private	246	296

NAEP LONG-TERM TREND 2008

	age 9	age 13	age 17
Math			
Public	242	280	305
Private	252	295	n/a

Reading

Public	218	258	284
Private	237	275	n/a

NAEP results for 2008 and 2009 show that private school students scored higher than public school students. The average scale scores for private and public school students for both years are included in the table above. (NAEP reading results will be released in the spring of 2010, so they are not included above.)

News from the office

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 22-28 Montessori Week

- March 5: Father's Breakfast
- March 19- Professional Day
- March 24- applications for Student Treasure Books

Montessori Week Visits

- Monday: Preschool 8:30-9:30
- Tuesday: Primary 8:30-9:30
- Wednesday: Lower Elementary 8:30-9:30am
- Thursday: 4th and Upper Elementary 1:30-2:30pm

Parents are invited to come in and spend time working with their child or being involved in class activities to celebrate Montessori Week.

Students in kindergarten and above enjoy a luncheon at the China One Restaurant with parents and grandparents.



Elementary students enjoy the buffet at the China One Restaurant.



PRESCHOOL

Ms. Thornton, and
Mrs. Cornelius

This week in Pre-K we celebrated President's Day and Chinese New Year. We made dragon masks and learned how to say "happy new year" in chinese.

We had a great time walking through the school with the big dragon and making fried rice.

We also colored booklets about George Washington's life. We learned many facts about our first president.

We have started playing the banking game and the children are learning thousands, hundreds, and units - place.

We have new material in language this week. The students are given a picture and then they spell what is on that picture (ex: cat, dog, hat). This is a very popular activity.

Have a great weekend.

PRIMARY

Mrs. Iannone and Mrs. Korthas

This week WHS celebrated Chinese New Year and as always we went for our annual lunch at the Chinese restaurant. And as always "Chinese pizza" was a hit!

This week we learned about pilgrims and settlers and how their lifestyle was different from ours. How their meals were different and how much native Americans helped pilgrims to settle in the new world.

We will be following the early settlers in their move west toward the Mississippi and on towards California.

In math, kindergardeners learned about odd and even numbers. 1st graders tried out new math materials demonstrating: place value, numeration and rounding off just for starters.

At the art table we made beautiful stained glass flowers.

We are also practicing working with the scissors. The work helps children with their five motor skills.

Thank you Pre-K class for the great Dragon parade.

Happy white Tiger New Year!
Have a great weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gay and Mrs. Musselman

This week we started our study of Native Americans of the southwest.

Students learned that the Hopi were Pueblo People and were decedents of the Anasazi. They learned about the clothing, food, houses, religion, and culture of the Hopi. Work on our model of an adobe house will begin next week. The children will also build ladders using twigs and yarn.

Compositions were written in class and the focus was on good topic sentences. Children were taught how to use a graphic organizer to create an outline for their stories. We will be doing more in - class writing using outlines for the remainder of this quarter.

In preparation for our trip to the Chinese restaurant, the students learned about the Chinese New Year. They learned about the traditions and symbols associated with this holiday. Some of these traditions include new clothes, cleaning the house to clear out any bad luck, gifts, and wearing red. Preschool children visited the class room wearing a dragon costume. They paraded around the room and added to the spirit of the New Year celebration. As always, it was a busy and productive week.

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

NEWSLETTER STUDENT NEWSLETTER

[Tristan Gerbolingo-Smith, Keryth Rowland and Trevor Zhang during dress up day.](#)



[Primary students dance to Mr. Thomas's Greek music.](#)



[Junior and senior high students leave the Chinese restaurant full of food.](#)



UPPER ELEMENTARY

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

Although we began with a short week; much work was accomplished in all subject areas. We began our studies of Egyptian gods and goddesses. Each student chose a deity, wrote a short passage on their choice and recreated it in a paper mache mask. We also learned the hieroglyphic alphabet and will create our names using hieroglyphic symbols.

Due to our Chinese New Year Luncheon, we learned about the 15-day celebration, traditional foods and superstitions associated with the Chinese New Year. Our students were especially interested in knowing which animal their birth year represented in the Chinese Zodiac. We ended our week with a field trip to the Chinese restaurant for lunch.

Please check monthly calendars for upcoming assignments and test dates. Our next book report will be due on March 1st.

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH

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

The students are concentrating on their individual subjects. We are three weeks away from the end of the third quarter. Your student should begin thinking of getting his/her math folders together because the 2 points they get for this organization means a great deal! Students should be studying every night at home because many tests in all subjects are begin given. The eighth grade book reports will be due on February 26th. The seventh grade book report is due March 1st.

The Chinese New Years luncheon went well. Everyone was so full when they got back we had to go outside and walk off some calories!

The IOWA tests will be taken in March. We will be going over many concepts before the test. You may be able to find things on line to practice such as: capitalization, punctuation, science, history, and math.

All students have homework! They all have tests to prepare for, papers due, novels, compositions, spelling, math, science, history, geography, health, and Spanish. I am

sure there is more work, but please make an appointment with us if your child is not working at home.

Have a great weekend.

PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs Wagner

This week our after school children focused on two February festivals. Even though the preschoolers did not attend the field trip to the Chinese restaurant, they were enthusiastic in learning about the colors, symbols, and dragons used in the celebrations. We made miniature 2 part dragons taped onto straws which resembled the large dragons carried in the Chinese parades. We discussed the year of the Tiger and talked about the attributes. We also talked about the Mardi Gras festival, and we made decorated face masks. We got bead necklaces to wear as well.

UPPER LEVEL AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Bennett

During our time on the play ground, the children participated in games such as dodge ball, football 500, free play and kickball. They enjoyed their time on the playground because even though they had to wear jackets, it wasn't as cold as it had been.

In circle we discussed Chinese New Year. The children learned that this is the year of the tiger. They also learned to say Happy New Year - Gung Hay Fat Chow.

In art the boys and girls made paper plate tiger masks and practiced writing some Chinese words.

Have a nice weekend.

