

Wider Horizons School

Great Turnout for Parent Orientation !!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

9/1 LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL
9/12 Grandparents Songfest 9am
9/17 Constitution Day
9/29 First Day of Fall

Zechariah uses beads and his own memorization to do the many addition problems in this complicated activity.

Instead of doing just a few problems, the student has to find the answers to about 20 different problems. This activity helps develop concentration and focus.



There are many new materials in the 3-6 classes for the children to learn the fundamentals needed for their education.

MANY NEW MATERIALS WERE ON DISPLAY FOR PARENT ORIENTATION



Zoey is using a new placement mat for the decimal system. She is placing the thousand blocks that will be a part of her addition problem.

April is showing the Montessori cards and counters material that shows her odd and even numbers



CHILD PROOFING THE HOUSE-SO AS NOT TO SAY NO- IS LUNACY

By Domenick J. Maglio, PhD.

Parents have taken permissiveness to the next level. Too many modern parents feel they want their child to be free to do whatever he desires at any moment. This is accomplished by the parent thinking of every conceivable dangerous feature in the house and then making it safe for the child to explore. It involves rounding off corners, covering up electrical plugs, storing remotes outside the reach of the child and making sure furniture is immovable and stable. All glass windows have to be impact windows so as not to shatter.

This child proofing the home idea is not good for the child although it may make it easier for the parents. Parents would never have to say “no” since the child’s physical safety has been ingeniously provided but the child’s social, emotional health has been ignored. Other authority figures will eventually handle these difficult issues. They will be responsible to say “no” to the child and absorb the child’s anger. The parents will be isolated from the child’s anger as long as they acquiesce to the child’s every demand.

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PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Tejada

This week we are learning about “Frogs” in Science. The students are learning different parts of the frog as well as different types of frogs. We also read “Frog on a Log”. Students are starting to adjust to the schedule as well as the rules of the classroom. We are happy to have them here.

In Math, this week our new students are learning lessons like number rods, table rods, set baskets 1-5 and 1-10, along with Cards and Counters and odds and evens. As our returning students are being tested on their addition, subtraction, and multiplication skills.

In Language, we have started reading Bob Books. Congratulations to Yvan and Zechariah for starting off the school year strong. Students are learning how to match letters to pictures and letters to objects by sound. Some students are writing a nice poem about “Labor Day” that is this coming Monday. Reminder that we are closed September 1 and return September 2.

This Friday, students are getting to have their first show-n-tell. We are excited to see and hear the amazing stories.

We hope you have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend!

PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

We are very proud of the progress the students are making. They are trying their best to mimic the lessons given to them. In language, some students have been given lessons on initial sound, vowel sound, and ending sound alphabetizing. All of the students are practicing their penmanship. We also began spelling this week for those who are writing properly and able to read.

In math, students reviewed lessons on the short bead stairs, teen board, and addition strip board. Montessori math materials help children approach math with hands-on, visual and physical learning aids. These materials allow students to attach concrete knowledge to the abstract concepts of math.

In practical life, students are working on mastering the dressing frames for snapping and buttoning.

Students are also learning about Labor Day, its significance, and why America is special. The children loved sharing their occupations and expressed how proud they are of the important jobs their parents have.

Thank you for joining us for parent orientation. Have a wonderful weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

Congratulations Juliet, Amianna, Annabelle, Frank, Grace, Bella, Jacob, and Emme for moving up to the next time tables.

Congratulations Jacob, Silas, Joedaniel, and Rylee for mastering their addition facts 1-10.

Congratulations Juliet, Nathan, Annabelle, Grace, and Emme for mastering their subtraction facts 1-10.

Congratulations Frank and Yvnicka for mastering their addition facts 11-20.

Language this week, second graders are learning about Nouns opposites. They will match and write the language. For example, boy - girl, dad - mom. The third graders are

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

working with different types of plurals.

Math this week, the students are writing their geometry cards, working in their math booklets, applications, and learning about fact families.

Spelling this week, the students worked in their packets.

Geography this week, the students are learning about different types of planets in our solar system.

Science this week, the students will be learning about different mammals. They have been working in external parts of the animal.

History this week, the students will be learning more about Native American tribes.

Art this week, the students will be starting to create art crafts for Grandparent's Day.

We would like to thank all the parents for coming out to our annual parent orientation this year. It has been a few years since we have done this. It was great to see the parents joining us and see what the classroom has to offer.

The next composition is due on September 17th which can be done early, but must be done at home. An example should be in everyone's homework folder to use as an example.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, Mrs. Russell

Proposals for the Biography went out this Friday. Please take this time to research historical figures and decide who to portray for the Biography Fair. This is the first step in preparing for the presentation. Once a historical figure is chosen, a proposal is submitted and will need to be approved by the teacher. Proposals should be submitted as soon as possible to avoid having to choose someone else. Proposals are approved on a first-come, first-serve basis.

This week fourth graders continued to learn about the rules involved in changing singular nouns into plural nouns. They are also currently reading Call it Courage in class and at home. Students learned about positive and negative numbers through number lines in math. Students should be using a ruler when completing math sets at home. In zoology, students were tasked with choosing an animal to classify using a taxonomy chart. In geography, they learned about the southeast region's state capitals.

Fifth grade has covered a lot of material this week! They are reviewing terms in Language from last year. Learning how to distinguish between different types of sentences. They are also learning about subjects and predicates of a sentence. During our arithmetic period each day, I'm especially proud to report, all fifth graders are performing marvelously! This week in geography we are working on map skills and navigational terminology to build a nice foundation to move on to more complex lessons later in the year. Fifth grade students have been assigned *Old Yeller* for their first book report.

Sixth graders completed chapter one test in Physical Science this week. In Language, six grade students are revisiting and strengthening the concepts they learned last year, while also learning how to construct narratives. The novel assigned for the first book report is *My Side of the Mountain*; students must complete reading by the 12th of September. A book report will be completed in class on the 15th of September.

HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

This week in the Junior High and High School room, we have spent time on both reinforcing learned good habits and establishing new ones. Organization and neatness from their desks to the way they store their books and work in their backpacks are crucial traits for a successful student. As we typically give them time in every class to work on their homework after it has been assigned, it is important for them to pack up their work in such a way that it does not get lost in the shuffle between school and home and back again.

We are well into the school year. The 7th graders have a very good idea about what is expected of them in every class. Our mission is for the students to feel comfortable enough to address their concerns regarding any work assigned to them. We are trying to prepare them for the future when they will be expected to advocate for themselves. Please encourage active reading at home as well as time management.

This week in Computer class, the junior high students have been learning how to use Google Docs. They are learning how to create proper formatting in preparation for their Biography Fair papers. In Physical Science, 9th graders have been studying chemical and physical changes. They performed a lab that involved classifying different objects by their physical properties. This should give them a more concrete understanding of the

IN CASE OF A STORM OR STATE OF EMERGENCY WHERE THERE IS NO POWER - SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED

concepts they are learning in class. 10th graders are studying matter in Biology. They are learning about atoms and other components of matter. They took an exam this week.

AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Brewer and Miss Wallace

This week during circle time, we read a book called *My River*. This book is about a boy that loves going fishing with his grandpa at least once a week. This boy kept calling the river where they were fishing "my river". His grandpa had to explain to his grandson that it was not his river just because they went fishing there. His grandson asked, "then, who owns the river?" This grandpa explained that the river belongs to the frogs, beavers, ducks, and turtles, in other words, the river belongs to everyone! We also read another book called *Butterfly House*. This book is about a girl named Anna that saw a tiny creature that looked like a worm and saved it from a greedy jaybird who wanted it for lunch. Anna carried the worm inside, safe on its wide green leaf. Her mom said it was a larva and soon would be a butterfly. Anna kept the worm inside this little house until it became a beautiful butterfly and set it free.

While on the playground, some children were collecting pine cones and dried leaves to make wreaths. Others were building sand castles, while the rest of the children were using the playground equipment. Once inside, most of the children worked on puzzles, and some were working on board games and/or an activity of their choice

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This child rearing approach excuses a parent from taking the time and energy that prepares the child to learn appropriate limits to functioning wisely. In the short term it may be in the parent's interest but certainly is not in the child's as it leaves the child with gaping inadequacies and less than civilized.

A child needs to be taught how to deal with different environments not only for his and other's safety but to learn what is appropriate in different situations. He should not throw around objects and act wild when visiting the homes of family and friends. Not only could he hurt himself or others but would appear to be out of control.

The lack of parent training in listening, speaking, obeying, and establishing parameters in this modern culture could be initially passed off by the parent as an immature child. In due time this persistent developmentally delayed behavior will be interpreted as annoying and disruptive behavior. Others will see it as the child having a mental disorder. Rarely would the parent be seen as the culprit.

In reality, it is parental malfeasance that goes undetected in our modern culture. The inability or unwillingness to say "no" to a child is an abusive act. Children need to learn what they should not do, more than doing what they want to do. Many things we might want to do could adversely affect others and might even be illegal. Narcissistic and anti-social personalities are not the types of people parents should want to develop. Yet this is what they are doing.

In a stable nation people have to abide by society's moral and social code of behavior. An individual is not free to transgress against the freedom of others. One person's rights end where another's begins. All of us are obliged to respect the rights of others or suffer legal consequences. In an orderly society no one can take another's property without his permission. Children need to be taught limits to act appropriately to be successful. They cannot take another child's toy just because they decide to. They cannot assault someone just because they feel like doing it.

The word "no" must be taught to "child proof" him for the realities of life. Someone has to say no and then follow it with a consequence. The person then must follow up the child's behavior on numerous occasions to catch him in dangerous or abusive actions. This repetitive correcting establishes a better behavior pattern. The child becomes more thoughtful and inhibited in attempting annoying or disruptive behavior.

The person who plays the role of teaching the child that the word "no" means to stop and listen has given the child the gift of learning about the world from an adult perspective. "No" is an essential ingredient in raising a normal child.

Child proofing a house is giving a child license to be a self-absorbed lunatic. This insane child proofing of the house does not do anything to prepare a child to deal with reality appropriately to become a successful person.

Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers, an author of several books and owner/director of Wider Horizons School, a college prep program. Dr. Maglio is an author of weekly newspaper articles, *INVASION WITHIN* and a new just published book, entitled, *IN CHARGE PARENTING In a PC World*. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.