

Wider Horizons School

Second Quarter Begins



DATES TO REMEMBER:

REPORT CARDS 10/16

Biography Fair 10/30. Early release day for students

Picture Retake Day 11/2

Aaron travels the world with Christopher Columbus's boats while Amiana learns the flags of the world.



Students work in groups to solve a dilemma, they created a tower to support an apple and built it out of straws and clothespins.



The pleasure the students have in being successful by solving the problem presented to them is evident on their faces.

Building on success is necessary in an educational setting that helps students focus and use critical thinking to complete any activity.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TIME MANAGEMENT

By Gianna Kleber grade 7

Everyone of us could possible make use of our time more widely in order to accomplish everything that is required of us every day. By doing so, we can get everything done that needs to be done and may even have time to spare. Sometimes we are overwhelmed with subjects and assignments that make it seem impossible to complete everything, which causes unnecessary stress and anxiety because there may not be enough time to finish.

Continued on last page

REPORT CARDS- OUT TODAY

Report cards communicate a student's progress by providing a snapshot of the child's performance at specific times during the academic year. Because each grade level introduces new standards and expectations, students begin each school year at the starting point for that level.

Report cards allow teachers to step back and assess how a student is progressing relative to classmates. These reports also help to document the student's growth and advancement during each quarter of the year.

Attendance and tardiness are also noted on the report card. Excessive absences and tardies negatively affect your child's academics.

In elementary classes the report card format is a little different. In order to have room for the comments they are now on the back of the paper. Be sure to look over the whole report card to see the comments.

Kindergarten receives report cards only each semester.

PRIMARY

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Vega

Welcome back everyone! This week students have been practicing for the biography fair. Please help them practice at home as well.

In language, students are learning how to match letters to objects, words to pictures, and even spelling the objects or pictures. We have students reading Bob Books and Aubree and Zella are moving up in their reading. We encourage thirty minutes of reading every night at home.

In math, students are learning to associate quantities and symbols from 10-90 and build quantities from 11-99. As others are continuing to practice on the hundred board and adding with beads and the decimal system, others began to learn multiplication.

In art, students are finishing their Columbus Day ships. They also learned to paint with watercolors and color leaves with chalk.

In culture, students learned how to sequence different story cards about how to carve a pumpkin and bake cookies. Students are learning how to categorize the four seasons with picture cards.

In sensorial, students are learning the different colors through pictures and objects. Students are learning to recognize shapes and follow patterns.

LOWER ELEMENTARY 1 and 2

Mrs. Urbanek, Ms. Skiff, Ms. Tejada, Ms. Finnerty and Mr. Garrand

This week was a very busy week for Lower Elementary. In Science, students were given lessons on the different types of storms as well as clouds. They learned about the three parts of the flower, parts of a leaf and parts of the roots. During recess, without any prompting of teachers, students pulled various weeds and plant life on the playground to observe the parts of the roots discussed during class. Students also discussed Carnivores, Herbivores and Omnivores and engaged with nomenclature cards in which they matched different animals under each category and were given a lesson on the classification of plants vs animals. First grade was given a lesson on the praying mantis.

In Language, students tried their luck and rolled the dice. The dice they rolled had images on them in which students made up silly stories to match them. Students had the opportunity to read their stories out loud to their classmates where lots of giggles were shared. The students really enjoyed this activity. The purpose of the activity was to encourage sentence building, creativity and public speaking. Students were also given a lesson on the comparison of adjectives.

In Geography, students had a review of the landforms. Third graders will be working on memorizing the different parts of landforms and first and second incorporated the push pinning with the landform activity.

This week Lower Elementary celebrated another year in the life of Emily and Amelia. Classmates sang Happy Birthday to these lovely young ladies. We wish them another year of health, growth and

lots of learning. Progress reports were sent out today.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Ms. Russell

Rough drafts for the Biography Fair research paper were due this Friday. With only two weekends left before the Biography Fair, all students are encouraged to practice their presentations for the big day. We will begin practicing in class next week; and everyone should be prepared to present by the 20th of October. Focusing on memorizing key facts, speaking clearly and confidently, and maintaining eye contact with the audience are essential skills for delivering a successful presentation.

Fourth graders reviewed how to identify subjects and predicates this week, as well as different types of sentences. In math, students are learning about square numbers and finding the square root of numbers. In addition to working in their textbook, they have also used material work to better understand the more abstract concepts. In U.S Geography students learned how to identify different parts of a globe, as well as their cardinal directions.

Fifth graders are continuing to work in the language towers. Some are learning to classify adjectives and adverbs, while others are exploring the materials in the encyclopedia. They are also learning the different classifications of nouns: common, proper, collective, and abstract. The fifth graders enjoyed cooking, eating, and learning about how sweet potatoes, potatoes, and yucca grow from underground.

In math, it is important for the students to turn in a math set when they arrive at school. In geography the fifth graders are learning about glaciers.

This week, sixth graders continued their exploration of the periodic table, focusing on the classification of elements and their unique properties. They learned how to determine the electron configurations of various elements and how to distinguish between metals and nonmetals based on their physical and chemical properties. Students have also been using hands-on materials from the classroom shelves to reinforce their understanding of matter and its characteristics. Upon completing this unit, each student will "adopt" two elements from the periodic table and create a poster highlighting their properties, characteristics, and practical uses in everyday life. In vocabulary, sixth graders completed their second cumulative unit test this week. These assessments require additional preparation and study time, as they cover material from previously completed lessons. After every three lessons, students take a cumulative review test to reinforce their understanding, strengthen retention, and demonstrate mastery of the vocabulary they have learned. We encourage students to review their vocabulary regularly rather than waiting until the day before the test to begin studying.

The second quarter began this week and report cards go out today. If there are any questions or concerns please contact the office. Scorecards are sent every week; by Tuesday, please make sure to sign and return them as soon as possible, so new grades could be updated.

HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

With the first quarter complete, students are beginning the second quarter with a clear picture of their progress so far. Report cards went home today, giving students and families an opportunity to review their grades and identify areas where they should continue their strong work or devote additional effort as we move forward.

Our Biography Fair is also quickly approaching! Completed first drafts of the Biography Fair papers will be due next Friday. In addition to working on their papers, students should begin planning the presentation portion of the project. This includes considering what they will wear to represent their chosen person and deciding what information they would like to highlight in their required speech. We will begin practicing presentations in class next week so that students have plenty of opportunities to become comfortable speaking in front of their classmates.

High school students also spent some time this week discussing college preparation. Ninth and tenth graders were encouraged to begin gaining experience with college entrance exams by taking the SAT and/or ACT. Because students may find that one test better suits their individual strengths, taking each exam at least once can help them determine which is the better fit. This is particularly important for our tenth graders as they begin planning ahead for dual enrollment and college. Students were made aware of upcoming testing opportunities in November and December and

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

like to test. Since these exams can be taken multiple times, starting early provides students with opportunities to improve their scores over time.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Ms. Russell

During circle time we discussed Columbus Day and how Columbus discovered the new world by accident. Columbus discovered the Americas while looking for a route to Asia. We discussed how many trips Columbus made to the new world and the names of his three ships. Santa Maria was the biggest ship, and the Pinta and the Niña were the smaller ones.

During playground time, the children participated in games such as Hide-and-Seek, Red Light - Green Light, and Simon Says. The children really enjoyed their time on the playground this week.

Once inside, the older children that had homework finished their assignments, while the rest of the students had a chance to work with an activity or game of their choice.

Enjoy your weekend!

Student Editor:

Hayley DesLauriers

Continued from front page

THE IMPORTANCE OF TIME MANAGEMENT

By Gianna Kleber, 7th grade

In my case, I attend a private college preparatory school, which means that there is quite a lot of homework and is more difficult than you may find at some other schools. In addition to my schoolwork, I am also involved in a number of sports, such as soccer and wrestling. Attending those practices and games about four days a week and on weekends, I always have soccer games or tournaments which are rarely local and sometimes are even out of state.

The tournaments are for the whole weekend. As a result, my class time is very precious and limited, so I have to make the best decisions and try my very best to get my homework done. So for me, I do not always have the time like other children might have to study and practice the assignments that are given to us, but if I have the time I will use it to study.

If I am able to manage my time productively, then I may be able to complete all of my Assignments on time, which would avoid any stress as everything gets done successfully.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

***Music Lessons with Mike Scaglione, musician extraordinaire, will begin this week. Mr. Scaglione is a well known musician who has played with the Miami Sound Machine for years.**

Inquire at the office as to what instrument and day you would like your child to begin.

Yearly Pizza Payment

It has become a bit confusing with so many recurring orders for pizza. Some parents have started to pay for the rest of the year rather than try to come up with the cash each week.

For the 28 Fridays left of the year, one slice is \$84, two slices is \$112. Please communicate with Mrs. Hobbs if you want this option.

Once in awhile orders still use the weekly slips.

First graders now need to wear a belt and have their shirts tucked in like the second and third graders in their room.