



Wider Horizons School

Fall-ing Into Second Quarter

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Biography Fair 10/30. Early release day for students

Picture Retake Day 11/2

Lesson Demonstration Mornings 11/16-20 from 8:00-8:30 am

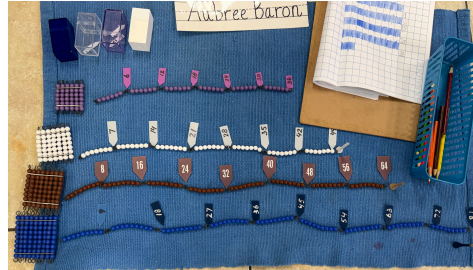
As the second quarter begins, the students have settled into a well practiced routine. Many Montessori materials are being used to form firm foundational skills. Primary and elementary students have had concepts introduced in a very concrete form through the materials.

Spotlight on Montessori Materials:

The Squaring and Cubing Chains

Students are first introduced to the concept of squaring in primary through the squaring chains. Did you know a squared number actually forms a square? The squaring chains are in both primary and lower elementary classrooms. The squaring chains not only show the square of a number, but also show skip counting, and later can be used for multiplication.

Squaring and Cubing Chains



The image above shows squaring chains for the numbers 6, 7, 8, and 9.



Students are also using cubing chains, which correlates to the number of squares which make up the cube. The cubing chain is nine is pictured. 9 cubed is 9 chains of nine beads. The student counts and labels every nine beads. Each chain is a square of nine. The cube of 9 is 729.

WORK IS A BLESSING NOT SOMETHING TO AVOID

*By Domenick J. Maglio, PhD.
Traditional Realist*

Almost magically when children are on a beach they begin to dig and build sand structures. They run with buckets of water moving sand from one spot to another making and filling in holes. They can run around for hours building sand castles and knocking them down. Even adults, who are just older kids, get involved making impressive sand sculptures that are washed away at night by the surf.

What is one person's work can be another person's play. Renowned educator/psychologist, Maria Montessori observed this daily about children: work is play and play is work. In the same way beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Everyone does not view these various activities or jobs in the same manner. The distinction about the pleasure or displeasure of an activity is in the perception of an individual.

A boring task for one person could be an enjoyable one for another. A machinist putting together a simple gadget to handle a particular function can be seen as a work of art. Landscaping and mowing can be seen as drudgery or a gratifying experience of sculpturing one's land, a spiritual experience.

Producing something is inherently gratifying. Ancient civilizations are judged by the artifacts that were crafted.

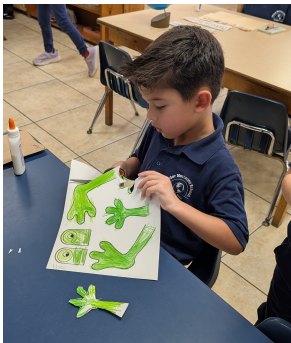
PRIMARY

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Vega

Hello everyone! We are one week away from our Biography Fair. We are practicing in the classroom, but please keep practicing at home as well.

In culture, students learned different stages of how a frog is born. They also learned the different parts of the frog. Students also learned about the stages of how pumpkins grow and the parts of a pumpkin. The students also learned how to carve a pumpkin in the classroom.

In art, students learned how to make frog puppets and learned to make frog noises. They also learned how to make paper pumpkins and to paint pumpkins.



In language, students are continuing to practice their sounds for letters. They are also practicing matching letters to objects, pictures, and words. They are also learning to find missing letter in the beginning, middle, and end of words.

In math, students continue to practice the golden bead material where they are becoming familiar with the names, quantities, and proportions of the decimal system. Students were given a lesson on how to use the “Bank”. This is where they become familiar with

physically exchanging one category for another.

In sensorial, students continue to practice matching shapes, colors, and objects in different sizes. Students were introduced to the binomial cube. This helps develop visual discrimination of shapes, colors and patterns.

We hope you have a great weekend !

LOWER ELEMENTARY 1 and 2
Mrs. Urbanek, Ms. Skiff, Ms. Tejeda, Ms. Finnerty and Mr. Garrand

We had another busy week in Lower Elementary 1 and 2 with a variety of lessons and activities throughout the classrooms!

In science, we learned about the different parts of plants and their functions. We also spent time identifying seeds from different plants and looking at their similarities and differences.

In math, we explored squaring and cubing numbers and practiced different ways to solve multiplication problems. Some students were also introduced to the binomial and trinomial cubes in geometry.

Our language lessons included identifying parts of speech, working with compound words, and practicing long vowel sounds.

In history, we explored holidays throughout the year, discussing when they are celebrated and the meaning and traditions behind them.

For art, the students created pumpkins using a continuous line. It was a fun project that required

concentration and creativity, and the pumpkins turned out great!

We also enjoyed celebrating Remington and Lyanna’s birthdays this week! It is always special to take time to celebrate our friends and make them feel loved on their special day.

We began practicing for our upcoming Biography Fair and will continue rehearsing next week. Please encourage your child to practice their facts and speeches at home. This will help them become more familiar with their information and feel comfortable presenting in front of others.

We hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

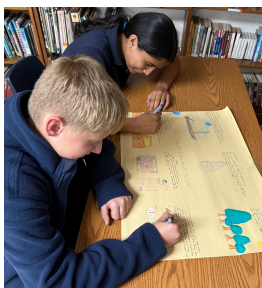
Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Ms. Russell

With the final weekend before the Biography Fair approaching, students should take advantage of this time to practice and polish their presentations. We have been rehearsing in class throughout the week, and everyone should be well prepared for the big day! Although display boards are not required for the fair, students who choose to use one must incorporate it into their presentations. Therefore, they should practice presenting with their boards to ensure a smooth and confident delivery.

Please note, there will be no spelling or vocabulary tests next Friday due to the Biography Fair. This will allow students to focus their attention on preparing for this special event.

Fourth graders continued to learn about the types of sentences that can be used when writing, such as

Simple, compound, and complex sentences. Students were also tasked with identifying run-on sentences in their work. In math, students are learning about mixed numbers on a number line. In U.S Geography, students looked at finding U.S. capitals through latitude and longitude coordinates. Fifth graders are learning about run-on sentences. They have also been busy writing their final drafts for the Biography Fair. In math, the fifth graders continue to do their math sets. It is so important that they complete one each night. In botany the fifth graders are learning about leaves and the different types of veins they have. In geography the fifth graders are finishing up learning about landforms and are learning about glaciers. Sixth graders continued their exploration of the periodic table, focusing on how elements are classified and organized. There are materials on the shelves and they are becoming more familiar with the structure of the periodic table, learning to identify its various components and understanding the properties that distinguish metals from nonmetals. In Geography, sixth graders are continuing to work on their exciting new project focusing on the cultures of North and South America. This is a group project where they create an informative poster highlighting important and interesting facts of their chosen culture. Through their research and presentations, sixth graders will not only deepen their knowledge of their assigned culture but also have the opportunity to teach their classmates.



HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

With the Biography Fair quickly approaching, students should now be well underway with their costumes and practicing their speeches. This week, we began giving students the opportunity to present their speeches in front of the class so they can become more comfortable speaking before an audience. Rough drafts of their papers were also due on Friday, giving teachers a chance to offer feedback and suggestions before the final versions are completed.

In Earth Science, the seventh graders have been learning about the geologic column and what it reveals about Earth's history. In Civics, the eighth graders have been studying the amendments to the Constitution and discussing their meanings and importance. Meanwhile, the ninth and tenth graders have been exploring osmosis and selective permeability in science. They also participated in a lab that allowed them to observe selective permeability in action.

In Financial Literacy, the tenth graders have been comparing the advantages and disadvantages of purchasing new and used items and considering the factors that can make one option a better financial choice than the other.

As students continue preparing for the Biography Fair, they have also been encouraged to reflect on their chosen person's accomplishments, significant experiences, and standout moments to determine what will be most meaningful to include in their reports and presentations.

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

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Ms. Russell

During circle time we discussed a book called, "Look and Learn about Farm animals and Farm Machines". All the children had the chance to name a farm animal and what its baby is called; for example, duck, and duckling. One child said a goat and the child is called a kid; some children had fun when they heard that. The most popular machine was the tractor, they also said the mower, the ladder, and one child said his neighbor has a motorbike on his farm. We also read and discussed a book about different sharks. We learned that there are more than 400 different types of sharks, and baby sharks are called pups. We learned that sharks cannot swim backwards, and the sharks main weapon is their teeth.

While on the playground, some children tried all the playground equipment, while some were collecting leaves. Once inside the older students worked on homework while the rest played with puzzles and activities of their choice.

Enjoy your weekend!

Student Editor:

Hayley DesLauriers

Continued from front page

Creating a functional organization that gets things done takes work to perfect in order to reach a high level of quality. This often becomes a person's legacy.

Most intellectuals have a natural disdain for any physical work. Work is for non-thinkers, laborers and peasants. According to these elites critical and creative thinking has altered our civilization replacing our need for manual labor. Technology and automation are on the verge of allowing everyone to be provided anything they desire in abundance. All humans will be liberated from having to use physical energy to produce what they need or want. This has been the mantra of intellectuals at least since the 1960s.

Work has practically become a negative concept in developed nations. These nations are opening up their borders to illegal immigration. This underclass is supposed to replace the former middle-working class, which supposedly is no longer willing to do such menial jobs. Many of the lower middle class are unmotivated to learn how to do simple repair and maintenance work around their homes.

Developed nations are forgetting that work has intrinsic value for humans. Being takers rather than tangible producers is like day and night. Takers may accept handouts although they have little appreciation for what they receive. They develop an entitlement mentality that craves more but does not have the appreciation or understanding of what it took to create it in the first place. Most importantly they do not feel the pride of current accomplishments and live in the past. Greece is an excellent example of this.

In American culture the concept of earning what a person gets is being undermined. "You did not build it," as stated by President Obama set off a firestorm of protest.

People who worked themselves up the socio-economic ladder to unexpected heights were stunned and dismayed by such a statement. The Land of Opportunity is being denied by big government proponents who believe in the collective not individual initiative. It neglects the blood, sweat and energy needed to build and maintain a viable enterprise.

As a people we are losing our self-reliance. Many students work harder at not working rather than just doing the task right in the first place. Time practically stops when a person chooses to watch the clock until they can leave their workplace. This wasted time cannot be replaced.

Energetic and vital people are the backbone of a thriving nation. Work is a natural antidepressant. When people are busy doing they have no time to worry about what they cannot control. As the old saying goes, if you want something done, give it to a busy person. These people know how to focus on completing an objective that increases their energy to tackle another project.

Work that is meaningful is something to relish. It gives the person a purpose and the satisfaction of accomplishment. Doing meaningful things naturally creates a balance between the body, mind and spirit. It is a blessing that should be embraced, not avoided since it keeps us vibrant.

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. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.

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.

