

Wider Horizons School

A Very Busy Quarter



DATES TO REMEMBER:

10/12 Columbus Day (No Classes)
REPORT CARDS 10/16
Biography Fair 10/30. Early release day for students

IMPORTANT NOTICES

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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.

Please communicate with Mrs. Hobbs if you want this option. She can calculate the numbers of weeks left in the year.

Once in awhile orders still use the weekly slips.

Technology Day had so many projects and activities.



Primary students build with different Montessori materials. Siyanna shows how her electric guitar works.



Junior high students made objects using ancient technology.



LAZY PARENTING IS BEHIND THE LYING EPIDEMIC
By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

Lying has been part of the human experience forever. The Bible notes that habitual lying leads to evil and eventually to hell. It is certainly not a path to obedience and elevated spirituality or a successful lifestyle over the long run. Lying will not be totally eliminated but can be controlled by conscientious traditional child rearing. The proper consequences, duration and moral teaching will minimize the frequency and length of these lying episodes.

Lying does not have to be taught. It is natural for a child to say whatever pops into his mind to appease the authority figure. "I did not break the toy, it just fell on its own." "I did not push her, she tripped." Children would say falsehoods even when they realize an adult is watching them. It is part of human behavior but needs to be corrected.

The parent needs to help the child tell the truth. Teaching the habit of telling the truth takes an enormous amount of work. The parent just cannot say "you should tell the truth" but should be ready to teach moral lessons and follow up with appropriate consequences on every occasion. The child uses lying to get something or get out of something.

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PRIMARY

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Vega

This week we celebrated Aubree's birthday with a birthday walk. We are also practicing for the Biography Fair so please send your child in with five fun facts so they can practice at school.



In practical life, students are learning how to scrub a seashell, weave different patterns, and continue to practice fastening buttons and bolts. Students are also learning how to set a table.

In sensorial, students are learning different shapes with three part matching. They are also discerning their colors by separating different colored objects into the correct colored boxes.

In math, students are learning how to recognize numbers, how to add with short beads, and count 1-100 on the hundred board.

In language, some students continue to read Bob Books. Some are working on matching pictures with sentences, and others are practicing the moveable alphabet. We also have students learning to find the missing vowel in a word.

In culture, students learned a three-part matching about a flower and had a lesson on land formations. We also learned about Christopher Columbus and his famous trips.

In art, students made different fall pictures to celebrate the new season.

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

We had another busy week in Lower Elementary 1 and 2 with lots of hands-on learning and new concepts to explore.

In language, we explored logical adjective-noun pairings and read a colorful book by Ruth Heller that gave us some fun examples of how adjectives can bring our language to life. We also practiced blends and phonograms to support reading fluency and confidence.

In math, we worked on dynamic addition and exchanging with the Bank Game. This hands-on material allows the children to see what happens when quantities are exchanged from one place value to the next. We also practiced finding multiples of single-digit numbers, which ties in nicely with skip counting and prepares students for multiplication.

Our science studies included learning about carnivores, omnivores, and herbivores and how animals are classified by what they eat. We also explored the parts of a flower and discussed the purpose of each part.

Spanish class is back with Ms. Tejeda! We are already learning so much and enjoying the opportunity to be immersed in the Spanish language and culture. It has been wonderful to have this experience back in our classrooms.

For art, the children created spice trees, giving them a chance to be creative while working with different textures, colors, and scents.

Please continue to read with your child daily at home. Regular

reading makes a big difference in fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and overall confidence as a reader. We would like to wish a happy birthday to Layla!

We had a great week and look forward to seeing what the children discover next!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Ms. Russell

This week Upper Elementary students turned in their book report for the person they chose for the Biography Fair. Students wrote a short summary and should be using that information for their research paper. Last week students turned in their facts. Once all of the facts are collected, Upper Elementary students should number their facts in chronological order. Facts should be turned into sentences, and sentences should be grouped together to form paragraphs. Step four of the rough draft is due on October 16th; please refer to the guidelines or the calendar for important due dates for the Biography Fair.

Fourth graders learned how to identify the difference between compound sentences and run-on sentences. Students also were given a lesson on reading for information. In geography they learned about intermediate directions, and political and physical maps. Fourth graders also had their first lesson in typing class this week, focusing on how to position their hands on the home keys.

In Language, students are learning about sentence fragments and how to recognize and correct sentences in their own stories.

Understanding sentence structure will strengthen their reading and writing skills and help them construct clearer, more complete sentences in their own stories. By now, fifth graders should have submitted the facts they have gathered about the person they selected for the Biography Fair. Their book report on their chosen individual is due Friday, October 9, 2026.

Students should make sure they are completing their work carefully and meeting all of the requirements. In Math, fifth graders should have completed at least 30 math sets and six tests by this point. Students are expected to complete at least one math set each day, although completing more than one when possible is encouraged. In Geography, fifth graders are learning about the water cycle and developing a better understanding of how water moves through Earth's systems.

Sixth graders were given two copies of their spelling list. One copy should be kept at home for studying, while the other should remain in the classroom. Please make sure the spelling list kept at home is stored in a safe place so it is readily available for regular study and review. In Language, sixth graders began preparing for their unit on nouns and learning about pronouns. They explored special pronouns and learned to distinguish between reflexive and intensive pronouns, as well as how to identify and use them correctly within sentences. In Geography, sixth graders completed and presented their North America projects to their classmates. For their next special project, each student has been assigned a different cultural group from around the world to research.

Students will create a poster highlighting what they have learned and will present their findings to their classmates. This project will be due in two weeks.

HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

It is hard to believe we are already at the end of the first quarter. Our Jr. and Sr. High students have been working steadily across their classes, and we are excited to see the progress they have made since the beginning of the school year.

Math Binders were collected this week, and students did a great job making sure their work was complete and organized. Students who met the binder requirements received 2 bonus points toward their quarter math grade. Keeping an organized binder is an important expectation in our classroom, as it helps students keep track of their work, develop strong academic habits, and take greater responsibility for their learning.

With Quarter 1 coming to a close, students are finishing assignments and wrapping up their first several weeks of learning. The end of a grading period is a great opportunity for students to reflect on what has gone well, recognize how much they have accomplished, and think about goals they would like to set as we move into Quarter 2.

We are looking forward to a strong start to the new quarter and to continuing the great work happening in our classroom.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Ms. Russell

During circle time we discussed a large variety of subjects, such as what may be inside the earth. There are many layers inside the earth, similar to the layers of an onion. We live on the thin outer layer called the crust. The children questioned why the earth is circular like a ball. The earth is not a perfect circle, it is a shape that has been gently squashed at the top and bottom. We

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

also talked about the ocean and a student asked if the ocean gets dark at night like how our sky does. The zones of the ocean were then explained to the students. The top layer of the ocean is called the sunlight zone. Below it is the twilight zone which is where it gets darker and colder. The children were fascinated by learning about different and unique looking fish that you find at the bottom of the ocean.

While we were outside, some children were trying to build sand castles, and the rest were having races to see who was the fastest.

Enjoy your weekend!

Student Editor:

Hayley DesLauriers

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Lazy parenting is the major reason that lying is out-of-control. Two parent families have dwindled weakening the power of both the father and mother. Parenting usually falls on the shoulders of the mother but not always. When fathers have sole custody, the same phenomenon takes place. A single parent is often attempting to be liked better than the other parent. In split custody the child has the advantage of playing one parent against the other. The eventual loser in this process is the child.

In the traditional, intact family, the mother often had the support of the father to give a second dose of a moral lesson and often a stronger consequence. The two-parent family usually works together to stress the importance of telling the truth. Teachers, pastors and other authority figures also enforce the value of honesty. Most significant authority figures, including the parents, demonstrate telling the truth in public is essential for living a positive life. This is no longer a normal occurrence. Lying has become an art form that is becoming admired instead of condemned.

What came first, our culture admiring public figures lying to us or the breakdown of the family to teach the virtue of telling the truth? The lazy parent does not take the time to teach the ultimate harm of this behavior or powerful negative influences of the degrading of authority in our communities and nation. It does not matter for the correction can only be taught effectively at an early age by the most significant person in the child's life: the parent. It does not matter where it began but how we, as a society, most effectively teach it. When you read this be sure to email Mrs. Hobbs and tell her you saw in the Newsletter that if you let her know you read the notice, your child would get a free pizza slice for two weeks. Please do not let anyone else know.

Incarcerating a person in a prison or mental institution is much too late to start the process of being truthful. A pathological liar is almost impossible to convert. An infant or toddler can be placed on the right track by a simple but labor-intensive process. The parent has to take charge. Anytime the child does not tell the truth there should be an appropriate negative consequence. Anytime the child admits to a wrongdoing he should receive praise for doing the right thing and how proud the parents are. Nevertheless, there should be a mild consequence to remind the youngster that any deception is not acceptable.

The sacrifice of parents' time and effort in teaching these lessons pays incredible dividends for the child. An honest child is worth his weight in gold. By possessing a moral compass they will guide themselves towards good and away from evil. The compass will help them avoid temptation and become a valuable citizen. Without honorable citizens our constitutional republic will eventually crumble.

Parents are the gatekeepers to telling the truth to their children. There are a million possible excuses for avoiding this long, drawn out process of arriving at truth. Almost any parent has some shame when confronted by another authority figure about their child being dishonest.

However, a child like most adults would do, attempted to deceive in order to avoid confrontation and embarrassment in social situations. To help the child resist the temptation to become addicted to lying the message that lying in the long run will be more painful than what it was supposed to solve must be clear, repetitive and concise. *Ultimately the child will be the victim of his own lies-he will not be able to discern the truth about himself or reality.*

You can see many of Dr. Maglio's articles at www.drmaglioblogspot.com.

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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.