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

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 20, 2026

Wider Horizons School

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



DATES TO REMEMBER:

11/23-30 Thanksgiving Break-Return 12/1
12/11 Pioneer Day reenactment
12//16 Gift Giving
12/18 School Carol Sing

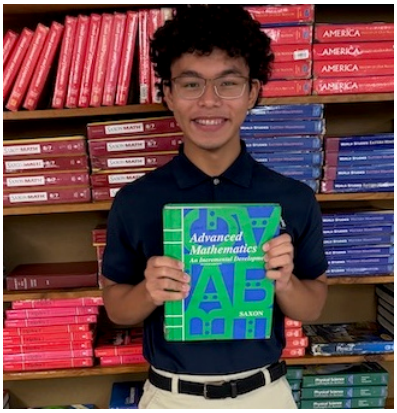
Upper elementary went to the Road Back in Time in Bushnell. They had great experiences seeing how things used to be done- like the washing



Or carrying water.



Lynus Paulino earns a 100% on his Advanced Math-Pre-Calculus final. Good for you, Lynus!!



JR/SR HIGH STUDENTS FIELD TRIP
To the local airport where they learned about careers involved with flying.



NATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK VISITS FROM A PARENTS VIEW:
I was impressed how easily they learn when they have the materials in front of them and were able to touch with their hands, and not just read about the material. The children learn how to be independent, they learn how to be respectful, and they learn to resolve situations and problems.
-Alexandra Jardine

Emily collected rectangles with addition and subtraction problems written on them, then organized and solved them. She then went to the shelf and checked them by herself. There was so much independence in the whole process. I wish I could have used similar materials when I was learning math problems in school.
-Aleksandra Sadowinski

THANKSGIVING SHOULD BE A DAILY RITUAL
By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

In 1789 our first president and national hero, George Washington, proclaimed the last Thursday in November to be designated Thanksgiving, a national holiday. This great American stated it is a day that we should take notice of and celebrate all the blessings we have received. It helps us highlight the many things we have received from Almighty God and it is up to us to protect it.

Thanksgiving a wonderful event each year where families get together to have a celebration in gratitude for what has been provided to us. When the family is seated around the dinner table, members are thankful for being together, and how fortunate they are to have God in their lives. It is a day we acknowledge the importance of our faith in God and the significant role He plays in our daily life. It helps us be more aware that the hand of God has watched over and protected us from personal and other possible forces of devastation.

Traditional families also realize how fortunate they are to be living in America with all the freedoms we enjoy. Most Americans celebrate our Constitutional Republic of the United States with God's protection granted to us regardless of our religion, race, or social status. The stability and opportunity inherent in our nation has been envied all over the world. They are stunned to see Americans speak openly about politics with no fear of reprisal. Foreigners respect our freedom to speak our mind and our freedom to move up the socio-economic ladder that is rare in the rest of the world. Many US citizen take for granted the freedoms outlined in our Bill of Rights, but foreigners are jealous because they have never experienced these rights.

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PRIMARY
Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Gustafson

This week we celebrated Luke's birthday with our traditional Montessori birthday walk. We all celebrated our annual Thanksgiving lunch with all the students. This week was National Education Week where parents and guardians were able to come and see stu



In culture, students learned about pilgrims and Thanksgiving day. They also learned a three part matching lesson on continents and learned how to place the continents in a map puzzle.

In language, students continue to match letters to objects, pictures to objects, and pictures to words. They also continued spelling with the moveable alphabet, and to learn the difference between over and under. Some students learned the mechanics of reading with matching blue material between the word and the object with the picture.

In sensorial, students learned to match triangles and circles with their patterns.

In art, students created their own turkey puppets and a family placemat to use at Thanksgiving.

We hope you have a great Thanksgiving vacation and we will see you in December.

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

We had a wonderful week in Lower Elementary 1 and 2, filled with Thanksgiving activities and preparations for our special luncheon!
The students enjoyed helping prepare food to share with everyone. Lower Elementary 1 made cookies and cranberry sauce, while Lower Elementary 2 prepared the green beans. It was a great opportunity for the children to work together, practice their kitchen skills, and contribute to a meal we could all enjoy.
A big thank you to all of the families who generously cooked turkeys, sent in juice, and gravy! Your kindness and support truly help make our Thanksgiving luncheon possible. We appreciate everything you do for our classrooms!
Throughout the week, we also continued our regular lessons. In language, students worked on syllables, practicing how to identify and divide words into smaller parts. In math, we revisited clocks and telling time. Our science lessons included an introduction to the animal kingdom, exploring the different groups of animals and how they are classified.
We had several birthdays to celebrate this week! Happy Birthday to Rylee, Emmanuel, Axl, and Tyler! We enjoyed taking time to recognize each of them.
Information about our upcoming Pajama Party was also sent home. Please be sure to look over the details so your child can join in on the fun!
We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with family, good food, and time together. We are thankful for our students and families and all that you do to make our Lower Elementary classrooms such a special place!

UPPER ELEMENTARY
Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Ms. Russell

This week our class participated in our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon. Upper Elementary was responsible for preparing the mashed potatoes for the whole school. Everyone worked hard to make the luncheon a success. After the festivities we cleaned up and played chess at the end of the day. We hope that everyone has a fun and safe Thanksgiving break.
Information about this year's Christmas Angels children has been distributed to all Upper Elementary grades. As part of this special holiday tradition, Upper Elementary girls are asked to bring in gifts for Girl #1, while the boys are asked to bring in gifts for Boy #2. Through this wonderful opportunity, our students can help spread Christmas joy and make the holiday season brighter for families in need. Please remember that all gift donations are due by December 15th. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!
Students have been assigned their book reports. They are due upon their return onTuesday, December 1st.

This week fourth graders handed in their book report and chose a new book of their choice to read over the Thanksgiving break and will present a diorama once they return. They continue to learn more spelling words and master the parts of speech via the language tower. Students learned about the history of Thanksgiving as well as how the holiday has evolved throughout the years.

It is imperative that the fifth graders hand in a math set every day. If they do not they will start to fall behind. In the event this should happen, it is very difficult to catch up. This week in language the students are learning about complete and simple subjects. In geography, the fifth graders are continuing learning about the biomes of North and South America. They will continue to research all the knowledge they need to complete their maps. In botany, the fifth graders continue to root plants getting them ready to be potted and grow.

Sixth graders also completed their unit on the characteristics of chemical reactions. Throughout this unit, students explored chemical equations, identified different types of chemical reactions, and examined the factors that influence the rates at which reactions occur. Students were asked to select a book of their choice for their next book report. All book selections must be approved by the teacher before students begin reading. Students are expected to finish reading their books before returning from break. Upon their return, they will create an illustration depicting their favorite part of the story and present an oral summary of the book to the class.

HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

This Friday, our school came together for our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. We would like to thank all the families who generously provided trays of stuffing for everyone to enjoy. Your contributions helped make the luncheon a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday together!

On Thursday, our students enjoyed a field trip to the Brooksville–Tampa Bay Regional Airport. It was a great opportunity for them to get out of the classroom, learn more about our local airport, and see some of the things we have been studying put into a real-world setting. We appreciate everyone who helped make this trip possible!

As we head into Thanksgiving break, we want to wish all our students and families a safe, relaxing, and happy holiday. We hope everyone enjoys some well-deserved time off with family and friends.

With the end of the quarter approaching, we also want to remind students of the importance of staying focused on their schoolwork. There are only a few weeks left before Christmas break, and every assignment and test counts. Whether students are trying to bring up their grades or maintain the progress they have already made, now is not the time to let up. We encourage everyone to return from break rested and ready to finish the quarter strong!

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday, December 1st. Happy Thanksgiving!

We would like to congratulate Lynus Paulino on completing Advanced Math. This is the fifth and final book required to be eligible for dual enrollment. By completing the entire sequence ahead of schedule, Lynus can take a college course next spring in Dual Enrollment.

Finally, we would like to congratulate Hayley DesLauriers on completing Algebra II! Finishing another math book is a big accomplishment and brings her one step closer to completing the five-book math sequence required for dual enrollment eligibility in eleventh grade. We are proud of the hard work she has and look forward to seeing her continue to make progress. Great job, Hayley!

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 learned about a little bear that had been asleep in its den deep beneath the snow. As soon as the bear popped up into the sunshine, all he could smell was wild honey. He told his friends about his adventure for honey. Before he knew it, all of his friends were helping him and they finally found the honey. The children learned the value of having good friends.

We also discussed Thanksgiving. The children were asked what they are the most thankful for. The children said they are most thankful for their parents, friends, and their pets. Thanksgiving holiday is a harvest festival gathering to give thanks and express gratitude.

Outside, some children were busy collecting as many pinecones as possible to take home. Once they were inside, the older children as always had the chance to finish their homework while others were working hard to put together a large puzzle.

We wish you a happy Thanksgiving!

Student Editor:

Hayley DesLauriers

Continued from front page

Americans should appreciate these incredible freedoms that are currently under attack and could be swiped from under our noses if we are not careful.

We have witnessed in that liberties can readily be cancelled due to a "health epidemic" by creating fear in the population. When corrupt, self-serving politicians see they can create mass panic in the population, they exploit it. This is summed up by: "Never let a crisis go to waste." These elite vultures use people's fear to promise false solutions. In return the weak complying victims surrender their freedom while the political vultures devour their freedom leaving them helplessly enslaved.

Instead of trading liberty for evil, individuals should return to prayer and have faith in a merciful God. God provides courage, strength and calm to ward off the fear of personal tragedy. Our fears will be diminished making us strong enough to stand up against tyranny as the American people did in crisis after crisis. We will realize too much has been given to us to surrender our freedom for false security.

Giving thanks everyday reinforces the knowledge that citizens have been able to overcome many past fearful events. Our faith in God increases our courage to fight off evil in our society. When people stand up to dictatorial leaders, the leaders are exposed as liars and they lose the power of fear. We experienced it in the American Revolution, the civil War, WWI and WWII, and during the Great Depression. We need to give back to our ancestors (and to the future of our children) by standing up and preserving the greatest nation on earth. Instead of dwelling on our fears we should focus all we have been given to defeat these spineless, phony, cruel elites.

When we give thanks to God, our perceptions change from helplessness to hopefulness. The more the virtue of gratitude grows in our hearts the stronger we become. The more we have overcome tragedy, the lessons we have learned toughen us up to withstand immense pain. The power given us in our faith in God helps us inspire greater convictions in others to help them confront ruthless individuals and be victorious. It gives us greater appreciation for what we have been given. As times improve, we will have additional courage and tolerance to handle the deviousness, distortions, lies and outrageous evil confronting us.

The gratitude shown during the Thanksgiving holiday is an effective way to ward off the evil elites that are a part of everyone's life and should be practiced as a daily ritual. We all would find our days easier and our sleep more tranquil and uplifting if we continually count our blessings.

Domenick Maglio PhD is the author of several books and owner/director of Wider Horizons School.