

Wider Horizons School

Winter Arrives to Florida



DATES TO REMEMBER:

1/19 ML King Day- no school/daycare
1/28 Geography Bee
1/30 Teacher in-Service Day- no school
2/06 Science Expo- early release 11:30 a.m.
2/09-13 SPIRIT WEEK
2/16 President's Day- no school
2/27 Class Photos

PEER TEACHING IS VERY EFFECTIVE

Older students work with younger ones on reading in every classroom. They often develop relationships that last for years besides getting extra help in reading.



Eighth grade students have been busy learning about the parts of a flower and the plant growth cycle. They create nice artwork showing what they have learned.



READING IS ESSENTIAL !!

We work especially hard helping students to read well. Reading well is essential to academic success.



DISCIPLINING A CHILD REQUIRES EARLY DILIGENCE

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

"He who spares a rod (of discipline) hates his son. But he who loves him disciplines him diligently and punishes him early. Proverb 1.3.24 AMP

The United States had moved very far away from Biblical wisdom. Modern child rearing is about maintaining an open communication with one's children. The child is supposed to be treated equally, often on the same level as the parent. Discipline of the child is supposed to come organically from the egalitarian and caring environment created at home.

The consequences of this permissive/materialistic approach to raising children have become evident after the general public has been adhering to them for five decades. Children are more outspoken, debating every safety and other directive given to them.

They have difficulty following directions as they are rarely given any to follow. They have few if any chores required of them. These children's opportunity to learn from adults interacting among themselves is very limited. Most of the time children spontaneously join in any conversation they encounter and often dominate it.

There are no boundaries enforced that even hint that children should "be seen and not heard." They are deprived of the skill of listening in order to learn. Simultaneously they are saturated with false esteem statements of how wonderful and smart they are.

Children are in the middle of the mix spouting their naïve and nonsensical opinions as fact. While adults pretend to listen intently.

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PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejeda

This week we are discussing winter and hibernation. We read stories about where animals hide in the winter. We also talked about which animals stay outside and what they eat.

We are also discussing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his accomplishments. The students wrote a poem about what their dreams are.

In language, students continue to read their Bob Books. Congratulations to Parker, Avalon, Yvan, and Ciel for finishing their Bob Book. Congratulations to Remington, Erwin, and Zoha who are learning new phonics material. Some students are practicing placing letters on the line, which helps to prepare them for writing in print on paper.

In math, some students continue to practice adding with the golden bead material, while others are learning about subtracting with the golden bead material. Our new students are expanding their minds with counting 1-5 and 1-10 with moveable objects. Students are also learning how to build quantities from 10-90.

In art, students are creating a version of themselves with paper doll art.

PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

Students worked on a poem in honor of Dr. Martin Luther

King Jr. after we read about him and discussed his importance. We spoke a lot about peace and equality. It is always enlightening to see that as children they understand that how we treat people should have nothing to do with someone's appearance. The pureness of their hearts really shines when we have these conversations.

In language, some students are learning to build sentences, while others are piecing together small word puzzles. Both activities are great practice for their own writing.

In math, students were introduced to 3-part matching work that relates a numerical value with its physical quantity. Some students are working to complete their squaring books with the short bead chains. This activity promotes order and sequencing, as well as fine motor movement. It also teaches skip counting, which will help them prepare for multiplication.

In science, we continue to talk about animals that live in cold weather and their habitats.

Have a great weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

The students are continuing to understand the importance of

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

making sure they stay organized with all of their work.

Congratulations to Gabriel for mastering his subtraction facts 11-20. Congratulations to Yvnicka and Juliet for moving up to mixed time tables. Congratulations to Silas for mastering his addition facts 11-20. Congratulations to Jaxson, Joedaniel, Frank, Rylee, Nathan, Gabriel, and Silas for moving up to the next time tables.

The students had a new lesson on rounding to the nearest number. We ask that you do not help the children with their homework. It is important that the children memorize the rules for math, by helping them, they are not learning.

The students have a definition spelling test on January 29th. Their book report is due on the same day and must be written.

The students have been learning about the different parts of speech. They are also learning about which symbol belongs to each part of speech and symbolizing words in their sentences.

Memorizing the states, capitals, and abbreviations is very important. They are learning about facts that pertain to each state and drawing the flag that belongs to that state.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

Due to the Science Fair Expo, the book report assigned for January 30th has been postponed until February 15th. Instead all students should use this time to complete their research for their science projects due on the 6th of February.

This week, fourth graders were given a lesson on the scientific method and shown two demonstrations to help them better understand the expectations of the science expo in Upper Elementary. In class, they were also shown some interactive materials with Scholastic Magazine to help them become better oral readers. They can also use this at home if they would like to. The class is reading a science fiction book for their next book report, which will be due on February 15th.

The 5th graders are learning about possessive nouns by distinguishing between joint possessive nouns, which indicate ownership of one object by two or more people, and separate possessive nouns, which indicate individual ownership. They are also working on lesson 16 in their spelling which is a review of lessons 14-16. The children have also chosen their topics for the Science Expo which is due on February 6th. They are excited to begin gathering the information they need to have a successful presentation.

Sixth graders began a new unit on verbs in Language this week. This unit includes sixteen sections and started with using correct verb tenses in sentences. In Physical Science, students completed the unit on acids and bases. They were tested on the properties of acids and bases, the pH scale, and how to define saturated and unsaturated hydrocarbons. In Literature, sixth graders have begun reading the prologue of *The Arabian Nights*. Once completed, they will read the Seven Voyages of Sinbad during class time. Upon completion students will be asked to complete summaries.

HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

We have had an exciting and productive time filled with learning and accomplishments. Let's dive into all the updates and upcoming events.

Students have been working diligently on their science fair projects, and their enthusiasm is truly inspiring. These projects offer a fantastic opportunity for creativity and exploration, and we can't wait to see the final results.

A huge congratulations goes out to Mason Simmons and James Layton for their academic achievements this week! They were selected as winners of the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest.

We would also like to congratulate Xavier P. for joining

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

our classroom for mathematics as he begins the Math 8/7 course.

AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Russell

This week during circle time, the topic of discussion was Martin Luther King Jr. and what he stood

for. Martin Luther King fought for equal rights for all people regardless of their skin color and to stop the segregation of races. He also fought for people to have the freedom to dream and the courage to live those dreams.

On the playground, the children participated in games such as "Hide And Seek" and "Red Light, Green Light". They also played a game in which one child was the bus driver and the rest of the children had to follow behind them. Once inside, some students worked on their homework, while others played with puzzles and any activity of their choice.

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Many children believe they are smarter and stronger willed than their parents. This observation is constantly being reinforced by the parents giving in to the children's demands while the children persist until the parents capitulate and the child is victorious. This scenario is allowed to happen time after time verifying this apparent truth that children do not have to listen to parents or any other authority figure such as a teacher.

To reverse this warped picture of modern families, parents need to make it clear it is their duty to be in charge. Children do not have the wherewithal to make an appropriate and wise decision for other family members and especially for themselves when they are in the early stages of life. The modern child is not as intelligent as he is led to believe, while the discipline of the parents is incredibly pathetic.

Establishing the power as parents requires them acting as parents instead of equals or friends to their children. They have to be in the family for sufficient periods of time to assert their authority. Quality time, not only quantity time is essential for ensuring the child that the parents will be at home enough to direct and protect them. When this happens children naturally become more comfortable that their parents can function as responsible leaders in the family.

This leadership starts with simple commands to their child. "Take this to your mother." "You need to eat this food to be healthy." "Please come to the table, now."

The child experiences that the parents know how to accomplish caring for them. The more the parents establish their authority, the more the child sees the parents as the head of the family. Any power conflict between parents becomes minimal when parents quickly use an authoritarian voice, manner and appropriate consequence when the child oversteps the boundaries.

Being a positive disciplinarian does take early intervention diligently performed during the child's formative years. The punishments should be just right for the offense. The consequences should be "just right" consequences that are explained to the child after being given. The explanation helps the child not resent the parent's punishment but understand they made the wrong decision and need to correct it.

When the child is ready to push his obstinacy the parent may emphasize their resolve by moderate spanking to remind the child who is boss. This will not destroy the child's faith in mankind but will emphasize the parents' authority as head of the family.

This moderate spank, certainly not an abusive one, has been shown in studies not to have negative mental, emotional, social or any other detrimental effects on the child's development. It is wise to use moderate spanking early when a toddler shows defiance and is used as often as appropriate. It is necessary to show the child the parent's willingness to show the child right from wrong. Ignoring a child is often more destructive to his well being.

Learning to listen and follow wise and caring elder's advice guides a youngster to best navigate life's decisions. This loving act of disciplining the child puts the child on the straight and narrow path to healthy and successful development.

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 book, entitled, IN CHARGE PARENTING In a PC World. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.