

Wider Horizons School

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANUKKAH, HAPPY NEW YEAR

DATES TO REMEMBER:

12/19 Christmas Caroling at school
 12/19 REPORT CARDS
 12/22-1/5 Christmas Vacation
 1/6 Return to School
 1/19 ML King Day- no school
 1/28 Geography Bee
 1/30 Teacher in-Service Day- no school

Dear Parents,

Let us take this time to thank our teachers here at Wider Horizons for doing a great job teaching our children.

This year has been good for the growth of the students academically as well as personally.

Students exhibit proper behavior when dealing with peers as well as adults. When visiting classrooms one never sees acting out behavior only students who are working hard to do their best.

Students have honed skills in many of the arts as they enjoy making gifts and other crafts for family. They use these same skills making academic projects, maps, and other art work.

HANNA MAGLIO VISITS WITH HER PRESIDENTIAL CHALLENGE AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CHALLENGE COINS



Hanna Maglio 2023 WHS graduate and graduate of UF 2025 just returned from a three month internship at the White House. She worked in the photography department taking photos of the presidential activities and various visiting dignitaries. While there President himself gave Hanna a presidential challenge coin. She also received a coin from Vice President Vance.

THE WAR BETWEEN EVIL AND GOOD

By Domenick J. Maglio Ph.D

During this holiday season we need to remember the real reason for the season. We see too much of the Grinch and not enough of the traditional symbols of the holiday. Now more than ever we need to protect our children from the evil that surrounds all of us.

Not only are deviants, like drag queens on the move to destroy the innocence and goodness of our children but our government schools, entertainment industry, social media, legacy news, child development experts, some despicable politicians, and even some religious groups are indoctrinating our children into hedonism.

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Upper level students went to two different assisted living facilities on Wednesday to deliver the gift of Christmas Caroling. While there they met a 94 year old woman who said she was the first mermaid at Weeki Wachee. The elderly residents joined in the singing and clapped along with the students.



PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejeda

Congratulations to Erwin for finishing all of the Bob Books. He will now be working on Big Books. Congratulations to the following for moving up to the next Bob Book: Yvan, Ciel, Zoha, and Remington. Students have been writing and reading sight words. They have also been learning blue phonics, missing vowels, and ad and ag sounds. First graders are working on green work with sounds and sight words.

In math, students are doing a review on their math facts. They also did an art project that incorporated math.

In sensorial, students were introduced to the Mystery Bag. This lesson helps with concentrating on one of the five senses "touch", they learned to match shapes to objects. The students also learned balance with an egg lesson that refreshed their knowledge of inside, outside, over, under, and behind.

In art, students have been busy finishing their Christmas decorations. They even wrote a letter to Santa.

We hope you enjoy your Christmas and have a happy New Year. See you next year!

Progress reports are being sent home. If you have any questions or concerns after winter break, we can schedule a parent-teacher meeting.

PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

What a wonderful last week of school before winter break! Students worked hard and finished all of their Christmas gifts and crafts for their families. The children enjoyed listening to and learning about different holiday stories.

In language, students wrote a Christmas poem and showed off their artistic abilities while completing their illustrations. All students have enjoyed using our Christmas stencils while doing various language and art activities. Stencils provide a fine motor challenge for each child and requires focus.

In math, students worked on a 12 Days of Christmas lesson in addition to their daily math work.

We would like to thank our families for their generosity and making a brighter Christmas for our foster children this year. Thank you for also coming out and caroling and singing along with us. The students worked so hard to learn these traditional songs.

Also we would like to extend a huge thank you for all of the thoughtful gifts we received. We wish you a very blessed and merry Christmas, as well as a healthy and happy New Year!

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

We would like to wish all of the students and families a safe Christmas break and a happy New Year. We will see you next year! Classes will resume on January 6th.

Congratulations to Emily, Wendy, Gabriel, and Juliet for moving up to the next time tables. Congratulations to Silas for mastering his addition facts 11-20.

Spelling words went home this week. Their spelling test will be on Friday, January 9th, the week we return from break.

Students need to study their states 1-15 for their test on January 9th. The students also worked on crafts and got caught up on work that needed to be finished.

The students worked on their organization skills this week. They also worked on learning the importance of having their work in the proper folder and maintaining a neat and organized folder.

Have a safe and restful Christmas break!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

The entire school enjoyed having our friends and family kick off the Christmas season with our annual Christmas caroling today. This event was a culmination of weeks of practicing our songs.

Parents, don't forget report cards for the second quarter went out today. Please check your child's backpack!

Science proposals went out this week and will be due when we get back from the winter break. Although the Science Fair is held at the beginning of February, those students planning on growing plants or any projects that consist of longer time frames should begin planning and researching for their projects as soon as possible.

Fourth grade students used this week to catch up on the language tower. They worked very hard and every student is officially halfway through the fourth-grade math textbook. Students have reviewed foundational math concepts and will be introduced to more abstract ideas in the third quarter. Students were able to choose their own book for the book report due on January 15th.

The fifth graders have begun their third quarter curriculum for language and vocabulary. They finished their lichen project and presented their posters this week. We also started on the third quarter curriculum for language in vocabulary.

Sixth graders concluded the unit on the pH scale, acids, and bases this

week. They will make a pH indicator out of red cabbage when we return; red cabbage contains a substance called anthocyanin that changes color depending on whether it is mixed with an acid or a base. They will test several substances to determine whether it was an acid or a base.

The next book report was changed and will now be due on Thursday, January 15th.

HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

This week was a joyful and meaningful one for our junior and senior high students. On Wednesday, the class visited the Evergreen Woods and Salishan retirement communities to go caroling. The students represented our school beautifully, sharing music, warmth, and kindness with the residents, many of whom were deeply touched by the visit. It was a wonderful example of community connection and service in action.

On Friday, the classroom was full of excitement as students exchanged their Secret Santa gifts. This activity brought lots of smiles and laughter and was a lovely way to celebrate the season together while practicing thoughtfulness and generosity. Also on Friday, report cards were sent home with students.

Academically, we have reached an important milestone in science. All students have now turned in their Science Fair proposals and are prepared to begin working on their experiments. We are looking

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

forward to guiding them through the experimentation process and watching their ideas take shape in the coming weeks.

As we close out the term, we wish all of our families a restful and joyful break. School will resume on January 6th, and we look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the new year.

AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Russell

This week during circle time, all the children wanted to do was talk about their Christmas wishes, sing Christmas songs, and work on Christmas crafts, like a reindeer made using their handprints and paint. They also painted some pinecones and a small wreath of paper plates. The children were very happy with their finished art work, and it was great to see the excitement on their faces!

On the playground, the children participated in group games such as Hide and Seek, Tag, and Red Light, Green Light. Others were busy collecting pine cones. All of the children had fun and enjoyed their time outside. Once inside, all you could hear was the children discussing the PJ party. They were really looking forward to it.

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Government schoolteachers are openly expressing that their college education training gives them knowledge that is greater than the parents and they have to make decisions for their students. Many of the decisions schools have made is to push questionable anti-traditional concepts without fairly presenting both sides of the issue. CRT, transgenderism, white supremacy, equity/Marxism, and revisionist history are presented as positives.

Child development experts for the most part preach permissive materialism parenting as a religion. It has allowed parents to focus on their own adult social life without the guilt of not being there to raise their children correctly. The social and news media have discussed deviant groups in glowing terms making them attractive to naïve minds. Even some church groups are more in tune with the leftist deviant thinking than Christianity. In many communities Christianity is under attack as deviance is being glorified.

This battle between good and evil has been going on for centuries. A major problem for our culture is that parental influence has been degraded by parents' absence which has been filled by "experts." These child development experts preach acceptance of the child's idiosyncratic behavior rather than normalizing their thinking and behavior.

The parental impact was further weakened by removing the mother from the home into the workforce in the 1960s and chiseling away the father's authority with the children. Parents were the transmitters of proper socialization, civil and traditional American values to our youth.

Social media celebrities and too often deviant "influencers" are directing children in the wrong path to personal vulnerability and evil. The cell phone plays a gigantic role of allowing all sorts of negative practices to be learned and practiced by the mere manipulation of the children's fingertips. The children's cell phones are the major access point to being seduced into the world they are not prepared to enter. Many youngsters are too ignorant and immature to reject reckless suggestions.

The world war for the minds of our children is raging. As parents relinquish more of their roles and children turn to live entertainment more antitraditional ideas can be imprinted into the minds of our youth with no counter information. This indoctrination is not only happening in our children's entertainment world but also in our government schools. Even "woke" politicians like President Biden, are talking to young people as if they were their children, not ours.

Usually, parents have greater responsibility and opportunity to inculcate their children with moral values and insights to avoid temptation that would lead to a path of evil. Parents with their greater worldly knowledge can teach their loved ones to live an honorable, highly functioning, Godly life.

God fearing people were losing this war but are starting to see the need to protect their children from so many evil forces. Some parents are starting to confront their children to straighten and strengthen their immature thought processes and consider the issues in a complex world. The long-term implications of their future behaviors must be examined and thoroughly discussed.

Youngsters need assistance from adults. Leaving young and naïve children to their own devices is setting them up for a self-destructive lifestyle. Loved ones need to stand strong to protect their children. Adolescents must realize that deviants and wrong lifestyles have disastrous pitfalls that complicate their lives, not solve their problems. The luster and sophistication of these smooth-talking teenage hustlers must be unmasked, or our children will follow them into hell.

The war between evil and good has been going on for eternity. When most families were extended ones living around other family members and close neighbors, there were many eyes watching our children. In the modern world of electronics, children can reach far into the world of extreme bizarreness, evil rituals, and even human sacrifice.

Now more than ever we need to sit down with our children to point out Biblical truths as well as the evil events that are being exposed in the media. Children need to know the horrible downfall of people who follow and practice evil.

Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers and blogs, 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 the latest book entitled, *IN CHARGE PARENTING* In a PC World. You can see many of Dr. Maglio's articles at www.drmaglioblogspot.com.