

Wider Horizons School

Montessori Education Week



DATES TO REMEMBER:

3/6 Father's Day Visit 8:00-8:30am
 3/11 World Culture Day
 3/13 REPORT CARDS
 3/16-23 *SPRING BREAK*- return 3/24
 4/3-4/6 *EASTER BREAK*
 4/13-17 IOWA testing- students must attend!

Parents were invited to visit the primary and lower elementary classes to celebrate Montessori Week.

Silas, second grader, shows his dad some grammar work.



PROCRASTINATORS RUN OUT OF TIME

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD

Time is finite in a person's life. Some individuals will spend a shorter time on earth, others an average life while a few will last more than a century. All of them will run out of time without any official notice.

Time is a precious commodity that should not be squandered as no one can regain it. The wise use of time allows a person to be more productive than if he does not use it wisely. There are many idiomatic expressions that clearly point out this reality. "An early bird catches the worm." "If you want something done, give it to a busy person." "Early to bed early to rise makes a person, healthy, wealthy and wise."

Thank you to all the parents who came to visit their child's classroom this week. It is very important for your child that you see what they are doing. Not everyone understands the Montessori materials, but they do when they see them in action. We try to have two education weeks a year to allow the parents to visit.

Primary students show their knowledge of numbers and their quantity. They follow the Montessori principles of concentration, coordination, independence and order.

The child below is only three years old and just started here. Already he is a Montessori student.



In our instant gratification culture children only learn one state of time- now. Without being introduced to the concept of delayed gratification they have little experience to learn how to earn what they want. This lack of training by parents allows them to remain passive while receiving most of the things they want. Too many young millennials and even older adults believe and expect others like parents and relatives to provide for their needs and wants. When this does not happen then Big Daddy government is supposed to provide them with not only their needs but also their desires.

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PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejada

This week we celebrated Montessori Education Week by inviting parents to the classroom in the morning to see the wonderful work their children are doing. We thank all the parents for visiting us this week.

In practical life, the students were introduced to new lessons including pouring into a container, tying our shoes, and scooping and sorting.

In language, students learned about daylight savings time with a little poem. Students continued to read Bob Books, Welcome aboard Sofia; she has started her reading journey. Congratulations to Henry, Avalon, Soren, and Parker for moving up in Bob Books.

In math, some new students are learning to count from 1-10 using the number rods. Other students are working further with the addition chart developing higher accuracy, while others are learning to subtract with small number rods, which prepares for the memorization of the subtraction facts.

In sensorial, students used their sense of smell to figure out which color tubes had the same smell. Then students learned how to weigh objects using a scale. The students learned different objects could weigh the same, while others can be heavier or lighter.

PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

Throughout this week, we enjoyed getting to watch the students show their work to their parents while they visited. This was a great opportunity for the children to show off and be proud of everything they are learning. Thank you to all the parents who were able to take the time to come.

In math, students have been working on using a balance to determine quantity and equality. This activity has been a great stepping stone to the commutative property of addition. Older students are learning the terminology of addition and subtraction. Once they have mastered this, they will be able to work with word problems more comfortably.

In language, we are continuing to practice blends and vowels. Students also copied a poem to give to their dads on Father's Day. We worked extra hard on penmanship for this special gift.

We have stepped into the insect world in science. The children are learning about the life cycle and parts of various bugs. Many students are enjoying the new hands-on materials, especially in science. This has created such an aura of excitement across all areas of the classroom.

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Skiff

We would like to thank all the parents for coming in to visit their child in the classroom to see all the work that they have accomplished over the school year so far.

Congratulations to Joedaniel for mastering his addition facts 11-20. Congratulations to Emily, Nathan, Rylee, Joedaniel, and Bryan for moving up to the next time tables.

Congratulations to Nathan and Rocco for guessing the answer to the state riddle this week. Congratulations to Wendy for a perfect reading sheet.

The students are continuing to learn about standard form, expanded form, and number form in math. They are also doing some review to see what they remember. They need to always continue to practice facts that they have already learned. The students are starting to learn about measurements and how to read a ruler.

Father's Day is next week, and we look forward to seeing the fathers come in and have a great visit with their child. The students continue to make and finish crafts for their fathers.

In geography, the students continue to work on states. They are learning three facts regarding each state and drawing the state flag. In science, the students are continuing to work on vertebrates. In history, the students are learning about Native America.

Have a great weekend.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

Upper Elementary students have been busy preparing cards and special gifts to honor their dads. Invitations were sent home this week for our annual Father's Day celebration on Friday, March 6th, from 8:00–8:30 A.M. Please be sure to RSVP so we can plan accordingly.

Most Upper Elementary students have selected their countries for the World Fair. Each student is required to prepare a trifold display board featuring cultural information, interesting facts, and pictures of their chosen country. In addition, students should bring a dish to share with the class (33 students and 3 teachers). Weekends should be used to practice presentations and prepare for the big day.

Fourth graders continued to learn how to learn about different types of verbs like action, being, and linking verbs. Students also identified the subject complement of a sentence between a linking verb. With only a couple of weeks remaining in the third quarter, students are working hard to finish their daily math sets and corrections without rushing. In geography, students are learning how to read legends and keys in political maps. In zoology, students are now able to identify the external parts of a bird.

Fifth graders this week learned to identify a subject in inverted sentences. Subjects in sentences in inverted order are more difficult to locate, so extra practice will be needed to master this skill. They also learned about the understood subject in imperative sentences. In Botany, the characteristics of plants and animals were completed and a lesson on the root system and shoot system of a plant was given and a chart of the plant was completed.

Sixth graders completed their unit on verbs last week. We would like to congratulate Ethan and Hadley for earning the highest score on the final test. In their next language unit, students will focus on identifying and classifying different types of adverbs within sentences. The highlight of the week was an exciting game of tug-of-war, which demonstrated the concept of balanced and unbalanced forces in Physical Science. The sixth-grade boys were surprised—and a bit disappointed—to be overpowered by the girls! In our upcoming Physical Science unit, students will explore simple machines as well as the concepts of kinetic and potential energy. In Geography, sixth graders examined the production process of corn and were amazed to discover the many ways corn is used in a wide variety of products.

HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

We have had another productive week in the Junior and Senior High School room!

The third quarter will officially end on March 6. This is the final stretch, so let's finish strong. Students should stay focused, complete all assignments, and put in their best effort to ensure their grades reflect their hard work

All math binders must be turned in by Wednesday, March 4. To receive full credit, binders should be neatly organized with all sets in numerical order. Students should begin with their quarterly sets paper and test schedule paper at the front. Staying organized will help them prepare for the final stretch of the quarter.

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

We are excited to celebrate with a special Father's Day visit on the morning of March 6. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and their fathers (or a special guest) to enjoy a morning together. More details will be shared soon—stay tuned!

We would like to congratulate Haley Deslauriers on progressing to Algebra 2.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Ms. Russell

This week during circle time, we learned about animals that are nocturnal. There are many nocturnal animals, however, we focused on the ones in Florida. We talked about the nine-banded armadillo, raccoons, bats, the Florida panther, bobcats, owls, and foxes. The children also learned about a nocturnal animal called the capybara. The capybara belongs to the rodent family and was introduced to the United States through an exotic pet trade with South America. The capybara has no known predators, and they live in marshy areas.

While enjoying their playground time, the children had fun using the playground equipment and singing all kinds of songs.

The children were very busy painting butterflies to bring home, while the rest were busy working on puzzles.

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This selfish notion has resulted in an epidemic of unproductive students and workers in our nation. It has to be reversed for our nation to prosper.

A high percentage of citizens in the USA have been indoctrinated and converted to the entitlement mentality. This has incubated a massive number of procrastinators that are affecting and sucking the blood out of our free market enterprise economy. Without people taking the initiative and using their time wisely to advance themselves our current economic system will not function and bear sufficient fruit to maintain a vibrant economy and will collapse.

Parents, teachers, coaches and other authority figures have not used their energy and persuasion to set a high bar and demonstrate how to reach it. Instead they have given mediocre youngsters accolades, high grades and trophies just for participating without any effort or excellence. We are reaping what we have sowed: a growing number of procrastinators.

These people are delusional. They want to do what they want, not what is necessary to do to get what they want. These self-centered individuals expect fun and interesting experiences without doing anything to attain them through their own effort. Most of these “manana” people have good intentions as well as intelligence. They do possess a multitude of ideas and excuses that do not get the job done.

Their plans to get whatever their objective is usually are very plausible. They believe they can do almost anything but are unwilling to put the tedious elements into action. These people lie to themselves as well as others. They make commitments to self and others to do a specific thing although they wait until the last minute and eventually run out of time. They do not lack creativity and effort in developing elaborate rationalizations as to why they do not accomplish their assignments. Most times it would have been easier just to do the project rather than go through the motions of attempting to justify the indefensibility of their behavior, yet they continually do so.

The habit of the procrastinator lying to himself was allowed to take hold in the younger years. Loving, though lenient parents overlooked their child’s avoidance and sloppiness of work. Although they know the child has the ability to do the assignment correctly, the child becomes more arrogant thinking he has outfoxed them. This attitude of being cleverer than adults is the underpinning of being a procrastinator.

They do not have to worry about proving to others their worth, for it is already firmly established in their minds. When others get angry with them, it is not about their ability to do something; rather it is about their motivation to do it. However, when you do not increase your skills and knowledge you lose your edge.

These healthy, bright people eventually run out of time finding themselves in a less than enviable position in life. Unlike a Type A personality that is never satisfied with the effort and outcome of their last endeavor, the procrastinator does not get sufficiently upset with disappointing others to get it done.

It is only when he looks back on his inability to get what he wants with all the missed opportunities that he realizes wasted time does matter. At some point in time he becomes despondent and remorseful for not using his time more productively and wisely.

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.