

# Wider Horizons School

Welcome Father's on your Special Day

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

3/11 World Culture Day- parents may visit at 1:30 (early release at 2:00)  
 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!

*The first Friday in March is the WHS Father's Day visit. We welcome our fathers or grandfathers to their special day.*

*Students make a special snack for the fathers and make crafts to give to them. Some classes write compositions about their fathers as well.*

*This is a special day- Thank you Fathers for coming today.*

FATHERS ARE NEEDED TO SAY NO

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.  
 Traditional Realist

The breakup of the patriarchal family is often noted as a major weakening of our society and overall harmful to our nation. Usually divorces end with the mother granted custody of the children. This leaves fathers powerless to make daily decisions about their children and exiled from his children's future. The divorced biological father has few if any rights to influence his children's development.

Some of the culprits behind this injustice towards divorced fathers are child development experts. Their emphasis on the early nurturing years has obviously put the mother as the primary parent. This leaves fathers as practically unnecessary partners in the family except as sperm donors and financial supporters of the family.

The psychological ignorance of the real importance of the father in raising children has had a crippling impact on American families. One in four children in America live in fatherless families. It is hard to fathom experts not underscoring the fathers' major role in family dynamics. The experts often do not note that children from fatherless families have 85% more problems in school.

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Primary girls make a gift for fathers.



Kai celebrates his birthday walk.



## PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejada

This week, we celebrated Read Across America Week. In the classroom, students enjoyed Dr. Seuss books. This helps promote the joys of reading with fun activities.

In language, students are learning to write Dr. Seuss poems and create pictures. Students are also working hard on practicing their spelling words and reading their Bob Books. This week, we would like to congratulate Yvan for completing all of his Bob Books. He is now learning about blending sounds, consonant blends, and vowel sounds. Some students are learning about abbreviations and which words should be capitalized.

In math, students learned how to associate quantities and symbols with numbers 10-90. They learned the conventional names of quantities and practiced counting and sequencing.

In science and culture, students learned about the seven continents of the world. They also learned about oceans. We started an in-classroom exploration, and our first continent is Africa. Students are learning about the different animals, people, and land formations that exist in Africa.

In art, students enjoyed making art and crafts for Father's Day on Friday, March 6th. Students also created Dr. Seuss crafts to go along with the books they read.

We hope you have a great weekend!

## PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

This week in Primary 2... oh, what did we do? What did we see? What did we chew? We read and we rhymed and we giggled galore, made silly new words that we had never used before! We twisted our tongues till they

tumbled about, with wockets and zockets and zany word-shout!

We had guest readers, (hip-hip-hooray!) who shared lively stories with us that day. Thank you for coming, for reading with flair, for showing our students how stories are shared!

On Green Eggs and Ham Day- oh what a sight! We tried green foods with brave little bites! Would we? Could we? Yes we can! We tasted and smiled just like Sam-I-Am!

We counted rainbow goldfish, one by one. Red, orange, yellow- math is fun! In math, we added with charts so neat, finding sums with quick little feet. Numbers jumped up, numbers fell flat, we solved them all- imagine that!

We crafted tall hats- striped red and white, our Cat in the Hat creations were quite a sight! Snip and glue and tape with care, soon Dr. Seuss will be everywhere!

In geography, oh the places we will go! Mountains high and rivers that flow. We are practicing now for World Culture Day, learning about lands far, far away!

And as we get ready for Father's Day cheer, we are making surprises (shh... don't let them hear!) With thankful hearts and love so true, we are celebrating dads and all they do!

What a week of books and learning and play, of rhyming and adding in a Seussical way! We will see you next week- just wait and see... what magical learning there will be!

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Skiff

We would like to thank all of the fathers that came in this morning to spend quality time with their children. It was good to see you all.

Congratulations to Bella, Jacob, Wendy, and Bryan for having a perfect reading sheet this week. Congratulations to Kota and Amianna for moving up to the next time tables. Congratulations to Kota for mastering his subtraction facts 1-10. Congratulations to Jacob for mastering his mixed time tables and moving up to division facts.

We would like to congratulate Rocco for guessing the answer to this week's state riddle about the New York stadium and garden state.

In math this week, the students worked in their math booklets and had a lesson on half inches. They also reviewed one inch.

In language this week, the students reviewed the difference between common and proper nouns. Second graders are working on verbs, and the third graders are learning about pronouns.

In geography, the students are working on their states and learning about different facts. We have competitions outside to help them remember the state capitals and abbreviations. We ask that you quiz your child to help them become familiar with every state, capital, and abbreviation learned thus far. At the end of the school year, we will compete against upper elementary.

In science, the students are working diligently on their vertebrate collection of different animals.

Have a safe weekend!

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

## UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

Upper Elementary students were very excited to honor and welcome their fathers into the classroom. Fathers were served a snack and presented with handmade cards, a written composition, and a small gift. Thank you to all the dads who were able to join us. We truly enjoyed having you!

This weekend marks the final days before the World Culture Fair. It is crucial that students dedicate time to memorizing their facts for their oral presentations. Please remember to bring a dish to share on the day of the fair. Portions should be appetizer-sized and serve approximately 36 people. Kindly send serving utensils labeled with your child's name so they can be returned to their rightful owners.

Fourth graders learned about the future, present, and past progressive tenses this week and are now nearly halfway through the language tower. In Florida History, fourth graders completed their unit on the Spanish conquistadores and are now exploring the events that led to Florida's changing flags during the Second Spanish Period. They also learned about Spain's assistance to the American colonies during the Revolutionary War, particularly in the Battle of Pensacola. Congratulations to Kenneth and Joemanuel for earning the highest grades on the Florida History test. Please note that the next book report has been postponed to March 30th due to the Culture Fair.

Fifth graders learned how to locate compound subjects and compound verbs in sentences, identify and correct sentence fragments, and create sentence variety by combining sentences using compound subjects or verbs. Students should complete the Language Tower by the end of the year and develop a strong

understanding of grammar concepts in preparation for sixth grade. In Geography, students were introduced to the layers of the atmosphere, and many have already begun working on their booklets. We would like to congratulate Aryeh and Thomas for completing the fifth grade math textbook!

Sixth graders are learning to classify and identify adverbs in various sentences, including how to use comparative and superlative adverbs correctly. In Physical Science, they are studying forces in fluids and exploring Archimedes' and Bernoulli's principles. Next week, students will begin designing and constructing their roller coasters. Due to the World Culture Fair, the next book report will also be due on March 30th.

## HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

As we move through March, we want to share some important updates and celebrate the hard work of our students.

Students worked diligently to complete their math binders, which were due on Wednesday, March 4th. These binders contain this quarter's sets in numerical order and are a great reflection of their progress.

Additionally, the third-quarter grading period closed on Friday, March 6th. Please note that report cards will be sent home on Friday, March 13th. Be sure to check in with your student and celebrate their achievement.

Excitement is building as students have begun producing and

practicing skits and songs for this year's annual production of Friday Night Live. We can't wait to see their creativity come to life on stage! Friday Night Live will take place on May 1st at 7 pm.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Father's Day breakfast on Friday. It was a joy to see students and the important men in their lives share a snack together, and we truly appreciate your support in making the event special.

As always, we are grateful for all of you supporting your students and sharing in their achievements.

## AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Ms. Russell

During circle time, the children worked with numbers and shapes in a sensible manner. The students were shown either a shape or a number and had to find objects around the classroom that had similar shapes or amounts. They all did a great job! We also read a book called "Where's That Insect." We would name the insects, and the children had to guess whether that insect could fly, crawl, swim, hop, or sting. Everyone had fun guessing.

While outside, some children were using the playground equipment, while others were playing in the sand and trying to build sand castles. They also played hide-and-seek and sang songs. We keep reminding the children about the playground rules in order for them not to get hurt while outside. Once inside, some children worked on their homework, while the rest played with games and puzzles.

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

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Fatherless children also have greater incarceration rates and mental health issues such as depression, low self-esteem, greater drug addiction, more suicidal incidents, and poor relationship development. In essence there is a direct relationship between a father's absence with both daughters and sons having difficulty becoming fully functioning adults.

Fathers are often the only ones to say "no" to their children. They establish boundaries in the child's early life which directly influences their appropriate behavior as teenagers. The consequences meted out by the father are usually more severe if the behavior is repeated since they can see these actions will lead their children into trouble. The father often focuses more on future development while mothers focus on the day-to-day misbehaving and protecting the feelings of the child.

The research on the impact of fatherless homes on female children has received little acknowledgement. Not only boys but girls react strongly to the lack of a father in their daily lives. On top of the drug and mental health issues, girls without fathers were four times as likely to get pregnant as teens. The father's presence in a teenage girl's life helps her understand a male's thinking and the virtue of saying "no."

Fathers often have the natural inclination and understanding to stop their children from "crossing the line." After getting pestered by their child for something they want to do or do not want the mother often says, "I will tell your father if you do not stop," or "I have had enough." In either case, the child generally knows the game of harassing the mother is over.

Children learn that their father is usually harder to manipulate than their mother. The maternal instinct to love their offspring is usually stronger in a female than in a male. Men want to be in command and have their children listen to them. There is usually less need to be loved in a male's nature and more need to be obeyed. Of course, the concern for future negative behaviors is being downplayed or ignored in our present permissive society.

Today's children have more evil temptations in front of them, but they have almost no training in how to deal with these situations. Especially in this naive period of parenting our youth's fathers are more important than ever. Fathers must toughen up their offspring to bounce back from normal adversity, to learn to walk away from temptation, and to protect themselves from evil. Fathers must teach their loved ones to stay on the straight and narrow road to be successful. The evidence is overwhelming that both boys and girls need a father figure in their home as both parents bring special abilities to their children. Both parents in the home raising the children is optimal. Marriage has become increasingly difficult to navigate with the ridiculous Hollywood expectation of constant bliss. Like all endeavors, in marriage the reality there are peaks and valleys.

Our mental health and legal systems should stop their efforts to facilitate divorce. Instead, our experts should do everything possible to assist husbands and wives to realize their differences can be resolved by each learning to forgive and realize each is not perfect or blameless. The "blame game" must be stopped in counseling and in the courts. More time should be requested for the healing process between wife and husband to realize their children will forever bind them. The old saying "for the sake of the kids" should be changed to "for the sake of the family."

Both fathers and mothers are essential to raise healthy, normal, successful children.

*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](http://www.drmaglio.blogspot.com).*