

Wider Horizons School

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE



DATES TO REMEMBER:

5/18 Pine island for Jr/Sr high
5/19 Field Day
5/22 GRADUATION AND STUDENT RECOGNITION 9AM
6/1 Summer Camp begins

250 YEARS OF THE USA

This year the theme of FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE was the 250th birthday of the United States.

There was a lot of history presented in rhyme, song, skit and dance.

The students enjoyed their time on stage and did a commendable performance.

DISRESPECT FOR AUTHORITY IS CAUSING MASS KILLINGS: NOT GUNS

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.
Traditional Realist

Our modern childrearing experts have put children on an equal footing or even above their parents. Elected officials are diluting the power of law enforcement, while protecting hoodlums and chronic criminals. Due to financial and progressive humanitarian concerns, our legal system is reluctant to incarcerate convicts for significant crimes. Pressure for early release is creating a mockery of our criminal justice system. Our teachers are not allowed to intervene in student fights or attacks on other teachers. Authority figure's hands are tied on every level. Even sports umpires are quitting as disrespectful parents and players verbally and physically attack them.

This weakening of consequences, enforcement and duration of punishment for serious transgressions is causing our authority figures to be paper tigers. There is little reason for the average person to listen to or obey people in positions of authority, including their own parents. Most people think everyone is equal, doing their own thing instead of respecting an officials' powerful position.

The respect for brute force and lack of respect for people with superior knowledge and experience is a frightening sign for our nation's growing instability. Without allegiance to our parents, teachers, firemen, policemen, elders, representatives, social law and order will crumble. This is a major reason for random acts of mass violence.

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PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejada

As we journey into our last few weeks of school, we are reminded that children have absorbent minds. Maria Montessori once said, "They absorb knowledge from the environment without fatigue."

This week, we were busy preparing for Mother's Day. Students worked hard to bake for Friday's breakfast with their mothers. They also made them beautiful crafts.

In language, we are finishing our spelling words. Students are practicing sight words. They also wrote a poem for Mother's Day. We continue to read Bob Books. Congratulations to Sofia and Claire for moving up another book. Landon and Henry are on track to finish their last Bob Books by the end of the school year. New students are now learning our alphabet song "Ants on the Apple."

In math, students are finishing their addition and subtraction books. Students are learning to use the colored beads for multiplication. The purpose of this is to practice multiplication to build fluency with math facts.

In culture, we traveled to Australia. The students had a three-part lesson on the types of animals that live in Australia. Afterwards, we moved to Europe, and the students learned about the types of animals there. We discussed the locations of north, south, east, and west.

This week was also moving up day for first graders. They got to see their second grade classroom for next year. We are both proud and sad to see them go.

We hope you have a great weekend. Thank you all for all the treats this week.

PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

This week in Primary 2, we have been very busy. Students have been working on Mother's Day crafts, as well as a craft for Cinco de Mayo.

During language, the children had lessons on blending sounds, rhyming words, and short vowels. Some children learned about identifying and diagramming verbs in fragments and sentences. In math, the children had lessons on identifying numbers and the decimal system. Some students also had a lesson on the Change Game. The purpose of this activity is to help children experience ordering the decimal system.

In geography, we are wrapping up our tour of South America with a lesson on South American culture. We are also beginning to learn about land formations.

This morning, the children enjoyed their Mother's Day visit. Thank you all for coming and giving us the opportunity to show our love and appreciation for all that you do. Have a wonderful weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Skiff

Congratulations to Kota, Annabelle, Yvnicka, Payton, Bella, Emily, Jacob, and Elsie for having a perfect reading sheet this week. Congratulations to Joedaniel and Amianna for moving up to the next time tables. Congratulations to Gabriel, Jacob,

Nathan, and Yvnicka for passing all 50 states.

We would like to thank all the mothers who came in today to celebrate Mother's Day and spend time with their children. We wish all of the mothers a very happy Mother's Day!

This week, the students are working hard to complete the required grade material before the end of the school year. They are working hard in math, language, and cultural studies. Over the next week, students will continue to complete all of their course work. Once students have completed all of their work, folders will go home with them. We have completed spelling, compositions, and book reports for the year. Please make sure that all books are returned to the classroom.

Next week, we are doing a craft for the eight phases of the moon. Please make sure that the Oreo cookies are sent in. They are for a project, not to be eaten.

Happy birthday Noah!



UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

With just two weeks remaining in the school year, we are working diligently to bring the year to a successful close. On Tuesday, the entire school participated in Moving Up Day. Students had the opportunity to step into their next grade level, learn about new expectations, and visit their classrooms for the upcoming year.

Last week, we announced our Spelling Bee winners; however, due to the play, the sixth-grade winner was not determined in time to be included in the newsletter. Congratulations to Zain on winning the sixth-grade Spelling Bee!

On Friday, students were delighted to welcome their mothers into the classroom for a special Mother's Day celebration. The smiles on everyone's faces reflected the joy and success of the occasion.

Fourth-grade students completed their final language test this week, reviewing all major concepts covered in the language tower this year. They will continue building on these skills in fifth grade, where the material becomes more advanced and abstract. In math, some students have completed the fourth-grade textbook and are now exploring introductory geometry concepts and large numbers. Congratulations to Chad and Kendra for finishing the fourth-grade textbook. Students are also finishing up their map skills workbooks in geography.

Fifth-grade students continued reviewing complements in language and are preparing for an upcoming assessment. In geography, they have begun their study of South America and are creating pin maps based on their selected topics. They

also enjoyed time in the garden, planting a variety of seeds and plants.

Sixth-grade students have moved on to the next chapter in their language studies, focusing on punctuation, prepositions, and prepositional phrases. They also practiced combining compound sentences using commas, conjunctions, and semicolons. In addition, they are working on creating pin maps of Asia.

HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

Thank you to everyone who attended our Mother's Day classroom visit this week! It was wonderful to see so many families spending time together in our classroom. The students truly enjoyed sharing their work, activities, and special moments with you. We appreciate the support you continue to show our school and classroom community.

As we head into the final weeks of the school year, attendance is extremely important. Students will be taking their final exams in our classroom next week, and each day will include important testing, review activities, and end-of-year assignments. Please make every effort to ensure students arrive on time and are present each day so they can finish the year successfully.

Information about both Field Day and Graduation was sent home with students today. These are exciting milestones, and we are looking forward to celebrating with our students and families.

In addition to finals, students will also be completing classroom clean-up, returning materials, and

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

wrapping up projects over the next two weeks. Encourage your student to stay organized, get plenty of rest, and continue putting forth their best effort as we close out the school year.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Ms. Russell

The first thing we discussed during circle time was the reason we celebrate Mother's Day. This day is our chance to let our mothers know how much we love and care for them. It is also an opportunity to show our appreciation for all of the sacrifices they make on a daily basis to protect us. Our mothers teach us how to be kind, loving, and responsible individuals. We told the children that the same reasons apply to Father's Day. Afterwards, we read a book about tigers called "The Biggest Cats in the World." The tiger's favorite food is meat, and they eat buffalo, wild pigs, and deer. The children were asking very interesting questions.

While outside, some children participated in group activities, such as Simon Says and hide-and-seek. Some children were singing "The Wheels on the Bus" while pretending to be riding the bus to school. Once inside, some students worked on their homework, while the rest played with any activity or game of their choice. Happy Mother's Day!

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The adage that you have to give respect to earn it is still true. Another perspective is if you have authority, you need to use it and be backed up by your superiors. When police are forced by politicians to “stand down,” that official is undermining their function and power. When a parent says to a child that they will take away something due to their behavior but does not follow through, their word becomes a joke.

Often a school shooter is known to the school personnel, police and family to be a ticking time bomb. Multiple authorities drop the ball allowing them to remain free without incarceration or mental health treatment. Everyone in authority who passed the buck and allowed this tragedy to unfold deserves the loss of respect after they chose not to do their duty for the public.

Parents often witness their child exhibiting antisocial behavior without taking significant measures to put them on a more normal track. In school parents are not supporting their children’s teachers by following through on consequences for their inappropriate behavior or lack of effort. At the first sign of the child’s appealing them they end their attempt at confrontation. The parents disregarding their duty to shape their child’s actions is setting up the child to be alienated from others in power.

Teachers are also in a bind as they are unable to exercise their responsibility with all the bureaucratic rules that keep them from doing what previously worked. Educators of the past used these methods with positive results. They are not backed by school administration or in many cases by the parents so are unable to do what they know works.

Most teachers play bureaucratic games to survive or have left the profession. They want to be dedicated teachers but are handicapped by a myriad of regulations. The public expects positive results from our public servants although we constantly second-guess them. This lack of bureaucratic and public support has weakened their ability to do their conscientious best. Almost everyone in any authority position appears to be protecting himself first instead of accomplishing stated objectives.

Blaming guns for mass killings is a cover up for a cultural breakdown. Our traditionally balanced culture is out-of-whack. We are undermining our essential authority not only by lax parental expectations, poor follow through and lack of support by superiors. We do not mention the effects of mental illness, drugs, shabby education, lazy and ineffective parenting and rampant lying that are factors in mass shootings.

Targeting guns is a diversion from the real problems affecting our society. The moral decay of our sacred institutions and weakening authority figures’ power in the family and in our traditional institutions is where the responsibility lies.

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 see many of Dr. Maglio’s articles at www.drmaglioblogspot.com.