

Wider Horizons School

GETTING BACK IN THE GROOVE



DATES TO REMEMBER:

9/17 LABOR DAY- NO SCHOOL
9/17 Constitution Day
*9/18 Grandparents Day *** New*
1-1:30 p.m.
9/30 Technology Day

Thank you to all the parents
who came to Parent
Orientation.

The teachers had a lot of
information to give to parents
in each class.

Packets of information were
given out, questions were
answered, schedules and
timetables were established.

Important points for everyone.

- * School begins promptly at 8:30
- * Students should be in the class by 8:20
- * Homework is done at home
- * Be sure to read the newsletter every week
- * Have your student EAT BREAKFAST
- * Monitor and limit screen time

ROBLOX EXPOSED

**The Shawn Ryan Show
#284 (Schlep)- EVERY
parent needs to KNOW-
please watch**

SAT Prep for High Schoolers

WHS has started an SAT Prep class for high school students during the school day. The SAT has eleven practice tests online for students to become more proficient in taking this exam. There are designated computers in the classroom for the students that have the necessary software to access the SAT program. The students will take the first part of the exam on day one, the second part on day two and submit the test they have completed. On day three they will correct their errors that have been noted by the SAT program.

The SAT or ACT tests are a very important part of preparing for college. Many colleges use these exams in their selection process. These exams are also a determinate factor in receiving the Bright Futures Scholarship that pays the college tuition for four years.

Students can also use their home computers to practice but many but many are so scheduled with outside activities that it makes it quite difficult to find the time. Creating a class for the students in school should help them improve their scores.

“SCREENAGERS”

When will we stop using Covid as an excuse for our children not being socialized, well-behaved, ready for school, not showing age-appropriate learning among other misbehaviors?

How we reached the idea that children can be raised by a screen on an iPad, a cell phone or other device is beyond understanding. The idea that a child can parent her or himself is very wrong. A child needs parenting for many years to become a reasonable adult. Parenting does not “just happen” when a baby comes, it is an ongoing, active, thoughtful lifestyle on the part of the parent. Besides feeding and changing the diaper of a baby a lot more has to be happening between the child and parent. To develop properly, a child needs to be held, talked to, exercised, and given many new experiences inside the home and outdoors.

Children need to hear language from people in their lives, not from a screen, and see it being spoken to develop their own ability to speak properly. As children celebrate another birthday their needs change but do not lessen.

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PRIMARY

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejada

Welcome, we continue to learn a lot.

We continue to practice safety and rules of the classroom. Example: the students are learning about fire safety and the fire drill.

In practical life students learned how to push pin, button, zip, and how to make shapes with play dough.

In the sensorial area students were introduced to the brown stairs. Last week they learned about the pink tower. They also learned the extension work that joins the two together.

In language some students learned about vowels, while others learned a three part lesson using vowels. Students are also learning how to identify sounds along with identifying sounds with objects.

In culture students are learning about transportation, the types of transport, and the parts of a car.

This week we celebrated another birthday walk for Zella. She is now five years old.



LOWER ELEMENTARY 1 and 2
Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Skiff,
Ms. Finnerty, and Mrs. Nieves

This week in Lower Elementary, both classes came together for a presentation of *The First Great Lesson: The Beginning of The Universe and Earth*. Students were mesmerized by the theatrical demonstration and enjoyed the merging of the classrooms for a

recreation of this fascinating event.



In history students created a timeline of themselves and drew pictures on it of what they thought they looked like at age one to present day. They also constructed a family chart representing age.

In language students were given lessons on nouns and noun pluralization that included concrete and abstract activities. Students labeled objects and nouns within the classroom and painted a picture. They also learned about animal families and animal groups.

In science students were introduced to states of matter (gas, liquid, and solid) and participated in activities that identified living and non-living elements.

In geography students were given a lesson on a variety of flags of different countries. Students strategically laid out flags on a mat, then drew, labeled, and colored them. Students learned that the world is much bigger than we see.

This week Lower Elementary 2 celebrated the birthdays of Liam and Wendy. Recently celebrated birthdays in Lower Elementary 2 are Kota and Landon. Kota brought in pictures of himself in different stages of his life and shared a personal yearly goal with his classmates. Students are encouraged to create a collage of themselves to share with classmates on or around their birthday as we celebrate them on their special day.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

Thank you for attending our Parent Orientation this week. We appreciate you taking the time to join us and look forward to a wonderful school year. If you were unable to attend, please review the information packet your child brought home. After reviewing the packet, please sign and return the last page to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

The fourth graders this week reviewed proper and common nouns. Some students are still working hard to earn the privilege of taking their Saxon Math book home. To do this, each student needs to complete 64 math facts correctly in 2 minutes of both addition and multiplication. Congratulations to all who have accomplished that this week. Fourth graders also had their first spelling and vocabulary test this week.

This week fifth graders started working in their spelling books and took their first spelling and vocabulary test. Students were given a review on how to write compound and complex sentences, so that they can improve their writing. In math students began to review some concepts they learned in previous years such as sequence patterns and digits. In botany students learned about the five main characteristics of plants.

Sixth graders have completed chapter one in Physical Science and will take their first test within the next two weeks. In preparation for the test, students completed a hands-on laboratory activity in which they used a variety of scientific tools including a meter stick, Celsius thermometer, graduated cylinder, and a triple-beam balance.

They practiced using these instruments to accurately measure length, temperature, volume, and mass. In language sixth graders reviewed nouns, including singular, plural, collective, and abstract nouns. They also learned to identify the subject and predicate in a variety of sentence types. In geography students are learning important geographic terms and are becoming familiar with the world map. They will soon be using lines of longitude and latitude to locate specific places and coordinates on a map.

HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

The first two weeks of school have flown by! We would like to thank everyone for contributing to a very successful start of the new school year. Students have now taken their first tests, and we are focusing on learning good note-taking and studying habits that will assist them in being successful in both their high school and college years.

The students who are new to our room are being taught to emphasize organization. Well-organized students naturally become more capable of effective time management. At the same time, they enjoy enhanced productivity, reduced stress, and consistent efficiency. Once a student is better organized, they are also better prepared to meet deadlines. We encourage adults at home to check up on their child's organization skills and verify these abilities that should carry into participation in household responsibilities. This reinforcement will strengthen the importance of these skills.

In addition to organization, we are also highlighting the importance of

setting personal goals. Students are encouraged to write down both short-term and long-term goals and revisit them throughout the quarter. Practicing this habit early will help them develop self-discipline and give them a sense of ownership over their academic progress.

We are also introducing study strategies such as creating flashcards, practicing summarization, and teaching peers as ways to deepen understanding of class material. Parents and guardians can support this at home by providing a quiet, consistent study space and asking their child to explain what they have learned each day. Teaching others is one of the most effective ways to retain knowledge.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Mrs. Russell

This week our time indoors consisted of story telling about "Why, Why". Why are some birds special? Some birds can fly, walk, run, and even swim. Why are humming birds so tiny? They are tiny so they can reach inside flowers and feed on the sweet juice called nectar. Why can't penguins fly? Penguins can't fly because their wings are too short and stumpy. Why are some birds colorful? Birds can be big show-offs, and they use bright colors to make themselves look attractive. Why do flamingos have long necks and look as if their knees are backwards? Actually, what appears to be their knees are really their ankles! It was obvious by looking at the children's faces that they really enjoyed this book.

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

During playground time the children enjoyed making sand castles and birthday cakes in the sandbox, using the playground equipment, playing red light- green light, and singing. Once inside, the older students worked on their homework, and the rest of the class played with any activity of their choice.

Have a great weekend!



Lower elementary students got together to share the Montessori Great Lesson which they enjoyed very much.

Children need to have the ability to grow and learn new things in a planned environment that parents have created for them.

A three-year-old has a tremendous ability to learn all kinds of things but will only succeed in this if a parent is spending a lot of time with the child in their daily life. The child will learn life skills just by observing the parents and trying to emulate their behavior. When the parent gives the child the precious gift of time it gives great dividends.

Some parents today think since they are working from home, they can save money and keep their child home with them safe in a bubble. What is the child supposed to do while the parent is involved in their work for eight hours a day? Unfortunately, some parents make the mistake of using a cell phone or other device to keep their child busy and quiet while they work. Imagine what this does to the development of the child. The young child has important sensitive periods that are not being met.

When television first came on the scene parents were warned not to use the tv as a babysitter. Probably many did use tv this way. The difference from today's screens was that the television was stationary and much less addictive, so it did not go with a child in the car, outdoors or anywhere else as opposed to today's screens that travel with them wherever the child goes.

The best choice for a parent working from home with a small child is to have someone do the mothering that the parent is not doing or have the three-year-old attend a Montessori school where young children are challenged and given lots of interesting activities to do each day. They have activities that teach independence, focus, and develop their small motor skills. They gain a great academic foundation to continually build on.