

Wider Horizons School

Three Weeks Already!



DATES TO REMEMBER:

9/7 LABOR DAY- NO SCHOOL
9/17 Constitution Day
9/18 Grandparents Day * New**
1-1:30 p.m.
9/30 Technology Day

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.



High school student during the SAT practice with designated computers especially for this class.

Primary students design their own hot air balloons for their study of transportation.



They have learned to use the big easel to paint.



“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. Tejeda

This week we continued to talk about transportation. Students learned to place different types of transportation in either air, water, or on land. They also push pinned paper into the shapes of transportation.

In art, students learned how to make traffic lights and paint types of transportation to go along with their recent lessons.

In language, we have some students reading Bob Books. We encourage students to read or be read to every night for at least 30 minutes. Students had lessons on the vowels a, e, i, o, and u. They practiced matching pictures with words using the vowels. Students also continue to practice writing their name.

In math, students learned to match number rods with counting cards. Preschoolers are learning their numbers 1-5 in a special number book, and they learned the zero game. Some students learned to use table number rods along with extra extension work that allows them to memorize their numbers and color patterns.

We hope you have a great weekend!

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

This week Lower Elementary students continued developing their language skills through lessons on singular and plural nouns. They reviewed common and proper nouns, practiced changing singular nouns into plurals, and explored the different names for animal homes. These activities strengthened their vocabulary, grammar, reading, and writing skills. Students also began with reading sheets, providing additional opportunities to practice reading, comprehension, vocabulary, and language skills

while building greater confidence and independence as readers.

In math, students practiced static and dynamic addition and subtraction using the Montessori Bank Game. Working with units, tens, hundreds, and thousands, they develop a stronger understanding of place value and practiced operations both with and without exchanging. The hands-on materials helped students connect concrete and abstract mathematical concepts.

In science, students explored different parts of animals and discussed how the body parts help animals move, eat, sense, survive, and protect themselves. They also compared how animal structures vary according to their needs and habitats. This week we learned more about volcanoes, including how they form. Students learned new vocabulary about other fascinating features of our world and the solar system around it. While learning about our place in space, and developing the students curiosity of the sun, planets, and the world beyond Earth, we celebrated Ryan's birthday and other wonderful year of his life.

In history, students learned about the origins and meaning of the days of the week and their connections to ancient cultures and traditions. They also continued practicing with the weekly calendar, identifying the days in order and using concepts such as yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Students were also introduced to analog clocks and began exploring how we measure and organize time throughout the day. They identified the basic parts of a clock and discussed its importance in our daily routines.

It has been another productive week filled with hands-on learning, exploration, and discovery. We are proud of the students' continued effort and enthusiasm. We hope everyone

has a safe and wonderful weekend!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

This week fourth graders continued to learn about the rules involved in changing singular nouns into plural nouns. Students also learned about the structure of a composition, including having a topic sentence for each new paragraph. They are also currently reading *Call it Courage* in class and at home, where they will then write their first book report in class on August 31st. Students learned about positive and negative numbers through number lines in math. Students should be using a ruler when completing math sets at home. In zoology, students were tasked with choosing an animal to classify using a taxonomy chart. In geography, they learned about the southeast region's state capitals.

This week in language, the fifth graders are learning about verb phrases, helping them to identify common helping verbs. In geography, the fifth graders are learning about the atmosphere and the different layers. In botany, the fifth graders are learning about plant and animal life, and what the differences are, if any, between plant and animal life cycles

Sixth graders completed their Chapter One test in Physical Science this week. Congratulations to Logan and Thomas for earning the highest score on the first test! In Language, sixth-grade students are reviewing the parts of speech,

subjects and predicates, and how to identify direct objects. Continued practice with these concepts will strengthen their language skills and help them build a solid foundation for more advanced grammar. They are also learning how to construct well-organized narratives. For their first book report, students are reading *My Side of the Mountain*. They must complete the book by August 31st. The book report will be completed in class on August 31st.

HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

This week in the junior high and high school room, we have spent time both reinforcing good habits and establishing new ones. Organization and neatness for example, apply from students desks to the way they store their books in their backpacks. These are crucial traits for academic success.

Because we typically give students time in every class to work on their homework after it has been assigned, it is important for them to pack up their work carefully as to not get lost in the shuffle between school and home.

We are now well into the school year and the 7th graders have a very good understanding of what is expected of them in each class. Our goal is for students to feel comfortable addressing any questions or concerns they have regarding their assigned work. We are preparing them for the future when they will increasingly be expected to advocate for themselves. Please continue to encourage active reading at home

as well as good time-management habits.

This week in computer class the Junior High students have been learning how use Google Docs. They are practicing proper document formatting in preparation for their Biography Fair papers.

The tenth graders are studying matter in Biology. They are learning about atoms and other components of matter and took an exam this week.



AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer and Mrs. Russell

During circle time we read a book called *What's Inside?*. This is a book about an egg that begins to hatch, and as it begins to hatch, the cracks get larger. What could be breaking the egg? There is a little noise coming from inside the egg... tap, tap, tap. As the cracks were getting bigger, the children were all wondering what kind of animal was trying to push out of the shell. Finally, we saw a beak, feathers, and feet. The children faces were priceless when the gosling was hatched. It will then grow up to be a big, white, fluffy goose.

On the playground, some of the children were using the new

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

playground equipment, collecting pine cones, trying to catch small grasshoppers, and others were dancing to the song "We are going to Kentucky". It was also mentioned to practice good sportsmanship.

While they were inside, some children made butterflies by dipping their fingers in paint.

Have a safe and fun filled weekend!

Student Editor:

Hayley DesLauriers

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.