

# Wider Horizons School

## Birthday Party Postponed



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- 10/13 Columbus Day (No school)
- 10/20 Report Cards
- 10/31 Biography Fair (Half day)

Due to the unpredictable weather the WIDER HORIZONS 40TH BIRTHDAY PARTY has been postponed until next Thursday.

MODERN PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWING THEIR CHILDREN TO LEARN FROM ADVERSITY  
By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

One of the most important aspects of the Montessori program is developing independent students. We begin in preschool helping children to become more independent. This is why we ask parents to let their children walk in by themselves and not be carried into school.

We are asking parents in classes above preschool to let their children walk into the front door by themselves. Preschoolers who do not have many things to carry also can begin to walk in by themselves. Some little preschoolers may have a lunchbox, water bottle, and blanket where they need some help from the parent. Only preschoolers can have parents help them bring in their things and only if they cannot handle it by themselves.

Children are born with certain tendencies, strengths, and weaknesses that evolve with time. There are numerous events that may alter and impact the trajectory of their future. The death of a loved one, a powerful person in their life, an accident, or a world calamity like a war or economic collapse can alter the child's life.

The life of a person does not follow a predictable straight line. It has many unexpected detours that changes the path and even the personality of the person. No fortune teller or rich, dominant parent can predict the future of their child. Life offers many surprises.

Too many of today's parents want to micromanage their child's life. They have little faith in them to learn from their own life experiences. These parents want to know and control every aspect of their child's development including if an adult or another child treated them unfairly. Instead of telling their child that they can handle this specific situation by themselves, they immediately get an appointment with the coach or school to intervene in solving the child's perceived dilemma with another child or their loss of playtime.

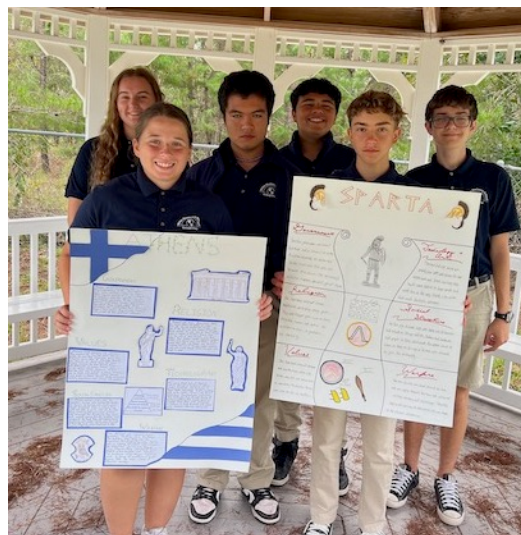
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### WORLD HISTORY STUDENTS DEBATE BETWEEN THE CITY-STATES OF SPARTA AND ATHENS

Students discussed differences between Sparta and Athens and what made each better than the other.

Sparta won the debate since that was the side this editor was on.

We used six different aspects of each city-states. Students researched facts about the cities. They made drawings illustrating the points of discussion for the posters.



PRE-SCHOOL  
Mrs. Bermudez

This week in the preschool classroom, the children are learning about arachnids, why leaves change colors, and the cycle of the pumpkin. At the art table the students are making their own continent map using construction paper.

During math we continued giving lessons on identifying 1 to 10 and 11 to 19. Some of the students are practicing how to write numbers properly and had a lesson on the Snake Game. The purpose of this material is to help children identify and memorize addition facts that equal ten.

In language the children enjoyed our alphabet song, "The Ants on the Apple". This song is helping the children that are working with identifying the names and the sounds of each letter. The children also had another lesson on three part matching. The purpose of this material is to help children manipulate the cards and help them internalize the information on the cards.

During a small group lesson some children had a lesson on how to use scissors. First they learned how to hold, walk, set down, open, close and cut properly with the scissors. The children are exposed to group, small group, and individual lessons every day.

Have a nice weekend!

PRIMARY  
Miss Finnerty and Ms Wallace

We want to extend a warm welcome to our new students, Vera, Emma, and Landon. They are doing a wonderful job acclimating to our classroom with the help of the other students.

This week the primary students did a great job staying focused while we discussed all the things that we love about our Wider Horizons School. We are very grateful that Dr. And Mrs. Maglio created such a wonderful school.

In language, students received lessons on fragment matching to make a whole sentence. Students like using the Montessori materials to create sentences using visual clues.

We had a math filled week. Both kindergarten and first graders were quizzed on math facts. The goal of this exercise is to help the student learn their math facts, increase their accuracy and speed.

In art the students finished their Christopher Columbus ships.

Congratulations to Yvnicka for passing the subtraction facts and moving on to multiplication.

LOWER ELEMENTARY  
Ms. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

This week was a busy one! We worked on organizing our

STUDENT EDITOR Chase Ghingher
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cubbies, completing unfinished work and working on the special afternoon work.

Today the students completed the eight phases of the moon with their Oreo cookies that they brought in. The project will go home next week.

New spelling words went home this week. A book report is due next Friday. Please make sure your student returns the old book with the book report so they can get a new book. If you want your child to read a book from home please send it to school for approval before Friday.

Friday Oct. 20th will begin our practice for the Biography Fair. The rough draft needs to be turned in to be checked by Friday.

## UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini, Ms Russell

Students should continue to research for their Biography Fair research reports, and are working on their rough draft due on October 20th. We hope students enjoy their day off for Columbus Day.

Fourth graders had lessons on transitive and intransitive verbs for their language tower, as well as another lesson on how to write a rough draft for their research paper. Students also had their first test for Zoology on animal cells.

Fifth graders were introduced to parts of a flower this week in Botany, where every student will begin a plant journal. A controlled experiment will be done in class to view the importance of sunlight and water for a plant. In language, students continue to practice subject and predicate, diving deeper into more complicated sentences so the students can fully grasp this lesson's concept.

This week sixth graders have continued their exploration of the periodic table and the classification of its elements. They also learned to identify the properties of metals and nonmetals. They will complete their United States project this week and begin to present their topics on each state next week. This project was designed to help them learn and teach each other about U.S. states through their research and presentations.

## JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Ms. Sanchez, Ms. Wheeler

As the first quarter draws to a close, the students are entering new chapters and new units in their various subjects. They have

adapted nicely to their daily schedule.

Seventh graders are learning about natural resources and the importance of maintaining them. They have studied what is renewable and what is nonrenewable.

Eighth graders have just finished reading the novel The River Between Us by Richard Peck. Against the backdrop of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two young women who are strangers to their town. In the process, they learn things about both the world around them and themselves.

Ninth graders have continued studying the formation of our country and the values and principles it was founded on. They have learned about freedom of speech and religion and how important they are to our nation and its citizens.

Tenth graders have been exploring potential careers and the importance of having goals and plans for their future. They looked up the wages and outlooks for various jobs they are interested in and learned the important information to know before dedicating themselves to a particular field.

Due to inclement weather, the school's 40th birthday celebration will now take place on October 19th.

Biography Fair works cited pages are due on October 16th.

## AFTER SCHOOL Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

In circle time this week, we discussed Columbus Day and how he discovered the New World by accident.

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

Columbus discovered the Americas while he was looking for a route to Asia. We discussed how many trips Columbus made to the New World and the name of his ships.

During playground time, the children participated in games such as Hide-and-Seek, Red light, Green light, and Simon says. They really enjoyed their time on the playground.

Once inside, some children finished their homework, they all had a chance to work on whatever activity, or board game of their choice.

Have a great weekend!

Parents please do not enter the after school classrooms. Please knock and your child will be sent out once they have cleaned up any activities they were using. Thank you for your cooperation.

. Any difficult situation from the child's perspective becomes the parent's responsibility. They think they need to smooth the waters for the child to have time to become more competent in a host of areas.

There is an overwhelming need by modern parents to protect their child from adversity. This demonstrates parents' fear that their child is naïve or not resilient enough to learn from adversity or to withstand the rejection by another child or adult.

In a person's life many of our most impactful learning experiences come with pain. Working to reach a higher academic level or gain expertise in one's professional career takes effort, stress, and diligence. Learning to improve in all facets of life teaches us that we are not as perfect as we thought. Unfortunately, this is necessary for them to improve and become more competent in many areas.

Parents have to stop trying to create a world that has no obstacles for their child's development. The only way a child can become an independent adult is to learn from observation, through their experiences and that of others, plus their own decisions. Our failures are great learning experiences. Realizing what not to do is often more valuable than what to do especially in a complex society where evil is prevalent. Young children must learn cheating and many other behaviors such as sexual permissiveness, taking drugs, and lying can destroy the future of a person.

Overprotective and overcontrolling parents often do not give their children an opportunity to learn on their own from social difficulties. These children will have a difficult time learning to be open and resourceful in solving their own problems. Many of these children depend on their parents to guide them during difficult periods in their lives. Therefore they will not perceive themselves as independent adults who can make positive decisions on their own. In essence, they will forever be dependent on their parents for guidance and insight.

The reality of being dependent on parents for one's lifetime is that parents usually die significantly before their children. No matter how much a son or daughter wants to keep in contact with their parents, death has a high probability of putting an end to this hope.

This modern generation of parents does not appear to understand their major responsibility as a parent is not to pass on their wealth to their children but to give their children the insights and knowledge to assist them in living a life they had growing up.

Modern parents should learn to be mature enough to understand life is short with difficult episodes. Parents should be honest about their struggles overcoming difficult financial, health, mental, and physical issues. These difficulties should be shared with their children so that they understand that they can do the same when they face these problems. Parents sharing their overcoming of problems is a great gift to give one's children.

Modern parents should give their children the knowledge to deal with adversity. Instead of attempting to protect the child from confronting it. Protecting them from any unfairness including group discipline that the student feels in unfair is a formula for any person unprepared to face the world.

*Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers and blogs, 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 the latest book entitled, IN CHARGE PARENTING In a PC World. You can see many of Dr. Maglio's articles at [www.drmaglioblogspot.com](http://www.drmaglioblogspot.com).*