

# Wider Horizons School

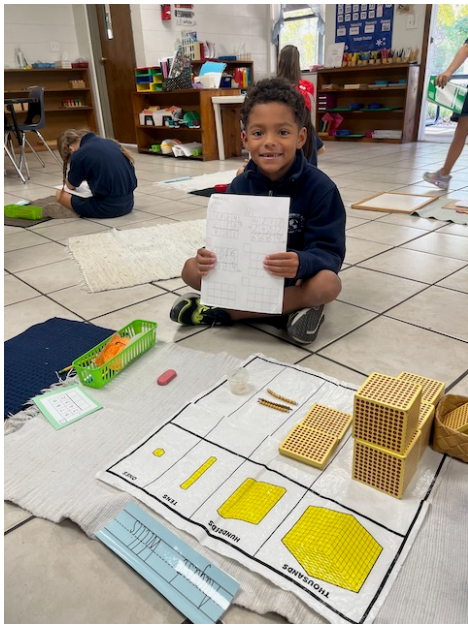
## Students of Ancient Civilization

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

10/31 Bio Fair (Early Release)  
11/10 Veterans Songfest 9am  
11/12 George Washington's Tent  
Museum at WHS

### MORE NEW PRIMARY MATH WORK

August shows off his place value work to the thousands.



Dixie shows off her project for Ancient Civilization



Sixth graders who are studying Ancient Civilization made their own sarcophagus, crown or other symbol .



### ISOLATING A CHILD FROM OTHER CHILDREN IS ABUSIVE By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

There are an extraordinary number of today's children who are single children in the family. Since the great depression there has not been so many families with only one child. Today as many as 22% of families have only one child. One thing for sure, a child is less likely to have many siblings as families had in the past.

This phenomenon is greatly compounded by the realistic appraisal that letting the child play outside or in a park and even in upper income housing developments is not safe for fear of those who prey on children. Many of today's children are not interacting with other children on a regular basis.

The fear factor leaves many parents afraid of even letting their children socialize with families in their community. This unfortunately isolates many children from interacting with their peers unsupervised. Instead, the parents choose supervised groups like karate, baseball, music, or swimming classes to allow their child to be with other children. These instructors supervise and attempt to teach a specific skill set. However, the children are not in control of their interaction with the other children.

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## PRIMARY 1

Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejeda

Hello everyone! This week the students have been practicing for our Biography Fair on October 31st.

In math, the students were given lessons on how to find the numbers before and after a number. They also learned about the Decimal System Tray. This tray explains the units, tens, hundreds, and thousands. The students were also introduced to large and small number cards.

In language, students continue to practice their vocabulary words and read their Bob Books. We introduced blending sounds like: "bl", "cl", and "fl". Students also practiced writing a poem about Frankenstein.

In art, students have been very creative. They have been making tissue paper pumpkins and torn paper Frankensteins. They also got to experience working with clay by making cutout shapes of pumpkins.

In sensorial, students learned about touch boards. This lesson helps develop discrimination of rough and smooth textures. They have also learned how to play the silence game. This helps them develop auditory discrimination between different volume levels.

In science, the students are learning about different parts of a horse, along with different land formations.

We hope you have a great weekend!

## PRIMARY 2

Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

This week, students continued to challenge themselves in all areas of the classroom. We have seen great progress in each student and appreciate their hard work and excitement.

In math, students were introduced to the numerals 10-90 using

Seguin's ten boards and beads. This activity teaches the numerals 10-90 and serves to confirm that the child has successfully drawn the association between the quantity and the numbers. Older students are working on our application work, this week's lesson had them practice addition and subtraction problems using a number line.

In language, the children are working on the "o" vowel sound as well as continuing to practice all letter sounds. Students also copied and illustrated a Halloween themed poem. It is great to watch the progression of their penmanship through this activity and to see their creativity in their pictures.

In science, we are learning the parts of the apple. Each student has the opportunity to create an apple booklet to take home.

We are also working on Halloween crafts and practicing Veteran's Day songs.

We hope you have a great weekend!

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek, Mr. Garrand, and Mrs. Morphew

This week, the students have been preparing for their Biography Fair presentations on October 31st. The first rough draft was due last week, and next week the students will be practicing in class.

Congratulations to Rylee for mastering her addition facts 11-20. Congratulations to Emily for mastering her addition facts 1-10. Congratulations to Ashley, Frank, Bryan, Bella, Amianna, Yvnicka, and Nathan for moving up to the next time tables. Congratulations to Wendy for having a perfect reading sheet this week.

In history, the students continue to work on different regions of Native America.

## STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

In spelling this week, the students rolled the dice and used a word web. They also completed spelling. Worksheets. Spelling for next week is halloween themed words, and the test will be on Thursday due to the biography fair.

In language, the students practiced what they have learned about addresses and learned about usage and expression.

In math, the students have started leaning about quarters while reviewing pennies, nickels, and dimes. They are also continuing to work on their booklets, story problems, and geometry cards.

In science, the students learned about the butterfly's life cycle and wrote creative short stories describing and illustrating the different stages. They also continued working on vertebrae animals.

In geography, the students are continuing to complete worksheets that illustrate the major cities and landmarks in each state. They are also continuing to work on learning about the solar system and information about each planet.

Remington Celebrates her birthday



## UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, Mrs. Russell

One more weekend left to practice for the Biography Fair, so all students should be rehearsing their presentations for the big day. We will continue to practice in class on Monday. On the day of the Biography Fair, all students should be in class by 8:20 A.M; judges arrive early, so anyone arriving late will be a disruption to their classmates. Everyone should come in dressed as their historical figure ready to present. Although display boards are not required for this fair, if a student is using one, the board must be part of their presentation. At 11:00 A.M. parents and friends are invited to attend the Parade of Historical Figures, where they can hear presentations and take pictures. Parents, please remember this day is a half day, so anyone not leaving by noon should bring in lunch, a change of clothes and sneakers.

Fourth grade continued to work on the language tower. They learned about the different types of verbs. Students also had exercises to help them recognize auxiliary verbs. Fourth graders also had a test on Florida History. After the biography fair students will begin their next unit on the phylum Cnidaria and are going to begin their state projects.

This week the 5th graders handed in their Biography Fair Rough Drafts. Now they should be practicing their speeches. In language, they learned about linking verbs and moved on to predicate nominatives. This week the 5th graders enjoyed learning about large plant leaves. They have also been busy planting palm tree roots and wild flowers in our garden. In geography, they learned about the atmosphere and weather instruments.

This week sixth graders continued their exploration of the periodic table and the classification of its elements. They are learning how the periodic table is arranged and how to identify all of its parts. Properties of metals and nonmetals are also being discussed. Each student is

now doing a project in class on a culture throughout the world. They will be doing the project in class and present when they are done.

## HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

Another week has flown by in the Junior and Senior High School room! Biography Fair reports were sent home on Monday with suggestions for corrections. We look forward to reading all of the finished reports next Friday and seeing how much the students have progressed in their writing skills since this time last year.

By now, students should be well along in preparing their costumes and practicing their speeches for their presentations. This week, we began having students present their speeches in front of the whole class to get some practice.

In Earth Science, the 7th graders took tests covering topics such as types of energy, renewable and nonrenewable resources, and interpreting data from graphs. In Civics, the 8th graders have been studying how Supreme Court nominations work. In Physical Science, the 9th graders have been studying chemical bonds and reactions and are now capable of reading and writing equations to express these. In Financial Literacy, the 10th graders have been learning how to properly (and safely) write checks, opening bank accounts and save money.

In English class, the 9th and 10th graders worked on their biography papers to attach to their submissions for the Sons of the American Revolution School Essay Contest. They were encouraged to reflect on their person's past accomplishments and standout activities to include in their essays. A permission slip to participate in the contest was sent home on Tuesday and was due today.

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

## AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Brewer and Miss Wallace

During circle time, we discussed Columbus Day and how he discovered the new world by accident. 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 names of his ships. Santa Maria was the biggest ship, and the Pinta and the Niña were the smaller ones.

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, the older students that had homework worked to finish their assignments, while the rest of the students had a chance to work on an activity or play a board game of their choice.

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Children have little freedom to learn how to act with peers without adult interference.

Peer to peer interactional instruction is often more direct and harsher. Children will tell each other the right way to behave. "Boys do not cry when they lose." "That is not how to catch a ball." When the admonishment or recommendation comes from respected peers it has greater power than from any adult to change a child's behavior.

Children know when a young person is "cool" and in charge. There are natural role models selected by the children themselves not by the adults. When children decide they want to belong to a group they watch the leaders to imitate them to win their approval. The group has the power to choose who to accept or reject. The group is not subtle or diplomatic but direct in their verdict. Either the person shapes up or is denied entry in the group. It may be brutal to the individual's self-concept but is effective in altering inappropriate behavior in a particular group. You are out or in. There is little wiggle room to plead one's case.

Straight talk from an admired group of peers can quickly change a child's behavior. When a child is rejected by a group, often they reevaluate their actions and radically change their attitude and behavior to be accepted by the group.

By not allowing a child to learn from other children is a form of abuse that should end. Parents should not only allow their child to seek out appropriate peers but should promote peer interaction. Instead of micromanaging the child's every move, the parents need to give the child freedom to interact with other children while observing from a distance. A child needs unsupervised interaction with other children to grow into a healthy person. There is no substitute for children interacting naturally with appropriate peers. Not to arrange these interactions is a dangerous practice for the healthy development of children.

A child needs other children to emulate. Youngsters are sometimes serious, others thoughtful or funny. There are infinite personality types of children which allows every child to choose what they want to become. Testing out these personality types enriches their personality potential.

When young children were isolated from each other as during the covid epidemic it became obvious that children missed the interaction with other children. They greeted each other with gusto as adults do with old friends when they were allowed to get together again. These significant relationships shape the future of the youngsters that create the adult they will become.

The reality is that parents who isolate their children from other children to prevent hassle are being shortsighted. They can keep the child close to them shielding them from any conflicts and issues. However, easier is not always better. The disagreements children have with each other may be emotionally difficult to deal with at that moment, yet these interactions will teach them how to interact with others.

These are difficult but necessary lessons that will shape the direction of a child's future. Parents need to understand children grow up quickly. When they are in junior or senior high school they are on their way to college or the workforce. In either case they are making decisions for their own future. Most normally rely on themselves to make these lifelong choices. For parents to think they can control their child's choices when they reach adulthood is unrealistic. When parents do not enable their child to sharpen their decision-making abilities by learning from their peers, this is more than short sighted, it is abusive.

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).