

Wider Horizons School

HONORING OUR VETERANS

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 11/17 Student Thanksgiving
- 11/20-27 Thanksgiving Vacation
- 12/15 Gift Giving
- 12/22 Carol Sing
- 12/23- 1/8 Christmas Vacation
- 1/9 Return to School

We are so pleased to be able to give back to our veterans a little bit in patriotic songs and poems.

We thank you for coming to our Veteran's Song Fest this morning.

God Bless You and thank you for your service to our country.

PARENTS HAVE AWAKENED AND MUST STAY AWAKE

By Domenick J. Maglio, PhD.

Modern parents live a hectic lifestyle, often with both parents working at full time positions. Also, parents have a busy social life with peers outside the family. There is often insufficient time to devote to their children.

Children spend more awake time in school than they do at home. Too often parents pick up their child from an after school activity as late as possible. The meal is most often take-out from a restaurant or other quick meal option but is rarely homemade. In our modern demanding lifestyle, time is at a premium.

After dinner the child might share how their day went with the parent. Too often the discussion is brief with the child only saying that their days was OK, or not much new. There are few school reports about the child except report cards that rarely let the parents really know how the child is faring. Any report for the most part is positive and academic report cards are average or above. There are rarely parent-teacher conferences due to time constraints of parents and administration. Often the meeting between school personnel and parents excludes academics and focuses instead on negative behavior.

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All WHS students participate in singing for the Veteran's Song Fest



PRE-SCHOOL
Mrs. Bermudez

This week we continued our studies on Veteran's day, pilgrims, Indians, and why we celebrate Thanksgiving. The students are also learning lots of Thanksgiving songs. During art, the children made a turkey and a pumpkin frame, an Indian out of construction paper, and they decorated corn with tissue paper.

In the math area we introduced new equipment that helps the children learn to add. They are also learning to find the missing number in a sequence, the number that comes before or after, and some children continued to work on recognizing numbers 1 to 10.

In language, all sound work was changed for new objects. We are working on our penmanship and the children are encouraged to find challenging work daily.

At the science area, the children had a chance to see and learn about the life cycle of a plant. This is our second attempt. We tried planting beans and they did not grow and then we planted peas which are finally growing. We also used the seeds from our pumpkin in multiple ways. We planted some of the seeds so that they would grow and we used the remaining seeds for baking. Most of the students enjoyed eating the seeds during snack time.

For practical life the children learned how to make a fruit kabob.

PRIMARY
Miss Finnerty and Ms Wallace

Congratulations to Aryana for memorizing her subtraction facts and moving on to multiplication. Congratulations to Rocco for memorizing addition facts 1-10 and moving onto subtraction.

We are proud of the primary students and their participation in the Veteran's Song Fest. We would like to wish all veterans a Happy Veteran's Day! We thank you for your service and sacrifice.

We would like to welcome our two new first graders, Desiree and Jak.

It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is near. In preparation for Thanksgiving, we have begun reading stories about Thanksgiving. We have also begun science lessons about turkeys.

In Geography, we introduced the continents. The children are working on North America to start. They have received lessons on native animals and culture.

In math, students are learning how to use the wrap-up material and are being tested on their math facts throughout each day.

In art, students created tissue paper poppies in honor of Veteran's Day.

STUDENT EDITOR
Chase Ghingher

LOWER ELEMENTARY
Ms. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

Congratulations to Jace, James W., Nova, Chad, Joemanuel, Christian, and Stefan for moving up in their multiplication facts. Congratulations to Tara and Liam for moving up to mixed times tables. Congratulations to Adelina, Joemanuel, Jace, Logan, Kinsley, Quindolyn, and Kendra.

We would like to thank all the Veterans for coming to our annual Veterans Fest.

This was a short week so we cleaned cubbies to get organized and worked on some spelling, math, and language from the tower.

The book report this month is due on November 30th, it is a diorama. Please be creative and create your favorite scene in a small box.

The students are also working on a few Thanksgiving crafts.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini, Ms Russell

This week Upper Elementary students were busy making preparations for our Veterans Day Tribute. Some students created posters, while others worked on cards and corrected their letters of appreciation for the veterans. We also practiced patriotic songs and performed them on Thursday. It was touching to see how grateful all of our students were to honor our veterans.

This week fourth graders gave their thank you letters to the veterans and were assigned Call It Courage for their book report. They continue to learn more spelling words and master the parts of speech via the language tower. This week many students were investigating measurement comparisons; like how to understand and use decimal numbers. In zoology they reviewed the external parts of the sponge and how Tarpon Springs is famous worldwide for the harvesting of natural sea sponges. In geography they reviewed the 50 states that make up America and their state capitals.

This week fifth graders reviewed and tested on different map projections to reinforce what they learned prior to the biography fair. Students also have been monitoring the growth of their Golden Pothos and are researching Longevity Spinach. Once students finish their reports they may take cuttings home. Students were given their instructions for the next

book report and assigned The Cry of the Crow.

Sixth graders completed their unit on adjectives and adverbs last week. Some students had a difficult time locating the common adverbs in a sentence for the test. These students should continue practicing by memorizing the blue boxes labeled “common adverbs” in the chapter. Sixth graders are moving onto identifying the principal parts of regular and irregular verbs. They will learn to identify the three parts of a verb while also explaining their uses. This chapter has several groups; sixth graders should memorize and refer to these groups when completing their exercises, so they can master this section and prepare for the test. We would like to congratulate Braden for getting a 100% on his physical science test.

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Mrs. Sanchez, Ms. Wheeler

In a blink of an eye, another week has come to a close. Our class has been preparing for the Veterans Song Fest that occurred today

7th grade Earth Science has completed chapter 7 on tectonic plates. 8th grade has begun classification of life on Earth. 9th grade Health has completed their mid-term on chapters 1-8. 10th grade Biology has studied the Calvin Cycle and photosynthesis.

Our class is responsible for the school stuffing for our

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

Thanksgiving Luncheon. We are asking our partner to provide. Thank you to all that have agreed to help.

Have a great long weekend and a happy Veteran's Day!

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

This week we discussed Veterans Day and why we celebrate it. We talked about how our country may have turned out differently if it wasn't for our brave men and women who protect our rights. We also discussed what kindness is and how to show kindness to others. The children also completed their Veterans Day crafts.

While enjoying our time on the playground, the children participated in playing group activities such as Red Light-Green Light, Tag, and Simon Says, as well as having free play. Once inside, the children had a chance to play or work with any activity of their choice.

Have a safe 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.

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Many education experts argue that the covid-pandemic opened the eyes especially of the mothers who became aware that their children's assignments were below the parent's expectations for the level of the child. The online education and teacher interaction with their child was shocking. The covid experience was a wake-up call to most parents.

Government schools have drastically changed from local neighborhood ones to large, factory buildings that are difficult to enter. Staff stability has evaporated with the increase in social mobility. Juvenile crime has skyrocketed as family instability rises. Yet in middle class affluent areas, unlike ghetto schools, they believe their schools are radically different and superior. The parents in these upscale neighborhoods are informed by the press and the public relations department of the school that their schools are outstanding, according to press releases. The children's report cards with high grades attempt to confirm that their children are outstanding academic students.

Additionally, the parents' harried lifestyle makes it difficult to visit the child's school. The school officials are unable to meet the parents' schedule. The parents rarely can enter the school and have direct contact with the teacher or see their child working in their classroom.

Many more parents have woken up to their child's plight. They are demanding to meet with their child's teacher and are not backing down. They are asking pointed question. Some parents have even gone a step further to join the school board or regularly attend meetings, instead of being treated as a child and told what the school board is going do. Indeed, parents are demanding more specific changes in the curriculum and classroom practices. Parents are becoming active participants again in creating and maintaining a quality school.

Parents can no longer hide behind ignorance of their children's time spent in school. Videos posted by students and teachers have shown the perverseness of some teachers and chaos in the classroom. Parents realize that much of their child's academics are way below the level the parents were exposed to at the grade level.

Good things can be inspired by unfortunate events like the covid pandemic. The incredible positive result of this influenza period in our lives was it opened our eyes to government schools. We learned the necessity of parental involvement in government or any school. Parents need to keep inspiring educators to do their job with the best interest of the students in mind, not their own.

All parents should stand together as one by informing government personnel that children belong to the parents, not to the teachers. It does not matter that teachers have a higher level of education. This may just mean that the teachers have been exposed to double speak, questionable psychology, and educational disinformation.

Parents were there when the child was born, nursed them through serious illness, taught them how to behave in many situations. There is no doubt parents have long term experiences with their child from birth through adulthood while a teacher will learn how the child functions with their peers in a school setting during a certain short time period. The parent sees their child in multiple situations throughout their life.

Parents are obviously the primary guardian and deserve the respect of teachers. The parents of the pupil are a vital part of their child's education and are invaluable for their success in life.

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.