

# Wider Horizons School

## Science in Action!

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

2/10 *Science Fair* (**EARLY RELEASE**)

2/13-2/17 *Spirit Week*

2/20 *President's Day* **NO SCHOOL**

(5/5 *FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE date*)



Everyone pitches in to build the box to store the bowling equipment.



Preschool students celebrated Chinese New Year's by going to the different classrooms dressed as a traditional Chinese dragon. They chanted the Chinese phrase for "Happy New Year, Happiness and Prosperity"

### SCIENCE IS EVERYWHERE

Science is found in different classrooms everyday.



Tenth grade biology dissected a sheep heart this week to better understand the interworking of the heart.



Ninth grade Physical Science had a project to create a Rube Goldberg machine, which uses a plethora of simple machines to complete a task.

### EQUITY IS A LUDICROUS COMMUNIST CONCEPT

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD. Traditional Realist

Equity is everyone having the same outcome regardless of what they do. This would mean a person who did not care for their garden and just dropped seeds should receive the same quality of vegetables as a gardener who worked hard enriching the earth, removing the weeds and irrigating the plants. This would never happen since it is not the way reality unfolds.

Another way to illustrate this would be a person who did not study the required material fails every test but receives the same grade as a person who concentrated and learned it all. This equity concept is absurd and should not deserve consideration as a logical, viable way of doing anything that would be successful. It might sound great to some but is a recipe for failure.

Yet, in the United States there are supposed scholars arguing for equity to produce a utopian world. According to them, if everyone is treated equally regardless of earning it, many would be content. The person given the rewards probably would be highly pleased for a while until their standard of living drops. They would eventually become disillusioned for the quality of life would be lessened.

On the other hand, the person who applied himself to earn the recognition and higher status would be annoyed and would lower his commitment to his work and studies. This is the reason the communist ideology of equity is initially attractive to dreamers and "slackers" who want something for nothing but fails in the long run as everyone will eventually lower their level of quality and production.

**PRESCHOOL**  
Mrs. Bermudez

This week in preschool the children continued to learn about animals that inhabit the Arctic and the Antarctic regions. We are also learning about our internal organs. We have added various three part matching materials that relate to the Organs of our Body and at the art table the children made an Arctic Walrus.

During math, the children had lessons with the Teen and Ten Board, the Decimal System and large numbers again. Some of the students also had lessons using the Small Number Rods, the Snake Game, and the Strip Board to add and subtract numbers, while others continued working with identifying numbers.

For Language and Math we continue reviewing and practicing everyday. We introduced new sound work for those that are still learning sounds and we introduced two part matching sentences for those that are reading. We continue to encourage each child to do their best and challenge themselves to do more everyday.

For Sensorial the children had lessons with the Geometric Solids equipment and three parts matching for it. The students also had lots of different variations and extensions with the Tower of Cubes, Brown Stairs, Cylinder Blocks, Red Rods and the Knobless Cylinders. We also added new material about traffic signs.

This week the children also learned about Chinese New Year. They made vegetable fried rice and had an amazing time at our annual Chinese New Year parade. The students went around the school celebrating with a dragon costume, instruments and shouting "Kung Hei Fat Choy" which means Happy New Year, happiness and prosperity in Chinese. It was a great day!

Have a great weekend!

**PRIMARY**  
Mrs. Youse and Ms. Lundmark

In primary this week, the students worked on finishing their science language booklet. Each day, they wrote a four line poem and they drew a picture for each poem.

We read a book for Groundhog Day, "Groundhog Gets A Say". They wrote another poem and drew a groundhog.

For practical life this week, the children had a lesson on putting together a button-buddy, using buttons, pipe cleaners, yarn (for hair), and a large wooden bead. They were beautifully hand crafted. This activity will be available for our students to work with as part of the afternoon work. One day this week for snack, the children mixed their own trail mix using pretzels, shelled peanuts, and a variety of raisins. Shelling the peanuts proved to be challenging for some but none the less they persevered.

In math, the students received a lesson on the Division Board. It helps the children learn and practice the table of division with dividend 1-81 and divisors 1-9.

In science, students began to learn about land and water forms. We discussed how our state of Florida is an example a peninsula.

This week, Madalyn completed reading all of the series reading books and will begin reading the GPS Reading cards, which is a 2nd grade reading comprehension activity.

Have a great weekend!



Silas had his birthday walk the week! He walked around the sun once for every year he's been alive!

**STUDENT EDITOR**

YANNEISY FERRER

**LOWER ELEMENTARY**  
Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrard

Congratulations to Riley for having a perfect reading sheet!

In spelling the students worked In their spelling packet. We verbally go over their words and the definitions.

In math this week the students worked on booklets, applications, and had a lesson on  $<$ ,  $>$ , or  $=$ .

In language, the students are working from the tower. Second graders are learning about verb tone and articles with nouns. Third graders are working on subject and predicate, and different types of sentences. They are also reviewing nouns, articles, verbs, and adjectives.

In history the students continued to work on needs of a man. The students have several extensions on this work that they will be able to start upon completion of the work.

In science, the students continued to work on leaves, plants, stems, and roots. They also made a fern forest using fern leaves, painted and pressed onto a background they painted.

In geography students worked on weather, clouds, landforms, wetlands, water forms, glaciers, and coastlines.

Science Expo is on February 10th. The students should have their project already put together and have had time to demonstrate the project. We will start practicing in class for those who have brought in their boards for extra practice starting Monday.

Have a great and safe weekend!



## UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini, Mrs. Poole

The worksheet guides for the Science Expo were given out two weeks ago, and they are due on January 31st. The information from the guide can be typed or handwritten and added to the display board or as a separate report. A display board is a requirement for this Expo. Everyone should be prepared to explain their project by February 1st.

This week fourth graders have completed another chapter in their new vocabulary book and will take a short test on Monday on all the words studied so far. They also completed spelling lesson 19 which focuses on words with the “j” sound. They did a math investigation dealing with how to create a survey and took test 12. Our class now takes care of a bunch of Platyhelminthes (flatworms). Students are learning how to care for them and soon will see the amazing regeneration process as we cut a few in parts and watch them regrow! The platyhelminth is one of the few animals that can regrow a head! In Geography students are steadily working on a “lap-book” focusing on the attributes of one of the states in the western region of the USA. (Lapbooks are educational scrapbooks that fit into the lap of a student. They contain related mini-books on a certain subject that have been glued into a file folder for easy viewing.)

Fifth graders learned about different uses for commas in compound and compound-complex sentences. They also learned how to use commas for an appositive phrase. Students learned about divergent, convergent, and transform boundaries with tectonic plates. They also received their map skills workbooks this week, and had a review on different types of map projections and how to use coordinates to find latitude and longitude.

Sixth graders learned to recognize and correct any mistakes in subject and verb agreement this week. This became more challenging when

compound subjects and inverted sentences were introduced, so more practice is needed to reinforce the concept. In Physical Science they continued to learn about motion, friction, and inertia and also explored Newton’s Laws of Motion.

## JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Miss Finnerty, Ms. Sanchez

The students turned in papers on the results and conclusions of their Science Expo projects. The teachers review the material handed in and give suggestions on how the students can improve their projects. The students are responsible in taking the initiative to make these changes. The completed science board will be due next week.

The junior high students are working on their geography maps. The eighth grade students are making maps of Africa, and seventh graders are making a variety of maps concentrating on the United States. Upon completion next week, pictures will be in the newsletter.

The ninth grade Physical Science class has been making five types of simple machines to make a task. The students have been learning about the Rube Goldberg machine, which uses a set of reactions that work in succession, triggering one event after another until the final event is triggered.

The tenth grade biology students dissected a sheep heart. The students spoke about the various parts and blood flow of the heart.

The students need to be working on completing their Science Expo project. Students should display some type of graph on their board. The students will talk about their completed boards next week in front of the class in preparation for science fair day.

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

## AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer

This week during circle time, we discussed the difference between how we live and how animals live and what their “homes” are called compared to ours. For example, we live in a house. Some animals, like birds, live in a nests, bears may live in caves, foxes live in underground dens, rabbits live in burrows, and squirrels live in hollow trees. The children asked if these homes were comfortable for the animals. It was explained to them that the answer was “yes” because animals generally keep building it until they have it just the way they want it. This discussion went on for a while because they were so fascinated with this subject and continued to ask interesting questions.

While outside, the children sang and acted to the song “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes”, “The Wheels on the Bus” and “I’m A Little Teapot”. Other children continued to play in the sand box or with the playground equipment.

Students in after school were given time to complete homework they were assigned throughout the week or read books from our library.

During recess, the children played a multitude of games and had free play after every game for a short while. When they came back inside they helped clean up the after school classroom by vacuuming, taking out garbage and sweeping the floor. Once the clean up was done they had the options to do art, play board games or complete puzzles of their choice.

Enjoy your weekend!

Continued from first page...

China is one of the latest national political systems to use this equity concept. How has that worked out for the citizens? Lies and more lies, promises and more promises are constantly repeated to propagandize the populace. When the comrades respond by protests or violence the police and even the military are used to quell the unrest by force. The uprising in Tiananmen Square and the recent riots in Beijing were beaten down by police and soldiers with overwhelming force. The television reporting of this exchange between the people and Chinese forces was brutally graphic.

The Chinese government increases fear by random killings, putting the Uyghurs in re-education camps and sentencing hundreds of thousands to prison terms. This has temporarily silenced these uprisings but the calm relies on the underlying use of brutality, and intimidation to control their people.

It is currently reported that over 140 million people in China are suffering from malnutrition due to lack of food. This is happening while Premier Xi Jinping is attempting to persuade the world that China is the new world leader replacing the United States. This is stated while China is teetering on financial disaster. However, this largest totalitarian nation in the world is held together by fear of government retaliation. Interestingly the majority of the world's media is not contradicting the appraisal of China's economic stability and political power whose obvious issues are staring them in the face.

The equity route to motivate people is contrary to human nature. There will always in any society be people who take advantage of others. In college communes in the 1960s some students provided the food and labor to feed the group while the grubbers did nothing. The communes never caught on and disappeared as quickly as they were introduced as it was unfair to the few who contributed more than others.

Freedom of choice and merit have shown to be more productive and realistic methods of organizing and rewarding people to do their best in an endeavor. Parents use privileges and material items to motivate their children. When their children do not do well in school, they lose some freedoms and special activities. They gain them back when their grades improve. When employees do a good job they receive promotions, increases in salary, and greater possibilities of advancement. Everyone in a capitalistic culture is supposed to be rewarded for what they contribute to the family, school, business, and community.

Equity sounds great to the unmotivated, lazy, short-cutting slackers. It is a terrific method for unmotivated people to develop into takers not givers. Rewarding a person for reaching a difficult high level of achievement is a positive motivator. It sets standards towards a higher level increasing the quality of the group and nation as a whole.

The communist concept of equity must be stopped in the United States of America as it would rob us of our freedom and competitive edge in the world of nations.

*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).*