IONEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 14, 2025

Wider Horizons School

BUSY WEEK!!

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/7 Fathers Day Visit

8-8:30am

3/7 Class Photo (Lifetouch)

3/12 World Culture Day

3/14 Report Cards

3/17-3/24 Spring Break

Science Fair



Bjorn on his birthday walk for his 6th birthday.



Spirit Week



Primary pictures from Spirit Week on Hat Day!



Character Day in Lower Elementary.

THE LACK OF RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY IS THE ISSUE By Domenick J. Maglio Ph.D.

Today's children act as if they are on the same level as their parents or are even "the boss." Too many children disobey or shout at their parents in public places. There are few parameters and demands placed on modern children by their parents. Frequently the reverse is true, that the children make the demands. Parents often feel guilty for not being there like their parents were for them. Guilt prevents many parents from saying "no" to these ever-increasing demanding children.

Our present authority figures such as teachers, ministers, coaches, business owners, and even police have lost the respect of the general public. Our news media is constantly exposing every authority figure's misdeed. The media rarely highlights the wonderful and honorable deeds of the majority of these powerful role models.

The disrespect towards the police is a dangerous aspect of our society. After WWII a large portion of citizens who were drafted into the military were very different when they returned from war. These US citizens passed the discipline and obedience that they learned in the military onto their children.

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PRESCHOOL

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Nieves

Welcome back everyone! We had a short week but it was full of learning. We continue to learn about the fun sea critters in the ocean. We even made clay shells.

In language, we continue to read our Bob Books. We learned how to match objects and pictures. Then we learned how to spell words that go with our pictures as well as building words with the large movable alphabet.

In math, we continue to learn our addition and subtraction facts. We are also learning extension work that goes with the Golden Bead material like sequencing the large number cards. Soon we will be learning how to associate quantities and numbers.

In sensorial, we learned different shapes with a three part matching activity.

In science, we learned about fish and different shellfish that live in the ocean. We also learned a lesson with items that go under and over.

PRIMARY

Ms. Finnerty, Ms. Skiff, and Mr. Garrand

This week in Primary, we enjoyed learning about President's Day and Random Acts of Kindness Day.

We discussed why we celebrate our presidents, and the importance of our founding fathers. We remember them for their great efforts so that we may enjoy the many freedoms we have. To honor this special day, the children had a language

assignment to copy a poem about the president's many roles in our government.

In math, students finished the fraction books and we talked about the different presidents on each coin. They also are learning a clock song to help them as we introduce telling time.

We are finishing up our space unit and look forward to learning more science and expanding our knowledge.

We would like to wish Bjorn a happy birthday!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Russell

Congratulations to Milana for mastering subtraction facts 11-20. Congratulations to Leighton for moving up on times tables. Congratulations to Frank, Karolyn, Chad, Gideon, and Kendra for receiving perfect reading sheets.

Math this week reviewed bar graphs, rounding to the nearest 10, 100, and 1000, calendar, booklets, applications, place value, and symmetry. They also were able to do math extension work from the work tower or shelf.

In language this week the students worked from the language tower. The second graders are working on verbs. The third graders are working on pronouns, subject and predicate, and matching punctuation definition cards.

In geography the students worked on weather, clouds, landforms,

STUDENT EDITOR Morgan Szabo

wetlands, and water forms. When they finish all four landforms they will start creating their own landform with salt dough during the next two weeks. Once the salt is dry they will paint and label them.

In history the students continued to work on The Needs of Man. The students have several extensions on this topic that they will be able to start upon completion of the initial work.

In social studies the students continued to learn about Northwest, Southeast, and reviewed N, W, S, and E. They have learned how to create a key for a map and use a map with a key.

In science the students continued to work on leaves, plants stems, and roots.

In art the students finished their crafts for Father's Day visits.

World Culture sheets went home this week. Chose your country ASAP. But it is due February 26.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss. Bandini, & Ms. Smith

Forms for the Culture Fair have gone out this week. Proposals are due on March 3rd. Countries are approved on a first come, first served basis.

This week fourth graders learned how to diagram sentences with subjects, verbs, and direct objects. As they become more familiar with diagramming, they will learn to identify adjectives, subject complements, and adverbs. Their next book report, a mystery book, will be due on March 3rd. Students have now finished their vocabulary book and will be assigned words weekly. Students will hone their dictionary skills by defining their vocabulary words. Students who wish to study should write down their words from the board to take home. Most students finished lesson 90 in the math textbook; those who are behind know that they will be required to complete an extra set until they catch up. In zoology, students drew and identified the external parts of a fish. In geography, students are researching their assigned state in the Southwest.

Fifth graders learned to identify verb phrases consisting of a main verb and helping verbs. They were encouraged to memorize commonly used auxiliary verbs, so they will easily locate them in a sentence. Along with their spelling words, fifth graders have been receiving five challenge words added to their weekly list. They must know the spelling and definition for the test on Friday. The next book report will be due on March 3rd; everyone has chosen a mystery book for their next book report. We would like to congratulate Brianna for being the first fifth grader to complete the 6/5 math book. She has already started to work in the sixth grade math textbook.

Sixth graders continue to work on using verbs and are learning to identify three tenses of a verb and explain their uses. To complete their studies on Canada in geography, they made and served pancakes with maple syrup for all Upper Elementary students. Then sixth graders shared their facts on Canada. The highlight of the week was a game of tug-of-war demonstrating the concept of balanced and unbalanced forces in Physical Science. Our next unit will explore simple machines and the concepts of kinetic and potential energy in physical science. The next book report on <u>A Family Apart</u> will be due on March 3rd.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, & Ms. Wheeler

As we move further into the semester, our students continue to engage in exciting, hands-on learning experiences that foster curiosity, independence, and academic growth. Here's a look at what's happening in or classroom:

Our Biology students have embarked on an exciting project—constructing a model of the double helix! Through this hands-on approach students are deepening their understanding of DNA structure and function while reinforcing key biological concepts.

In an interdisciplinary project that blends science, social studies, and critical thinking, our American History students are designing their own countries! They are tasked with creating a unique system of government, defining demographics, and considering geographical influences. This project challenges students to think deeply about governance, resource distribution, and cultural identity.

Eighth graders are making excellent progress in their geography studies. They are developing spatial awareness, learning about global ecosystems, and exploring human-environment interactions. Their work emphasizes research, discussion, and hands-on mapping activities.

SNACKS WILL NOW BE \$0.75 FOR ALL ROOMS

Seventh-grade students are using their applied mathematics skills through Earth Science. From measuring geological formations to analyzing weather patterns, they are discovering how mathematical concepts apply to real-world scientific exploration.

We are proud of the hard work and dedication our students are demonstrating in their studies. As always, we encourage families to engage with their students about their projects and learning experiences.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

During circle time this week, we decided to talk about one of our senses, smell, which we obtain through our nose. Our nose has two holes which are called "nostrils". Surprisingly, without our sense of smell, it is very difficult to taste anything that is in our mouth. The children tried eating a small piece of apple while holding their nose, but they could not tell what they were eating because there was simply no taste. The children found this extremely fascinating.

While in the playground, some children were playing in the sandbox, other were running trying to catch butterflies the rest were using the playground equipment. Once inside, the older students worked on their homework and the rest worked or played with any activity of their choice.

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These parents were stronger in their discipline than parents are today. Parents and children followed orders of authority instead of being verbally or physically hostile. Complying with the wishes of authority figures regardless of their negative attitude or demands de-escalated the anxiety of the police officers. Law enforcement members understand how quickly an arrest can escalate into a free for all.

While in office, President Obama spoke to the nation about the difficult conversation he had to have with his teenagers about being differential to the police if they were pulled over. He said to always keep your hands in view and be pleasant. Everyone regardless of color or ethnicity should have this same discussion with their children as soon as they can drive. When a police officer pulls a car over for a minor infraction the situation can escalate quickly depending on the driver's behavior.

Frequently in the media there are drive-by shootings, random killings of police officers for no reason other than their uniforms identify them as law officers. No one can deny that being a police officer is often a thankless and always a dangerous job. All police officers should be leery of people they encounter, especially when they single out a stranger they are going to question.

It is wise for anyone being approached by the police to realize the police officer is attempting to do his job of maintaining law and order. They have the legal authority to question a person of interest. Anyone who is disrespectful to a police officer is making a grievous error.

When a person is disrespectful to the police the emotions of both the policeman and the person being questioned escalate which is potentially dangerous for both. If the policeman or group of policemen are hostile it is best to control one's emotions so as not to cause an incident. There will be the next level of legal personnel you can speak with to correct any injustice.

Pro football players face physical dangers but receive great monetary rewards and accolades. Police officers face life and death threats daily in the line of duty but receive small monetary salaries and harassment instead of respect.

Respect makes sharing viewpoints easier. Lack of respect often ends in hostility or worse. The obvious disrespect of law enforcement, the most necessary position to maintain law and order, is being vilified by the media and politicians. "Defunding the police" has even been rejected by blacks in high crime areas. It is a nonsensical idea by affluent woke politicians who can hire their own armed guards for protection.

These educated woke people should be required to watch old westerns. They would realize when the sheriff's office is vacated town folks beg for a replacement. The police officer, not politicians, establish and maintain law and order.

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, <u>INVASION WITHIN</u> and the latest book entitled, <u>IN CHARGE PARENTING In a PC World</u>. You can see many of Dr. Maglio's articles at <u>www.drmaglioblogspot.com</u>.