

Wider Horizons School

Happy Groundhog Day

DATES TO REMEMBER:

2/10 Science Expo (EARLY RELEASE)

2/13-2/17 Spirit Week

2/20 President's Day NO SCHOOL

(5/5 FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE date)

NIPSA ACCREDITATION

Dr. And Mrs. Maglio travelled to Melbourne Beach this week to visit three schools: Indian Harbour Montessori, Country Day for Children, and Suntree Montessori. The visit was to re-accredit these schools for the National Independent Private School Association.

Each school has to complete a self study that gives the committee members coming to accredit the schools a good understanding of how the school is operating and fulfilling the philosophy of the accreditation program.



Lower Elementary celebrated the 100th day of school by making crafts!

February has arrived and the Groundhog has not seen his shadow but that does not count in Florida. We may have a few cold days left or may not. We will see.

Students in different classes had fun with the Groundhog story.



BECOMING A TRUST FUND BABY COULD BE A CURSE

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

People who learned to be hard workers and to live within their means frequently saved a large nest egg. When they passed away, they may have chosen to establish a trust fund naming another person to receive a large sum of money often with some stipulations written into the trust as to when it would be received and its use.

American citizens born before WWII and the baby boomers born after usually stuck their nose to the grindstone and some saved a significant amount of wealth. These hardworking people wanted to give it to their loved ones so they would not have to work as hard as they did. The result is we are starting to meet a significant number of "trust fund babies." They are young adults who possess plenty of money in their bank accounts often without doing anything to earn it. Too many times these individuals do not appreciate what they were given. Most people think how lucky these people were to inherit this bonanza, which often is not the case.

Some of them find that too much of a good thing can quickly turn into a cursed nightmare. A person who is given this gift but never learned how to use it for good is like a lottery winner who suddenly has millions in the bank. The sudden wealth greatly uplifts their lifestyle usually without any thought of how to use it to benefit their future. Spending money that a person has not earned is easy and addicting. As we say: easy come, easy go. The trust fund individual's most difficult task is selecting how they spend or save the money.

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PRESCHOOL
Mrs. Bermudez

This week in Preschool, the children worked with Valentine's Day themed work. During circle time, the class enjoyed listening and learning new Valentine songs and stories. On the art table, the children are making lots of Valentine crafts. Parents, if you want your child to bring Valentine cards to share with their friends on Valentine's Day (February 14), please send 30 cards with only your child's name on it. Thank you.

During language we introduced 3 part matching with Valentine words. We continued working with sounds, blending sounds, and reading short vowel words. Some of the children are also reading Bob Books daily.

In Math, some of the students had a lesson counting the Decimal System Bead Material. This equipment is to help the child become familiar with the quantities and hierarchies of the decimal system. Other students had lessons with the Stamp Game (Addition). This Montessori material is an activity of color-coded tiles that are designed to represent quantities and teach children mathematical operations in a more abstract way. While some students continue reviewing the sandpaper numbers to learn the names of the numerals by recognizing their written shape (0 to 10).

In Sensorial, the children had various lessons on colors, shapes, sizes, and sequence. During Science the children had lessons on the parts of a fish, snail, and chicken and we continued to learn about the internal organs.

Have a great weekend!



Preschoolers had Valentine's Day themed crafts this week! They stamped hearts to decorate a paper bag.

PRIMARY
Mrs. Youse and Ms. Lundmark

This week in primary, students honed their story writing skills by using the story dice. These are dice with images on each face that students must incorporate into their stories. This pushes them to think creatively while they are writing. Although some struggle writing original stories, we hope to continue practicing this skill so that they may improve.

The students received a lesson in sensorial work. They learned how to use the smelling jars, which contain two sets of six jars filled with a scent that they must match up.

For science, the students received lesson on the land and water form molds. In the work, students get to label and identify each landform. Afterwards using a measuring cup, blue food coloring, and water they fill each mold to look like the form.

A reminder to families that the science expo is approaching on February 10th. Make sure you are practicing with your child on the information they will be presenting as they can not read off their boards. They need to memorize their presentation just as they did with Biography Fair.

Have a fantastic weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY
Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

Congratulations to Giovanna, Javier, Riley, Penelope, Alexander, and Taj for having perfect reading sheets this week!

This week the students worked hard on their science expo projects. Each student had several opportunities to stand in front of their classmates to demonstrate, along with talking about the project that they have created.

In spelling the students were able to choose the spelling activity

STUDENT EDITOR

YANNEISY FERRER

they wanted to do. Their choices were to write words backwards one time, use stamps, or write sentences.

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

Language this week was extension work (reviewing nouns, verbs, articles, and adjectives) and language from the tower. Second graders continue to work on articles, nouns, and verbs. Third grade is working on subject and predicate, types of sentences, suffix, and prefix.

The students continued to work on leaves, plants, stems, and roots.

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 their work.

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

In social studies the students continued to talk about mapping and how to use a key.

The book report is due February 24th.

Have a great weekend!



Primary students have fun playing dodgeball on the court during their recess time.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini, Mrs. Poole

Due to the Science Expo, no composition topic was assigned this week or next week. We are hoping that this time will be used to prepare for the day of the Expo. Time for practice has been allocated in the afternoons. Afternoon classes will be canceled next week on Wednesday and Thursday, so our students could use the time to get more practice. Some students are struggling with the terminology and should continue their practice over the weekend.

This week fourth graders took a vocabulary test, a math test, and a spelling test. They continue to read the book The Winter People by Joseph Bruchac. The story is about a young Indian brave called Saxso who is fourteen when the British attack his village. It's 1759, and war is raging in the northeast between the British and the French, with the Abenaki people, Saxso's people. Without enough warriors to defend their homes, Saxso's village is burned to the ground. Many people are killed, but some, including Saxso's mother and two sisters, are taken hostage. Now it's up to Saxso, on his own, to track the raiders and bring his family back home . . . before it's too late. Students are also busy preparing for their science fair projects.

This week fifth grade worked on using end punctuation, and knowing how to label direct quotations and dialogue. Students also have turned in their worksheets for the Science Expo. Students received feedback so that they can make any last minute changes before their presentations. Students also are reviewing the regions of the United States in their map skills workbooks. Students will have their book report on a biography of their choice due on February 15th.

This week sixth graders completed their unit on subject and verb agreement. Everyone did very well on the test. They also began the next topic in their textbook on the usage of adjectives and adverbs. In this section, they are learning to use the correct form of modifiers and how to correct errors with modifiers. No projects are

due in geography this month; instead sixth graders are working in their new map building skills booklet. In Physical Science they are exploring the phenomenon of buoyancy and buoyant force.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Miss Finnerty, Ms. Sanchez

Test tubes, plants, and fire were the buzz this week! Our students practiced their Science Expo presentations. They were given tips to improve their boards, speeches, and papers. As a reminder, Science Expo will take place on February 10th and is an early release day for students.

Our class had the pleasure of hosting a guest speaker. She spoke about the harmfulness of drugs. She also spoke about how to avoid drugs and the effects that taking drugs would have on your life.

Seventh grade made fruit spring rolls for art class. We are now implementing culinary arts into our art curriculum. Eighth grade completed their scrapbook paper maps of Africa for their Eastern Geography class. Ninth grade has started working on a musical skit for Friday Night Live! Tenth grade Biology started a poster displaying the brain and eyes.

Next week, we will be going on a field trip to "Road Back in Time." The fee is \$8.00 for the trip and student must bring their own bag lunches.

We are also getting excited for Spirit Week on February 13th-17th. We hope to have full participation.

Have a great weekend! See you all Monday!

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

During circle time this week, we read a book called "Don't Throw That Away". It is about what we can recycle and reuse. For example, paper, plastic, metal, and glass can all be recycled. When we recycle these objects, we can turn them into something new again. Even old clothes that parents have that they don't wear anymore, can be turned into new costumes and dress as anything you want. Even old boxes, you can turn into cool toy cars. Learning about recycling and reusing has never been so much fun!

When we went outside, the children sang and danced to "We Are Going to Kentucky" others were building castles in the sand box and the rest were using the playground equipment.

Once inside from the playground, some children were very busy painting hearts and flowers for Valentine's Day, while the other children were playing with Legos, puzzles or other activities of their choice

Have a great weekend!



High school and Junior high enjoyed doing Yoga during PE. It helps loosen the muscles, builds flexibility, and helps relief stress.

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Frequently the money dwindles until it is gone. This day of reckoning is not contemplated so when it arrives the person has to decide to work for someone else, start a new business, sell possessions, beg for more family money or turn to self-pity. Too often the money becomes a curse rather than an asset.

At this point in their personal history, trust funders cannot be proud of what they accomplished especially if they wasted their entire inheritance. They purchased useless items they thought appealing at the time without thinking about their future when the inheritance could be gone.

In this scenario the person who received the inheritance is not the culprit but the person who gave it. The recipient did not get the important lessons learned in accumulating this money that would have been the real gift. Knowledge, perseverance, and the hard work it takes to be successful should have been passed on to loved ones.

The person who accumulated enough wealth to establish a trust fund climbed up the ladder of success in their careers which taught them an incredible number of business and people skills. Many advantages came from voluntarily taking on more responsibility which offered them more opportunities. They developed managerial skills and abilities to apply for even higher positions in other companies or start their own businesses.

A person who has been given everything but has not clawed his way to the top of the ladder of success has been deprived of opportunities to sharpen skills and improve their perseverance. There are plenty of opportunities to begin at an entry level job then work up to attaining a professional position. The better one learns and performs one's duties, the more they are appreciated as a high functioning employee.

The explanation and illustration of how the successful person overcame their obstacles by their determination and persevered is more important and lasting than handing a sum of money that may be short lived. Every one of us needs inspiration and guidance from people who care about us.

The individual providing this learning and wisdom deserves our utmost respect. They did more than provide a trust fund. The caring and loving person shares his life story to assist and guide another to also become winners by maximizing their talents in a competitive world.

A times all of us lose our focus and enthusiasm for our chosen career. It is an uplifting experience when our mentor reminds us of the accomplishments we have made in our career. The mentor's words of wisdom bring back a more positive spirit for the person's view of their career.

In our modern instant gratification world, too many people give up under the slightest difficulties. This happens too often in our relationships especially in today's marriages and often in one's employment. Perseverance is a necessary virtue to create a positive, stable existence.

Having a successful person in our life that we respect is an incredible asset. This is a much more valuable gift than a stack of money that quickly passes through one's hands into oblivion.

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