

# Wider Horizons School

## WORLD CULTURE DAY



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- 3/15-26 *Spring Break*
- 3/29-4/1 *Easter Break*
- 4/15-19 Iowa Testing
- 5/3 Friday Night Live
- 5/6-10 Teacher Appreciation Week

WHS STUDENTS CELEBRATE WORLD CULTURE DAY  
 Students brought in their food to share and information about their chosen country on Wednesday.

### TO BE SOCIALLY INTELLIGENT CHILDREN HAVE TO INTERACT WITH PEERS

By Domenick j. Maglio PhD.

The primary responsibility of parents is to teach a child how to be functional in the world. They have to train the child in basic interactional skills such as emotional appropriateness, responsibility, decision-making, perseverance, talking clearly, independence, manners, and moral values. Most of these tasks have to begin early to have the children gain the confidence and necessary skills to be considered normal. This is an incredible agenda to establish in the first three years.

Once the groundwork is seeded the child is ready to branch out with his peers but not before the parent's instructions for their children. This gives them a heads up in becoming socially acceptable. Children become more isolated and shunned if they have not learned appropriate responses from their parents before going to preschool.

Around the age of three years the child learns from studying and imitating other children in the environment. Preschool children select certain youngsters as role models. The choice a preschooler picks to be a best friend is often surprising. There are too many variables, which depend on the child's particular circumstances.

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Handwriting Contest Winners: Juliet Hogeland, Karolyn Kala, Leighton Porter (Absent), Hely Patel, Gianna Kleber, Janie Padilla, Elizabeth McGrogan, Lynus Paulino, Sofia Howes, Emily De Los Rios, Reagan Wilkie, and Maximo Maglio.



## PRESCHOOL

Mrs. Bermudez and Ms. Rios

This week in preschool, the children have been learning about living and non-living things, planets, and spring animals.

For Botany, we are learning about the parts of the flower. At the art table the students decorated a flower, decorated an Easter egg, created a bee, made a leprechaun mask and made a chick.

During circle time the children had lessons on 3 part matching, the moveable alphabet, and sound work again. Congratulations to Soren and Cooper who are now blending sounds! Congratulations to Abigail for completing her addition book, to Althaea for completing her subtraction book, and to Zoe for completing both!

In Sensorial the students had various extensions using cylinder blocks and the knobless cylinder. We also reviewed the geometric solids, shapes, and colors.

## PRIMARY

Miss Finnerty and Ms. Wallace

The World Culture Fair took place on Wednesday. Students did a wonderful job presenting what they learned and trying foods from different countries.

On Monday, the students submitted a poem for the school handwriting contest. Based on blind judgement, Juliet won for kindergarten and Karolyn won for first grade. This competition is a fun way to celebrate the neat handwriting and proper letter formation that the students practice everyday.

In math, the students received a lesson on the decimal system. This work requires them to match the golden bead material to the corresponding written and numerical form of the number.

Students worked on leprechauns in art after we read books about St. Patrick's Day and Irish culture.

In science, we continued to explore parts of the human body. Students were introduced to brain and skeletal system puzzles.

Congratulations to Annabelle for memorizing subtraction 1-10 and to Jacob and Annabelle for moving up in their times tables.

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

Ms. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

Congratulations to Hely, Jace, Bailey, Oscar, James P, James W, Stefan, and Nova for having perfect reading sheets this week. Congratulations to Quindolyn for mastering addition 11-20. Congratulations to Brent for mastering subtraction 11-20. Congratulations to Adelina, James W, and Caden for moving up in their times tables. Congratulations to Bailey and Alexandra for moving up to mixed times tables. Congratulations to Logan for finishing all facts.

Over the next couple weeks, the students will be doing warm ups to help them prepare for the IOWA testing. This work consists of math, language, spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

In language, the students are working on language from the tower and review work. Second grade is learning about adverbs and third graders are learning about pronouns, subjects, and predicates.

In math, the students worked on booklets, applications, and review math.

In spelling, the students wrote their spelling words on a chalk

## STUDENT EDITOR

Chase Ghingher

board, created a puzzle linking words together, wrote each spelling word and its part of speech, and did a word search.

In science, the students continued to work on vertebrates. Some students are working on external structures while others work on internal structures. The students also had a lesson on internal structures and researched different animals of their choice.

In history, the students continued to work on Native American cultures and resources.

In geography, the students are learning facts about each of our 50 states.

We encourage the students to continue to practice their states and times tables daily.

The cultural fair was a great success, we would like to thank all the parents and students for the food they brought to share

*Micah on his birthday walk.*



## UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini,  
Ms. Russell

During the World Culture Fair on Wednesday, the Upper Elementary students embarked on a journey around the world, sampling dishes from thirty-one different countries! It was a delightful experience as everyone enjoyed listening to their classmates' presentations and marveling at their display boards, adorned with stunning photographs and informative content.

Fourth graders learned all about the different types of adverbs this week. Students should now be able to identify adverbs of time, manner, place, and degree. Students also learned how to write a skit for their composition, particularly how to correctly label dialogue. Students were very creative in their submissions this week. In math, students had lessons in adding and subtracting fractions. As a reminder, their book report will be due on April 2nd.

In language, students went through exercises on prefixes and suffixes. In botany, students were placed into groups and assigned one of Florida's iconic trees. Students will continue to work next week on this research project. In geography, students had a review on volcanoes and earthquakes.

Sixth graders had a bustling week as they wrapped up loose ends before the quarter's end. In language class, they learned how to differentiate between

comparative and superlative adjectives and how to apply them accurately in sentences. Meanwhile, in physical science, they explored concepts of power, work, and simple machines. Additionally, they were assigned the novel, The Land Remembered. Students are expected to read the book and complete accompanying questions in the booklet, which is due on April 2nd.

## JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Mrs. Sanchez, Ms. Wheeler

Our class had a very productive week. The Cultural Fair was a great success. Our students gave presentations about countries from all over the globe.

In math, 9th grader Janae Davis completed Algebra 2 and has begun advanced math!

In 7th grade Earth Science, the students have been learning about ocean currents, tides, and waves. 8th grade Life Science completed their chapter on fish, reptiles, and amphibians. 9th grade Health Science and 10th grade Biology are studying the circulatory system.

Our class will be having a field trip on March 27th to tour PHSC. We hope everyone has a wonderful Spring Break. Classes will resume on March 26th.

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 / Ms Wallace

During circle time, we read a book called Planet Earth. From reading the book, the students can better understand why volcanoes erupt, why the earth shakes, and why plants and animals grow and swim across the vast oceans. Earth is where we live and is full of life because there is air and water. Sometimes the earth shakes and trembles with large gaps opening up in the ground. Not all mountains are still, some throw out smoke and fire. The children asked many questions about the planet, we talked about them for quite a while.

During playground time, the children tried the fun equipment on the playground and tried playing Hide and Seek. Some children played in the sand box. Once inside, the students were allowed to work on puzzles.

Have a wonderful weekend!



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The new found friend may be similar to one of their siblings, a media character they fell in love with or have certain personality traits like laughing or smiles that makes her feel happy and comfortable.

The maturing of the individual child is a mixture of innate attributes, family and other authority figure expectations and standards as well as the knowledge learned especially from their peers. The child they admired the most, consciously or unconsciously, is the individual most likely to be imitated. As their idol changes so do their attitudes, thinking and body language. These modifications are not readily noted but serve to slowly shape their social skills and overall personality.

This interaction with peers is a growing process for children. However, in our current culture a major deterrent for children getting together is parental fear. Modern parents view the shielding of their child from any danger as their top priority. An unsupervised peer interaction of their child with other children is frightening to them. The media highlighting of bullying in our culture has created neurotic parents. They believe they have to hover over their children to protect them from traumatic bullying episodes.

On the other side of the equation, the more contact children have with peers, the more opportunity they have to experience, experiment and learn from others. This enables them to identify what they want to do in shaping their own emerging personality. Children begin to unconsciously copy their own new friends' smile, way of speaking, walking, laughing, actions, and almost anything that strikes their fancy. They try out new behaviors and attitudes to see how it feels for them without input from adults. They are learning to be more interdependent while building their own personalities.

Most children are incredibly opinionated and critical about peer's actions. They are unfiltered and hold back no punches. If another child looks weak, an aggressive child will quickly test him to find out how far the fragile child will let him take advantage by pushing him until he realized the other child will not cease. Finally in frustration and anger the naïve child returns the favor by pushing the child back. The game stops at this point. The innocent child learns the reality of peace through strength. This is a concrete lesson in standing up for oneself. It is an unfiltered, direct means of learning the rules of the child-jungle, which helps them establish their behavior patterns in dealing with peers.

This is a major reason an only child is at a significant disadvantage compared to a child coming from a family with siblings. Children tell and show each other things that would be ignored if said by an adult. They learn from each other how to act appropriately. "Don't cry when you get hurt because you are acting like a baby." This statement coming from a respected group member is more powerful than having to endure a lecture from a significant adult. Crying is like honey to a bear. It is a signal to the bully to attack.

The best protection a child has is himself. By interacting he will develop the social skills and abilities to handle peer issues. Excluding a child from independent relationships with his peers will not only delay his social maturity but could cause the child to be awkward or even a misfit among children.

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