



Wider Horizons School

Learning Begins Early at WHS.

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/31 Upper elementary field trip to Three Sister Springs
3/31-4/4 IOWA TESTING grades 3-8
4/2 Primary field trip to Chinsegut Nature Center



Preschool students Also use sensorial materials to show size, dimension, and shape. Careful attention and focus is necessary to construct the activity.

PRESCHOOL IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE WHS PROGRAM



The study of geography begins in preschool with land forms, continent puzzles, animals of the continents and other geography activities. They also can participate in the World Culture Fair.

PARENTING IS MORE THAN BEING A FRIEND

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.
Traditional Realist

Many Americans have been indoctrinated by intellectuals, Hollywood, and the media to believe that being a buddy to a child is the best formula for being a good parent. According to this philosophy a parent who is viewed as a friend will raise a better adjusted and less defiant child.

A mother on the beach was the recipient of her 5-year-old daughter throwing a lump of sand directly at her face. She responded with nothing more than a confused look. In a restaurant a shouting 10-year-old child is ignored by everyone around him. A toddler runs away from his father who responds with pleading, "please stop." A father with two daughters less than 8 years-old tries to get them into his car without success. At best these friendly parents might be able to gift negotiate with their child or just accept their outrageous behavior.

Parents have no concern that the inappropriate behavior will metastasize into severely destructive behavior affecting others and the child. The responsibility to train children for the future has become a thing of the past.

continued on last page



Making crafts and doing science experiments are also part of the preschool day.



PRESCHOOL

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Nieves

Welcome Spring! Welcome back from Spring Break. We discussed the fun adventures we had with our families.

In language, we sang our Alphabet song to review our letters and sounds. As our new students learn the sandpaper letter and three part matching, our soon to be Kindergarten's worked on Blue Box work which is spelling.

In math, we introduced our new students to number rods, which help us count 1-10. They will also be practicing their sandpaper numbers 1-10. Other students are learning the 45- layout and subtraction.

This week we talked about flowers. We are also practicing our songs for "Friday Night Live" that will be here soon!

PRIMARY

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

Welcome back families! We hope everyone had a safe and fun spring break. Students started the week by submitting their Spring poem to the annual Handwriting Contest. This competition is a fun way to celebrate the beautiful penmanship the students practice everyday. See the results next week.

In math, the children were each given a book of static addition problems. This work is the

foundation they build from, as they progress through our mathematics curriculum. They will continue to develop more skills and be challenged in this area.

In language, students were asked to challenge themselves and show their teachers what they have learned since the beginning of the year. We are encouraging them to challenge themselves and really make the most of the last quarter.

As a reminder, we are going to Chinsegut Conservation Center next Wednesday. Please send in a disposable bagged lunch as we do not want to leave anything behind. **Reminder game night is on Friday April 4th.**

Congratulations to Manny for completing all the Bob Books and beginning the series books.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Russell

Congratulations to Kathrine and Isabelle for receiving perfect reading sheets. Congratulations to Payton and Isabelle for moving up on times tables.

In spelling the students worked different spelling activities.

In math the students will continue to learn the basics of fractions.

The students continue to work from the tower, where as some are doing extension work and review.

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

STUDENT EDITOR
Morgan Szabo

wetlands, and water forms. When they finish all four landforms they'll start creating their own landform with salt dough.

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

In science students continued to work on leaves, plants, stems, and roots. This week the students learned about different plants and examined the type of roots.

This week we have IOWA practice test and next week is the real testing. We ask that your child has a good breakfast and plenty of sleep. We do testing in the morning only.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

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

Upper Elementary has begun their practice for the Iowa Basic Skills Test. The practice tests gave the students a glimpse of what to expect once they begin the actual tests. The practice will help our students become familiar with the format of the test. It will also give the teachers some insight on some areas of weakness to focus on. Testing will begin on April 1st and will continue until the battery of tests is completed. Parents can help by making sure their child has had a good night's sleep and eats a good breakfast on the days of the test.

We would like to congratulate Bianca, Hadley, and Logan for finishing their Saxon Math textbooks. They will be moving on to the next grade level's textbook.

This Wednesday we held our annual Cursive Contest! It was amazing to see how everyone's handwriting improved miraculously. We would like to congratulate Hely Patel, Gianna Kieber, and Samuel Mullins, our top students.

Students had an abbreviated schedule this week in order to practice for Iowa testing. Students were still able to complete their daily math set and participate in their history classes.

Fourth graders had their test this week in Florida History on the Seminole Wars.

Fifth graders finished presenting their bills to Congress. They have been voted on and will be signed into laws next week.

Sixth graders finished studying Ancient Greece. In science, they learned how to calculate work and power. Students learned about the six simple machines and how they are related to compound machines.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, & Ms. Wheeler

We hope you all had a fantastic Spring Break and are ready to dive back into an exciting week of learning and creativity! Let's take a look at what we accomplished last week and what's coming up next.

We kicked off our return from Spring Break on Tuesday with a focus on preparing for this year's IOWA tests. Our students engaged in valuable review sessions to ensure they are well-prepared for this important assessment.

We would like to give a huge thank you to Mrs. Urbanek and her husband for their incredible support! They built a frame and cut 143 pieces of wood for our upcoming classroom art project. Our students will be busy sanding, painting, gluing, sealing, and assembling a beautiful American Flag that will proudly be displayed on our school grounds.

We also want to extend our gratitude to Mr. Parks for his hard work in cutting and prepping the wooden bases needed for the Alexander Calder sculptures that our Junior High students will replicate during art class. This contribution makes a big difference and allows us to engage in more hands-on creative learning opportunities with the students.

Next week, we will continue our academic journey, focusing on enhancing our skills and knowledge in various subjects. Stay tuned for more updates on our learning adventures.

As we move forward, please remember to encourage your students to stay focused and engaged in their studies. Regular practice and preparation will help them feel confident and ready for the upcoming assessments. Also, keep an eye out for any announcements regarding our

SNACKS WILL NOW BE \$0.75 FOR ALL ROOMS

art projects and other exciting activities.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community! We are looking forward to another week filled with learning, creativity, and fun! Let's make it a great one.

We would also like to congratulate William Wilkie for completing Algebra 1! He will now move onto Algebra 2. Bianca Barbieri joined our room this week to begin the Math 8/7 book! We would like to congratulate her for this accomplishment!

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

This week during cycle time, we read book called "Why". It was a book that asked a lot of questions; for example, it asked why giraffes have long legs and a long neck. Why do owls have very good hearing and vision that they can use at night? Why can't a turtle leave their shell? A turtle's shell is actually part of their skeleton. A turtle can pull its head and legs inside its shell but it can't leave it. Once we finished with the book, the children also worked on some Easter art projects using their fingers and paint.

During playground time, some children were dancing and singing to the song "We are going to Kentucky" and "Ring Around the Rosie". We did some more weeding in the garden outside. The other children were very busy collecting grasshoppers.

Continued from front page

The main concern of most modern parents is their acting appropriate in social situations when they are present not like past generations who demanded appropriate behavior even when they were not there.

Today parents are more concerned that they appear to be “nice” to the children rather than appear to be old fashioned, mean parents who were strict but got the job done. Acting as a relaxed jovial parent is more important than teaching one’s child lessons that will be lifelong parameters to keep the child on the straight and narrow path to a successful life.

The concept of children being respectful to others when the parents are not with them is no longer important. Modern parenting is concerned with here-and-now appearances. Parents are not preparing the child to be an appropriate, successful adult with strong moral values, thinking skills and the ways to prevent developing vices.

Another wrinkle to not being a strict parent is in the child rearing philosophy of “permissive materialism.” The parents are instructed to ignore or allow inappropriate behavior in a public setting. When a child wants some expensive material item and demands it by crying or screaming, they believe it is better to walk away rather than deal with the child that may escalate into a yelling match. If the child said they passed by whatever attracted them, the parent is supposed to buy them the item they desire if they calm down. The parents win peace, but the child loses the opportunity to learn positive ways to behave in the public arena.

Parents are the primary teachers of proper socialization of their children. Without their invaluable lessons, a child cannot become compliant. Often the child that has not received these lessons, will probably not be “normalized” but labeled by friends, relatives, neighbors, school, and the mental health community. Having a serious social problem will cause them to be shunned. When parents only play the role of friend, they limit their child’s future.

Presently in our culture some unionized teachers are stating they are the primary teacher of their students. Many teachers have sadly inherited some aspects of the role of the parent. Too many parents have withdrawn from their primary role as the teacher of their child in the parent’s pursuit of their extended adolescence. Too many parent’s schedules are overloaded with work and socializing with their peers. This puts the child on the bottom of their list of priorities.

It is true too many parents are abdicating their duty as parents. The parental obligations have been passed on to government agencies from preschool to high school. This permissive-materialistic approach to childrearing has been a colossal failure. Our government schools, administrators and teachers cannot pretend they can fulfill the role of lazy or unwilling parents. The American parents need to return to being actively involved with their children as they are the backbone of our society. A free nation can only exist with healthy families as role models who make good choices while behaving in a godly manner.

Raising children well is not a parttime job. It is the most privileged duty adults who are blessed with a child can accomplish in their life. Raising a child is not easy. It takes love and an incredible amount of effort to do it well. Saying “no” to a child or taking a stand with a child is not easy or immediately rewarding although it is vital to create a productive and healthy adult.

Being a parent is much more than being a friend. It is being a loving but strong role model that teaches children the reasons and manners of being an exemplary citizen.

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.