

Wider Horizons School



Primary Students Enjoying New Room Arrangement

DATES TO REMEMBER:

8/28 PARENT ORIENTATION
7-7:30PM

9/1 LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL

9/12 Grandparents Songfest 9am

9/17 Constitution Day

9/29 First Day of Fall

There are so many new materials for the children to use in the revamped 3-6 classrooms that the children are busy trying out each new activity.

Remington has demonstrated her "Complete Address" from school to her place in the universe.



Claire has tackled the big work of many different addition problems that she has to find answers for.



INTELLIGENCE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT: A DISASTER

By Domenick J. Maglio Ph.d

Our modern culture has fallen in love with academic intelligence. Baby's parents' brag about how children can pick up foreign language words, memorize science and mathematical facts, recite poems, play complicated video games, and do many things of interest to them. As they get into the lower elementary grades, their interests become more specific. They might focus on language arts, math, science, or artistic interests but not more than one or two at a time. Often they are motivated in only one area and are reluctant to try other ones.

Children who have highest scores on intelligence tests are often placed in special classes in public school. Their parents are delighted to celebrate their special mental abilities. Many of these bright young people will inform or demonstrate their special mental talents to others with little prompting. These potential academic whiz kids are usually verbally gifted in social situations but have deficiencies in other basic skills, common sense, judgment, and moral values.

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Spanish II Students Give Spanish Lesson To Junior High Students

Nick and William asked to teach the junior high students Spanish vocabulary to help them prepare for the years ahead in their Spanish classes.



Their Spanish teacher, Mrs. Nieves, is coaching them in their language and teaching skills.



PRIMARY 1
Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Tejada

This week we are still going over “Rules of the Classroom”. We are also discussing safety on the playground. We are learning our circle time songs as well.

In Language, some of our students are learning to trace their names as others are practicing writing their names. We are also learning our Alphabet Song, so we can match items to letters and letters to pictures. We have also started reading Bob Books.

In Math, some students are learning to count 1-5, count 1-10, and others 1-100. Our returning students are concentrating on addition, subtraction, and multiplication.

In Practical Life, students are learning to scoop, spoon, and stir to build their fine motor-skills. Some students are learning to tie their shoes with a practice shoe.

We are also learning a new lesson about where we live, including street name, county, state, and much more.

We hope you have a great weekend!

PRIMARY 2
Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

Students are settling into the classroom routine and learning more and more everyday. We continue to reinforce the rules for proper classroom behavior.

In math, students were given lessons on the short bead stairs, the table rods, and teen frame.

The purpose of these materials is to introduce the children to numbers 1 to 10 and teen numbers 11 to 19. It allows the child to successfully draw the association between quantity and numbers.

In language, some students continued practicing letter sounds and alphabetizing. While others have been working on refining their penmanship and reviewing previous lessons. Starting next week, we hope to be able to begin spelling words with the children that are able to write neatly and can read.

This week, the children have enjoyed music and Spanish. They will enjoy these extracurriculars every week. These activities are always a hit with everyone.

In science, we explored the parts of a plant from the garden. We discussed where plants come from and how to properly care for them. We have introduced real plants in practical life and will continue to care for them throughout the year. Have a great weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY
Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrard

Two weeks into the new school year, things are moving along. We are continuing to go over rules and give new lessons.

This week in spelling, students worked on worksheets, chalkboard writing 2 times, and stamping.

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

In math, the students worked on geometry cards, had lessons on math booklets (most using Montessori materials), applications (word problems), and had a lesson on fact families.

The students started working from the language tower. The third graders are reviewing the 10 different types of plurals. The second graders are matching different animals with their young.

All students have started or have finished their first composition. Once it has been checked, a copy has been put in their homework folder for reference. Students have picked out their first book from our library to read and then will start working on their first book report.

The students have learned different things this week at recess. The students learned to play flag tag, jump rope, dribble a basketball, and they played dodgeball and kickball.

The students have also been learning and working on cultural studies, such as science, history, and geography.

Have a safe weekend!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, Mrs. Russell

Parent Orientation is next Thursday, August 28th. Orientation will provide parents with valuable information about procedure, homework and parental and student's responsibilities. The Upper Elementary Calendar will not be available on the Wider Horizons' website this year, but will be sent home with our students on August 29th. Please refer to the calendar for composition topics, book reports, spelling and vocabulary test dates, and holidays.

The fourth graders this week reviewed plural nouns, common and proper nouns, and adjectives. All students have worked hard to earn the privilege of taking their Saxon Math book home. To do this each student needs to complete 64 problems correctly in 2 minutes of both addition and multiplication. Congratulations to all who have accomplished this this week. In zoology, students are learning about the five kingdoms and are learning taxonomic rank. In geography, students were introduced to the southeast region of the United States.

This week fifth graders began working in their spelling books and took their first spelling and vocabulary test. Students were given a review on how to write compound and compound complex sentences, so that they can improve upon their writing. In math, students began to review some of the concepts that they learned in previous years such as sequence patterns and digits. For Botany, students learned about the five main characteristics of plants. In geography, they learned about landforms along coastlines, both regular and irregular.

Sixth graders completed chapter one in physical science and have taken their first test. They completed a lab where they utilized several tools such as; the meterstick, the Celsius thermometer, the graduated cylinder and the triple beam balance to find the length, temperature, volume and mass of various items. In language, sixth grade learned to identify the subject and the predicate in different kinds of sentences. They are also learning

geographic terms and are exploring the world map. They will soon learn to use the lines of latitude and longitude to find specific locations on a map.

HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

The first two weeks of school have flown by! We would like to thank everyone for contributing to a very successful start of the new school year. Students have now taken their first tests, and we are focusing on learning good note-taking and studying habits that will assist them in being prosperous in both their high school and college years.

The students who are new to our room are being taught to emphasize organization. Well-organized students naturally become more capable of effective time management. At the same time, they enjoy enhanced productivity, reduced stress, and consistent efficiency. Once a student is better organized, they are also better prepared to meet deadlines. We encourage adults at home to check up on their child's organizational skills and verify that these abilities are carrying over into participation in household responsible. This reinforcement will strengthen the importance of these skills.

In addition to organization, we are also highlighting the importance of setting personal goals. Students are encouraged to write down both short-term and long-term goals and revisit them throughout the quarter. Practicing this habit early will help them develop self-discipline and give them a sense of ownership over their academic process.

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

We are also introducing study strategies such as creating flashcards, practicing summarization, and teaching peers as ways to deepen understanding of class material. Parents and guardians can support this at home by providing a quiet,

consistent study space and asking their student to explain what they have learned each day. Teaching others is one of the most effective ways to retain knowledge

AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Brewer and Miss Wallace

This being the second week of school, the children are getting very comfortable with the classroom rules and procedures. We also read two books, one was called "Complaining" and the other was called "Interrupting". They were explaining to the children that when they need to complain, that they please do it in a nice way and try not to shout or interrupt. They should always say "excuse me" and allow the other person to finish speaking.

While on the playground, the children sang and danced to "We're Going to Kentucky". Some children helped by weeding the garden, while the rest of the children were busy collecting pinecones.

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As the child matures, he gravitates to higher education institutions and normally does very well in cloistered and protected “ivory tower” safe spaces. Some stay in academia others venture out into law, medicine, science, engineering, or other specialized institutions. Some do well in their chosen areas but others get bored and have difficulty moving into demanding structured employment.

The behavior of high IQ scoring students does not always match their academic excellence. Many of these students have difficulty navigating in the classroom, as their “social smarts” can be extremely deficient. The self-promotion of these academically bright students does not correlate with their ability to interact wisely or appropriately with others. Being a know-it-all often alienates others. Knowing when to hold one’s tongue goes against their thinking that they are superior to others. Thinking before doing is a rare commodity when parents have over-valued their intelligence.

There are many variables that make up intelligence. Some scientists count 120 of them while most measure only a miniscule number of them. The way intelligence is defined has an impact on the test results. There are many people in mental and correctional institutions that have superior intelligence. Their cognitive abilities far exceed their impulse control, empathy, frustration tolerance, perseverance in areas difficult for them, and internalization of moral values. When a person has a special talent or proclivity it does not mean the person will make a positive contribution to one’s family or society. Bright individuals can use their powerful abilities for perversion, self-destructive behavior, and evil acts rather than for positive contributions to society.

The ability to do well in testing is a wonderful attribute to possess if used wisely. A brilliant professional can impress others by his skills but if he becomes addicted to a substance or is mean spirited it can ruin his life and that of others. Highly intelligent people, like any others have to establish discipline and balance in their lives to maximize the special gift. The parents should realize that a child born with an incredible ability is not necessarily assured of a successful future. It is the little things a parent or teacher does to teach life lessons that will keep the person on the right track to maximize their talents and ability in the area they chose.

Everyone is unique and should have time to develop and strengthen every aspect of his existence. Intelligence in our modern era is being over emphasized placing many children on a crash course with reality. The best approach to avoid this is to help the child become well rounded in as many areas as possible. The parents should evaluate all aspects of the emotional, social, listening, obedience, frustration tolerance skills of their child and make adjustments to help him to fill in the gaps.

Without a solid moral compass, accurate judgment of all types of situations and basic common sense a bright academic person will be extremely vulnerable to making poor choices. Even though these children can be manipulators, they can be exploited by devious others for their own personal needs and interests rather than for the child’s interests.

It is a parent’s responsibility to role model, teach, and clearly explain the outcome of particular behavioral patterns. By constantly explaining and showing the ultimate results of drugging, lying, shirking responsibility, laziness, and a host of other negative behaviors, the youngster becomes aware of the consequences he will suffer from poor judgment. Parental training further solidifies his moral values, lifestyle decisions and social intelligence that will insulate the child from negative influences.

Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers, 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 a new just published book, entitled, *IN CHARGE PARENTING In a PC World*. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.