

Wider Horizons School

In School for a Whole Week!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

9/20 Technology Day
10/6 Individual Picture Day
10/13 Columbus Day

The reason to have a Biography Fair is for children to learn the important people in American History for younger students and anywhere in the world for older ones.

Obscure characters in history do not give much insight for students into the big picture of history and the relationships between the significant people.

When children hear the stories, what made the people important, and how they affected history it makes an impact on their ability to make sense of history.

TEACH YOUR CHILD TO DO CHORES FOR THEIR SUCCESS

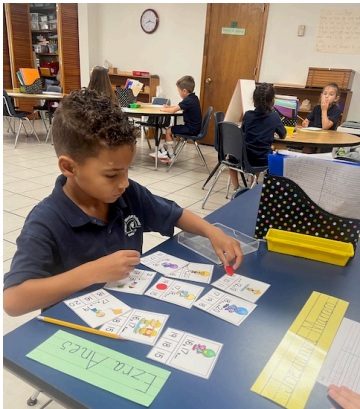
By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.
Traditional Realist

Modern parents do not want to overwhelm their child's school assignments with chores at home. These parents are more concerned with higher grades than learning how to organize, plan, and execute small projects. The reality is when a child completes a job from beginning to end, this process will help the child do better in almost everything including their studies.

Learning to work effectively on any assignment takes a series of skills that are necessary in completing the project successfully in a timely manner. It is true academic tasks use specific school terminology but completing all projects takes a series of steps that have to be done correctly.

Mastering chores completely, correctly, and in a timely manner demonstrates the person can follow directions and think on their feet when a problem arises. When unexpected problems arise, the individual must improvise his approach in some way to complete the project. They are forced to think and plan in several areas.

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Students are working hard on learning new activities.

Ezra working on number sequencing.



Opal is concentrating on her painting.



Xavier is working on The Everglades Project.

Lynus shows off his model



Henry and Rocco work on a puzzle.



PRESCHOOL
Mrs. Bermudez

This week in preschool we continued our discussion about the seven continents. At the art table the children painted a leaf and decorated another leaf with tissue paper. We also talked about Patriot Day and the children made a flag using their hand print and a star.

The students were excited to see the new fall themed work at the math and practical life areas. They had lessons with odd and even numbers, 1-5 and 1-10, the teen and ten boards, the short bead stairs, the decimal system, and the 9 tray decimal system. The purpose of the short bead stairs is to assist the children in memorizing the colors of each bead bar and its associated quantity. This is a preliminary activity necessary for more advanced work. The decimal system is to help the children become familiar with the quantities and hierarchies of the decimal system.

In language the children are working with sounds, blending sounds, working with short vowels, and reading sentences or reading Bob Books. The children are also encouraged to practice their penmanship twice a week.

Have a great weekend!

PRIMARY
Miss Finnerty and Ms Wallace

This week in Primary, we discussed 9/11 and why we honor those affected and our first responders. The students created memorial ribbons in honor of those fallen. We also discussed the Constitution, and learned the Constitution Song.

In Language students received a lesson in both word to picture matching and sentence to picture matching. Both of these activities require the students to use visual cues as they sound out the words.

In math, along with their other work, the students are working on

mastering their addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts using flashcards. We encourage the students to practice at home so the students can master addition and subtraction before moving to the next classroom.

In Geography, primary students have begun receiving lessons on Florida. We are introducing native animals and regions such as the wetlands and coastal areas. We believe it is important for the children to be aware of their environment and take pride in what our state has to offer.

Biography Fair is also rapidly approaching. We hope everyone is excited for this fun and educational event. All students must have their historical figure turned in by Friday, September 22nd.

Have a wonderful weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY
Ms. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

Congratulations to Jax, Nova, Adelina, Chad, Kendra, and Kinsley for having a perfect reading sheet this week.

Congratulations to Tara, Hely, Oscar, Stefan, Jax, Molly, and Liam for moving up to the next times table.

Congratulations to Aryeh for mastering his mixed times tables and moving on to division facts.

Congratulations to Immanuel for mastering addition facts 1-10.

In Language, the students will continue learning and reviewing coins, this week we are counting dimes, nickels, quarters, and pennies together. They will continue to work in their booklets, applications, and geometry cards. The students had a lesson on different key words for addition in applications. This will help them to identify the difference between signs when solving the problems.

STUDENT EDITOR
Chase Ghingher

In spelling this week, the students wrote spelling words on the chalk board two times and worked in their packet. The students had a group lesson talking about the definition of each word. Next week will be the first spelling test that will involve matching the word with its definition.

In science the students continued to work on different animal of the vertebrae classification, starting with the mammal.

In Geography the students are continuing to work on continents and their animals and the solar system.

In history the students are continuing to work with the northwest region and California. They will be creating a totem pole with a paper towel role when they have finished the region. If your student has not done so, we ask that they please bring in their own paper towel roll.

The students will be working on compositions and book reports at home for homework. The due dates and topics are in their homework folder where the need to stay. The first composition and book report are done together as a whole class. We ask that you do not help your child completing their composition book report as it does not allow us to see where they need help.

Have a safe weekend!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini, Ms Russell

Proposals for the Biography Fair went out last week. Time should be dedicated to researching different historical figures and deciding who to portray for the Biography Fair. Please make sure there are enough reliable sources at your child's level. This is the first step in preparing the presentation. Once a historical figure is chosen, a proposal should be submitted and will need to be approved by the teacher. Proposals should be submitted as soon as possible to avoid having to choose someone else. Proposals are approved on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The students are making great progress in Saxon math and many have now completed their first math test. They are working on lessons that increase their knowledge of negative numbers, how to use the 100's table, and many more fun math functions. In Zoology the students learned the 7 basic functions of all living things.

Fifth grade students continued working on command cards about the anatomy of the Earth. In Botany students learned about the difference between fibrous roots and taproot systems.

Sixth graders will have their second science test on Monday, September 18th and should use the weekend to prepare accordingly. Key Terms and their definitions should be written on index cards. Suggestions were given when reviewing for the test to underline important words in the definitions to help memorize the

terms. Sixth graders also started to write their first synopsis of the novel, My Side of the Mountain on Thursday. The structure of a well written book was reviewed, and an example of a book report and guidelines can be found in their language book on page 398. The next book report will be due on Monday, October 2nd.

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Ms. Sanchez, Ms. Wheeler

It might sound bizarre, but this week marks the halfway point of the 1st Quarter. Progress reports might go out this week. If your child receives a progress report, it is simply to let you know of the progress made thus far. With hard work and perseverance they can improve their grades in all subjects.

The biography Fair proposal and due dates were sent home this week. This is one of three public speaking events at school. Public speaking not only boosts their self-confidence, but also helps them become better leaders and communicators.

Last week the students were given a slab of clay, and were instructed to make something interesting. To make it more fun, and challenging, they used cuneiform symbols to decorate it and wrote their name using the cuneiform alphabet. Once it completely dries, they will have an opportunity to paint and add finishing touches on their piece.

We wish everyone a fantastic weekend!

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 our time outside, we discussed wild weather. We talked about how dangerous storms like tornadoes, and what to do in order to stay safe. The children were asked how they thought they should stay safe and out of danger. Some of their responses were very impressive. One student suggested to stay inside the house, on a lower floor. Students learned to drop down to try and protect themselves by covering their face, head, and neck in case of an earthquake. After that the children worked on puzzles, board games, and legos.

While on the playground, some children were collecting pinecones. Others were playing games such as Simon Says. The rest were using the playground equipment.

Have a great weekend.

Parents please do not enter the after school classrooms. Please knock and your child will be sent out once they have cleaned up any activities they were using. Thank you for your cooperation.

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Children in the USA have compulsory education through high school. Most of the regular workday is spent in class. Homework has to be done after school. When the student concentrates on his homework, usually it takes less than a couple hours when they work earnestly. Concentrating on a task to complete in a timely and correct manner takes effort, discipline, and planning.

When modern parents have other things to complete at home, they rarely ask their school age children to help as it may interfere with their schoolwork and projects. In the old adage, "If you want to get something done, ask a busy person," does not apply. An industrious youngster from their self-imposed time concerns should have learned to use their time wisely. Besides awareness of time, the more they do, the more skills they develop to get something else done after finishing the initial project. The more a person completes projects that he has determined to do, the more he gains the ability to accomplish even more. The person perfects many physical and mental abilities they can use throughout their day and their life.

Modern parents desire to make their child's existence easier as they mature is often doing just the opposite. When a person does more than they thought possible they realize they can accomplish more than others while still maintaining a standard of excellence. Their self-confidence also increases when tackling other difficult tasks. This further increases their ability to take on more of life's challenges in a self-assured manner.

It starts with little things to teach them that they can control their environment. Cleaning up and returning everything they used back in the correct place is a fantastic lifelong habit. Besides helping to keep the house in order it helps the child keep organized. This allows the parent to enjoy more time appreciating the child for their grown-up behavior. Little tasks for children like cleaning windows is a positive for the parents while teaching the child to observe the need to clean thoroughly. This forces the youngster to better evaluate their own performance. Working with the children to show them how the chores are done will help them be prepared to do it by themselves next time.

Helping the parent plant shrubs or planting a garden of vegetables helps the child learn the life skills to be a high functioning person. It also affects their academic skills at school. If they learn to do chores correctly and thoroughly, they will receive outstanding grades while acting appropriately in school.

Probably the most important purpose of parenting is to prepare the child to prosper in an ever more complex world. There is a short interval from being a child to being a young adult who is expected to become an independent one. From an early age children should be encouraged to successfully complete many tasks that are assigned to them. The more they can accomplish when they are young, the more prepared they will be later on. They have to be competent in order to have confidence in their future challenges.

Almost all students who graduate from high school today either enter college or the work world. Parents have a responsibility to teach their child how to perform their duties and how to rate the quality of their performance. Banking, shopping, cooking taught by the parents and learned by the children will make them better prepared to enter the adult world.

Becoming a well-rounded risk taker opens new vistas to learn from and conquer.

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.