

Wider Horizons School

MORE BIOGRAPHY FAIR

DATES TO REMEMBER:

11/9 Individual Picture retakes
 11/10 Veteran's Day Songfest 9am
 11/11 Veteran's Day **NO SCHOOL**
 11/18 Student Thanksgiving Dinner
 11/19-28 Thanksgiving Vacation
 Return to school 11/29
 12/14 Holiday Gift giving

Veteran's Tribute Song Fest Thursday At 9am

All are welcome
 Coffee and cookies too

Students who performed especially well in the Biography Fair were asked to bring back their costumes so they could present to other classes.



This gives students in other classes a chance to see what they could work up to next year. Public speaking is an important skill to develop so the student can be comfortable presenting in front of any group.

CONQUERING ADVERSITY BUILDS STRENGTH OF CHARACTER By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

The parenting techniques of the United States have become coddling ones. Parents have been advised not to traumatize their child by highlighting negative behaviors of any kind. Instead everyone is supposed to get a trophy and high grades in school even if they did not earn them. The theory is any criticism, reprimanding, or especially physical punishment might result in the child withdrawing or acting out in frustration. The idea is that youngsters need to be protected from any challenge that would shatter their self-confidence and have them believing they are losers.

Permissive experts say children should be protected from absorbing too much pain or negativity. When the child has a demanding task the authority figure should be sufficiently gentle to redirect them to less taxing and less complicated tasks. Adults need to realize children are fragile and would be scarred for life from unforeseen tragedy.

Life is almost never like a Hollywood movie where people live a glorious, uneventful life without any obstacles. In various generations, entire populations had to face life and death events. The British in WWII were relentlessly bombed by the Nazi air force. Many of them remained in London's underground to survive constant bombing. WWII left many citizens overcoming traumatic incidents that demonstrated to many of them that they could overcome tremendous hardships. It taught them they were stronger than they thought possible. They became more resilient to the hardships in life.

Throughout the Great Depression citizens learned they could survive in an almost nonexistent economy. Most people had to change their diet with some eating previously shunned foods like Spam, which became an important protein source in the depression diet.

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PRESCHOOL

Mrs. Bermudez, Miss Brown

This week the preschool students are learning about The First Thanksgiving. We discussed why the pilgrims sailed to America and the reasons they embarked on their historic journey. On Tuesday the children were introduced to Thanksgiving/Fall themed work. The math area has lots of new autumn number set baskets and Practical Life has all new work added as well.

In the math area we introduced new equipment that helps the children learn to add. They are also learning to find the missing number in a sequence and the number that comes before or after.

In Science we introduced three part matching showing the parts of the turkey, the parts of the corn, and Thanksgiving vocabulary words.

At the language area children are learning the names of tools and what they look like. At the art table children made a corn cob with tissue paper and made Indian hats.

We would like to thank all the children that visited our classroom and gave us the opportunity to listen to their Biography Fair speeches. It gave the preschoolers a chance to learn more about famous American historical figures. It was great!

Have a great weekend!

PRIMARY

Mrs. Youse and Ms. Lundmark

This week in primary, we dedicated one day to language, math, and science. While the students still completed their daily spelling, they dedicated the rest of their mornings to each of the day's subjects. This allows them the opportunity to complete multiple works in one subject and encourages them to challenge themselves.

For math, the students received a lesson on using the decimal system to do static addition. This is the precursor to learning dynamic addition and further familiarizes the students with manipulating variable amounts of the decimal system.

Adelina mastered memorization of her addition facts this week.

James memorized his subtraction facts. Katherine, Aryana, and Karolyn became the first kindergartners to memorize their addition facts this week! In spelling, Brent advanced to level 3.

We also began discussion on the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. The students were read a story about the first Thanksgiving. They were given lessons on Thanksgiving-related words such as Pilgrims. Additionally, the students have been learning and practicing patriotic songs for our Veteran's Day celebration on November 10th. We would love for our families to attend to enjoy this opportunity to thank our veterans for their service.

Have a fantastic weekend!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Mr. Garrand

Congratulations to Alexandra, Braylen, Stefan, Riley and Nova for having a perfect reading sheet this week.

This week in math the students had a lesson on inches (1"). The students went outside to get extra practice for their times tables, which helps them to move forward and provides exercise, too. We encourage them to continue practicing the times tables they have already passed so they do not forget.

This week in spelling the students worked in their packets and did a word search.

This week In language arts we continued to work on syllables. The students learned how to break words

STUDENT EDITOR
YANNEISY FERRER
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up and the amount of syllables each word has.

This week and last week the students learned a new type of poem called the Cinquain poem.

This week in botany the students are continuing to work on roots, tree, flower, and leaf characteristics.

This week in geography the students continued to work on landforms, water forms, and clouds.

In history the students continue to learn about the days of the week and the months of the year.

Next week's composition is due on the 9th and the book report is due November 18 (written). Remember, future dates are subject to change due to any conflicts.

This quarter the students voted on PE. We go outside once a week where an obstacle course is put together. The object is for the students to beat their previous time.

Have a safe weekend!



There is a new ladder on the monkey bars! The children love it.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Bandini, Mrs. Poole

Everyone did a wonderful job presenting last week for the Biography Fair, but we would like to mention Janie, Robert, Maximilian, and Jael for receiving a perfect ten on their presentations! Congratulations!

With the Biography Fair over, now it is time to focus on the Veteran Tribute which will take place on Thursday, November 10th. The Upper Elementary is working very hard on practicing songs and writing letters of appreciation to our veterans. They also made posters to welcome our visitors.

This week fourth graders are reading Matchlock Gun by Walter D. Edmonds for their next book report. They are also writing a "thank you letter" to our Veterans which they will present to the veterans who visit the school for our Veterans Day Celebration. The students are also making progress in their spelling and math. Many students are completing their animal kingdom booklets so next week we can take a deep dive into the phylum Porifera, "sponges".

This week fifth graders reviewed and tested on different map projections to reinforce what they learned prior to the Biography Fair. Students also have been monitoring the growth of their Golden Pothos and are researching Longevity Spinach. Once students finish their reports they may take cuttings home. Students were given their instructions for the next book report and assigned mystery as their genre.

Sixth graders this week learned about the different classifications of atomic bonding. They learned about ionic, covalent and metallic bonding. In Geography each student presented their project on the United States and began their brochure for a Central American country or a Caribbean island. They will work on this project in class during Geography time.

Have a great weekend!

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Miss Finnerty, Ms. Sanchez

This week flew by! We are already about half way through the second quarter! This week our class had a discussion about academic honesty, setting goals, and kindness.

In math, we congratulated 8th grader, Julie Maglio for completing her first high school credit! She completed Algebra 1 and is starting off strong in Algebra 2! Big kudos are also in order for 9th grader Olivia Simmons for completing Algebra 1 and beginning Algebra 2!

Seventh grade Earth Science completed Unit 2 and learned all about the rock cycle, minerals and nonrenewable and renewable resources. Eighth grade Life Science completed chapter 7 and learned about natural selection vs selective breeding. Ninth grade Physical Science just completed their chapter on Carbon Chemistry. Tenth grade Biology completed their chapter on population trends and limiting factors. Tenth and 12th grade government are also working on political cartoons for Chapter 7.

In English this week we had a debate on how the word "this" would be considered an adjective or a pronoun depending on how it is used.

Our room has been practicing for our Veteran's Day Songfest. We have joined with Upper Elementary for practice to ensure a great fest!

We also had the pleasure of hosting Tonie S. from Saint Leo University to give a presentation about her school. She informed students on the programs the school offers, the admission requirements, and campus life. Many students are now interested in Saint Leo and their accelerated programs.

We wish you all a relaxing and recharging weekend. See you 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. Brown

In aftercare this week we focused on homework and sports. The children had a lesson on how to properly handle the books in the classrooms we have had some mishandled. We had to move s'mores to this week. We all played dodgeball, freeze tag, and pin down. Pin down was a new game, and the children had fun learning it.

PRESCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer

During circle time, we read a book called "About Me.". It was a book about having fun and being responsible while learning. For example, if you are playing with your toys, make sure to put them away when you are done. Learn to listen when someone speaks to you. When you listen, it shows that you care about what others say. Learn to share, because it shows how much you really care. We also did a little game with numbers and counting. Each child was asked to count the items or animals on the page that was shown to them. They all had a chance to count and they all did great!

When we went to the playground, some children collected pine cones because one child suggested that we paint them orange and use them as decorations for Thanksgiving, which was a great idea! Others were busy using the playground equipment and/or the sandbox. Once inside, the children worked on whatever activity, puzzles, and games they wanted to.

Enjoy your weekend!

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After the depression some of them even preferred Spam over other more expensive meats since it brought back memories of satisfying their hunger. Strong people can adapt to life's hardships and tragedies while becoming stronger to face the next curve ball life throws them. People may become critically ill with an injury, failure of an organ, or succumb to a crippling disease. No one can predict these physical occurrences although many have faced them. A successful life is not obtained by the faint of heart but by the strong.

The people who lived through these difficult historical periods often were not complainers like many Americans are today. When the depression, WWII, or any serious personal issues occurred during these difficult times it showed the ability to dig deep into inner strengths to survive and prosper. Not only did they overcome the difficult conditions but were motivated to focus on strength and determination to prevent feelings of being defeated by other difficult problems.

In the social arena, divorce, alcoholism, drug addiction and other personal tragedies have become dishearteningly common to many families. The death of a loved one is not easy to overcome for the people who loved them. To lose a love one is inevitable if we live to an average life span. A healthy person will absorb the psychological or physical pain that confronts them.

Overcoming personal shortcomings such as being physically small or not doing well in reading, writing or math teaches resilience. A person realizes when they focus on solving their perceived shortcomings; they can devise a strategy to overcome them. A weak or overweight person can develop a program to gain strength through weightlifting or an exercise program to burn calories. This can change their strength and appearance. Winners in life do not give up but push themselves through difficulties to reach a greater level of personal satisfaction.

Adversity builds personal fortitude to conquer and defeat any other obstacles that life throws at us. Unless you are put in a glass "*skinner box*" that controls every variable and event you will face in life you will face challenges. You cannot determine the events of your future. The coddling of young people does not free them to function in the real world but cripples them.

Our life is a path beyond our control. We can only control our reactions and decisions. Facing life head on teaches us lessons that will assist us in the next difficult situation. We will become wiser in our decision making and stronger in our character. Being overly protected from life's ups and downs is a strategy to create a dependent, weak individual. Confronting all the difficulties of life and learning to deal with them builds a person's confidence and personal strength.

Coddling our modern children is a major reason our nation is being considered weak by our adversaries. Letting our children compete and earn their rewards by facing and solving their own difficulties will give us the strength of character to become winners again.

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.

