



# Wider Horizons School

## Spring is Here in Florida

### DATES TO REMEMBER

3/7 Fathers Day Visit  
8-8:30am  
3/7 Class Photo (Lifetouch)  
3/12 World Culture Day  
3/14 Report Cards  
3/17-3/24 Spring Break

### UNDERSTANDING GEOGRAPHY THROUGH MAPS



### A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PRIMARY STUDENT

We made our own nutritious snack with apples and dates.



We have a tug-o-war to test our strength.



### TEACH YOUR CHILD TO DO CHORES FOR THEIR SUCCESS

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

*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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## PRESCHOOL

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Nieves

This week we are learning how to take care of a pet. We are giving the children a peek into the responsibility needed to take care of one, as well as the joy of nurturing another living thing. We have a special visitor named "Herbie." He is a mini lop bunny. We will be showing the students how to feed him, give him water, and groom him.

In language, we are learning to write a poem for St. Patrick's Day. We also continue to read Bob Books. We would like to congratulate Yvan, Cooper, Caleb, and Abigail for moving up to another book. We are also learning to match our shapes with pictures and names of the shape.

In Math, we continue to learn the 45 layout lesson. First we learned placement of numbers. Then we will learn how to place the unit beads, ten bars, 100 squares, and 1,000 cubes. We also continue to learn how to add and subtract.

We are doing special art for our Fathers Day celebration next week along with fun crafts to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

## PRIMARY

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

This week for language, the students completed a poem about Fathers Day. They received a lesson focusing on sight words. Kindergarten was given a lesson on sentence formation using sentence fragments. They were also introduced to identifying the subject in a sentence.

In math, students were given an extension lesson in dynamic addition and place value.

In science, students were given another lesson on the solar system and space.

On Friday, students learned how to make a healthy treat with apples and dates. They dipped apple slices into caramel made from dates. Thank you to all who contributed to our healthy cooking lesson.

Primary looks forward to seeing fathers in the classroom on Friday March 7 at 8am.

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Russell

Congratulations to Kenneth, Cora, and Joemanuel for receiving perfect reading sheets. Congratulations to Emma, Isabelle, and Ezra for moving up on their times tables.

In Spelling we went over the words verbally and the students worked in their spelling packets.

In math the students had a lesson on "the gallon bot" and learned about measurements in capacity. They also reviewed symmetry.

The students are working from the language tower. The third grade is working on pronouns and editing sentences. Second grade is currently working on verb (past, present, and future) tenses and adjectives.

The students continue to work in different areas of cultural studies such as science, history, and geography.

In art students are finishing crafts for their fathers.

## STUDENT EDITOR

Morgan Szabo

Father's Day visits are next Friday, March 7th at 8am..

The Cultural Fair is March 12. Their choice of country was due on Wednesday. Please read the top portion of the Cultural Fair paper for the requirements.

The next book report is due March 14th, and it is a diorama: please be creative. Composition is due on March 5th.

Spring break is March 17 - 24. Class resumes Tuesday, March 25th.

This is Herbie the lop eared bunny who was visiting the preschoolers this week.





## UPPER ELEMENTARY

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

Upper Elementary students have been preparing cards and gifts to honor our dads. Invitations were sent out this week for our annual Father's Day on Friday, March 7th. Please R.S.V.P., so we know how many will attend. It will be held from 8 to 8:30 A.M.

Most of the Upper Elementary students have chosen their countries for the World Cultural Fair. A display board with cultural information, facts and pictures of the country are required, along with a dish to share with the class (32 students & 3 teachers). The weekends should be utilized to practice for the big day.

Congratulations to Ethan for completing the 6/5 math textbook!

Fourth graders continued to learn how to diagram sentences. Students were able to diagram sentences with compound subjects, as well as compound subject complements. This helps students to visualize the grammatical structure of the sentence. With only a week remaining in the third quarter, students are working hard to finish their daily math sets without rushing. Fourth graders will be having a math set competition to see who can write the neatest math set. In geography, students are finishing up their southwest research. In zoology, students are now able to identify the external parts of a fish.

Fifth graders this week learned to identify a subject in inverted sentences. Subjects in sentences in inverted order are more difficult to locate, so extra practice will be needed to master this skill. They also learned about the understood subject in imperative sentences. In Botany, the characteristics of plants and animals were completed and a lesson on the root system and shoot system of a plant was given and a chart of the plant was completed. Last week fifth graders explored the layers of the earth and completed a booklet with information of all the layers. Those who finished the booklet were able to participate in making a clay model of the earth and its layers.

Sixth graders completed the unit on verb tenses and should be able to accurately use the correct form of a verb in their written assignments. They are moving on to the next unit on personal pronouns. In Physical Science, sixth graders are starting to design their roller coasters applying the concepts of potential and kinetic energy, friction and conservation of energy. They will begin to construct their roller coasters next week.

## JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, & Ms. Wheeler

We have had another productive week in the Junior and Senior High School room!

The third quarter will officially end on March 7th! This is the final stretch, so let's finish strong. Stay focused, complete all assignments, and put in your best effort to ensure your grades reflect your hard work. If you need any extra help, don't hesitate to ask!

All math binders must be turned in by Wednesday, March 5th. To receive full credit, binders should be neatly organized with all sets in numerical order. They should make sure to start with their quarterly sets paper and test schedule paper at the front. Staying organized will help them prepare for the final stretch of the quarter!

We are excited to celebrate with a special Father's Day visit on the morning of March 7th. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and their fathers (or a special guest) to enjoy a morning together. More details will be shared soon—stay tuned!

Students are currently working on their typing skills using home row keys, focusing on both speed and accuracy. They should keep practicing to improve their efficiency!

For their weekly composition, students turned in skit, song, and dance ideas to be used for performances in this year's production of Friday Night Live. Let's make these last few weeks count and end the quarter on a high note!

**SNACKS WILL NOW BE  
\$0.75 FOR ALL ROOMS**

We had multiple students progress to new math books this week! We would like to congratulate Alexander Jorge and Robert Rey for progressing to Algebra 1. We would also like to congratulate Logan Barbieri for passing his Algebra 1 final and moving onto Algebra 2. Finally, Matthew Ni deserves congratulations for progressing to Algebra 2! As he is an eighth grader, this is a big feat and we are very proud of his dedication to his work.

## AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

During circle time this week we read a book called "Desert Animals". The children had all these questions regarding the desert like which animals can live there and if people can also live there. We also discussed the cold weather this week and ways to keep warm. We talked about dressing appropriately, such as wearing long pants, long sleeve shirts, and jackets.

Outdoors, the children played and sang songs. One of their favorite games to play is "Red Light Green Light". Some played in the sandbox while the rest of the children were using the playground equipment. Once inside, the older students were given ample time to complete their homework. The rest of the children enjoyed playing a multitude of games and puzzles of their choice.

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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](http://www.drmaglioblogspot.com).*