



Wider Horizons School

Busy learning again

DATES TO REMEMBER

9/2 Labor Day- No School

9/13 Grandparents Day- Song Fest

9/17 Constitution Day

9/25 Technology Day

10/11 Columbus Day- No

10/31 BIOGRAPHY FAIR

**NOTICE CHANGES:
SUBWAY PRICES ARE:
4"=\$4, 6"=\$6**

**PIZZA PRICES ARE:
1 SLICE \$3
2 SLICES \$4**

PARENT INFORMATION

Parent orientation information went home today. Be sure to read the various pages of information and return the signed sheet when you have read it all. This is important information you will want to know to help your student stay on track.

Be sure to call the office if you have any questions.

There is a slip for Subway and Pizza lunch sign in, an updated school calendar showing the events as we expect them to be at this time.

Junior and senior high students have a student handbook to be read by students and parents.

School Year Begins Strong



Montessori materials show the students many different things. Cooper is using the wooden stair and cards to match the correct ones. This material shows a slight difference in size of each stair.

Second and third graders are working on Montessori science work. Each activity is unique and gives a different lesson. Students have to read then write the lesson.



RESEARCHING PROGRAMS IS NECESSARY

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

Many things do not work according to the expected script. Most all children act as they feel at the moment and not according to the authority's wishes. The reality is children must be trained according to the way those around them want them to act. Most children are stubborn and want what they want and often get it. They learn many methods of manipulation of their adults in various settings. In other words, they become sophisticated manipulators which makes parenting more complicated. Since the children have various authority figures in their lives with various expectations it confuses the parents as well as the child.

The reality is the parents should be the ultimate authority figures for their children. They need to find outside programs that agree with their goals and methods of raising their children.

This means interviewing the directors of the particular group who will be dealing with their child daily. Speaking to other parents whose children have been in the program a substantial amount of time will give a more comprehensive picture of the program.

continued on last page

PRESCHOOL

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Scaglione

The preschool class is off to a great start. The students are settling into the classroom routine and are learning more and more everyday.

We continue to reinforce the rules for proper classroom behavior. Establishing order is an essential part of the preschooler's daily routine.

During circle time the children were given various lessons in math and language to review. We continue to develop powers of observation such as attention and concentration. This week we are exploring birds, "what they are" and "where they live". With fun activities to follow.

Soon we will begin making parent teacher meetings to let you know how your child is doing and what we can do to help your child succeed. We look forward to a very productive year. Have a great weekend!

PRIMARY

Miss Finnerty, Ms. Skiff, and Mr. Garrand

Thank you all for a wonderful week. We continued to emphasize the importance of classroom and safety rules to all of the children. We explained that in order for them to learn, they must take care of the materials and each other. We began our spelling list routine this week and introduced the kindergarteners to their words this week. At this time, all first graders were given a list, along with our kindergarteners who will have 5 words to start. Our hope is for all students to move into leveled lists that are appropriate for the level they are at.

In the morning, each child will begin their day with spelling, language, and math. These may get done in any order, but they are expected to finish all three before moving onto our afternoon work which consists of science, geography, practical life, and sensorial.

Kindergarteners will learn basics in language; basics such as matching pictures to their phonetic sounds and identifying consonant-vowel-consonant words. First graders will work on more challenging language, such as consonant blends and compound words. In math, the children were given lessons in using Montessori materials such as short bead stairs and number rods. These materials familiarize them with quantities up to ten and introduce them to addition of these numbers. First graders continued to work on memorizing their addition facts. We are looking forward to a great year and thank you for all your support.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Russell

The students have survived the first two weeks of school.

Congratulations to Silas for mastering addition facts 1-10. Congratulations to Aryana, Karolyn, and Bailey for mastering addition facts 11-20. Congratulations to Kinsley and Alexandra for mastering subtraction facts 1-10. Congratulations to Joemanuel, Christian, and Kendra for mastering subtraction facts 11-20.

As a reminder, the first book report and composition will be done together as a class. Completing this as a class allows the students to better understand the expectations for each assignment. The students will be responsible to complete future composition topics and book reports at home.

STUDENT EDITOR

Morgan Szabo

We are continuously reviewing the rules of the classroom, such as sitting in circle properly, lining up quietly, and manners.

Last week the students were introduced to their first spelling list. The new spelling words go home every Friday and the test is the following Friday.

In history the students are learning about the Five Great Lessons. This week they learned about a timeline, days of the week, days of the week.

In science the students have had a lesson in botany about the parts of the plant/flower.

In geography the students had a lesson on land forms 1-3 and water forms.

In language the 2nd grade students had a matching lesson using materials from the tower. They are currently learning the different animal sounds, homes, groups, and young. The third grade students had a review lesson from the tower starting with the plurals to refresh their memory from last year. They had a lesson on homophones.

In math this week the students had lessons on booklets, second grade using the stamp game for materials. Applications, geometry cards, and money. The students had a lesson on the penny, how much its worth, and what it looks like. We encourage you to continue to review coins with your child to help them count money as a game.

We ask that you try to get your child to class by 8:20 so they are ready to start class on time. When a child is late, they miss important lessons that are given in the morning.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez and Ms. Bandini

The Parent Orientation booklets were sent out on Friday with all Upper Elementary students. The booklet provides the parents with valuable information about procedures, homework, parental and student's responsibilities. Please read carefully and contact the school with any concerns. The Upper Elementary Calendar will be sent home with our students on September 1st. 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. Students also wrote an introductory paragraph for their composition. In addition they complete lesson #2 in their new spelling books and took their first spelling test of the new school year. 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! Enjoy your math homework! In zoology students are learning about the world we live in and the five kingdoms including the animal kingdom.

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. They will be tested next week. Students adapted well to the increased length of their compositions and have really put effort into finding their writer's voice in this first composition.

Sixth graders completed chapter one in physical science and will take their first test on Wednesday, August 28th. Before the test they completed a lab

where they utilized several tools such as; the meter stick, 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.

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Ms. Wheeler, Mrs. Samuels

The first two weeks of school have flown by! We would like to thank everyone for contributing to a very successful start of a new school year.

Students have now taken their first tests. We are focusing on learning good note taking and studying habits that will assist them with being prosperous in both their high school and college years.

The 7th graders are being taught to emphasize organization. Well-organized students will naturally tend toward to being much more capable of effective time management. At the same time, they will have enhanced productivity, reduced stress, and normalized high efficiency. Once the student is better organized they will be better prepared to meet deadlines. We encourage adults working with them at home to check up on their organizational skills and verify that these abilities are carrying over to participation in the household as well. This will only reinforce the importance of these skills.

8th grade finished chapter one of their life science text along with their first test. We are continuing to emphasize organizational skills and the habit of working in class in order to have less work to complete when they go home for the day.

The 9th grade students have been truly impressive with their commitment to their studies. They have been expanding on their English skills, reviewing compound subjects and

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

verbs before moving on to more complicated aspects of grammar and paragraph construction.

The 10th graders are currently The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck. It is a historical fiction novel published in 1931 that dramatizes family life in an early 20th century Chinese village. In addition to discussing the facts of the novel students are making comparisons between culture norms in that time and place and their current societal expectations.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

During circle time, we discussed what makes us feel angry, upset, sad, afraid, or shameful. We also discussed how to handle our emotions and ways to counter our emotions (it's okay to admit what you're feeling).

On the playground this week, the children participated in singing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes".

They also played "Simon Says". Some of the children were busy building sand castles in the sand box, while others were using the playground equipment. Enjoy your weekend!!



Continued from front page

It takes great effort to research programs to attain a good fit for the child's development but will be time well spent. The reality is the child will often spend more time in school and afterschool programs than at home. Parents should realize their child is being influenced or even molded by these programs which can be good or bad depending on their parental and school philosophy being in sync.

Parents should be careful where they are placing their children even for just a few hours in a daycare, all day in a school, or in an afterschool activity. Difficulties for a child can be prevented by the leader of the children's specific activity. This usually takes place by the adult who has the responsibility of the child's well-being which is the parent, grandparent or guardian.

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” By anticipating what could go wrong and preventing it from happening is the primary mission of the person in charge of any group.

A conscientious person as the leader of any group is essential for the high functioning and safety of any well-run program. Leaving your child in the hands of a program leader who has an excellent history of supervising groups of children is essential for the peace of mind of the child's guardian and the growth of the child.

It takes extra effort to find the right setting for your child, but it is worthwhile for the health and safety of the child. This does not change as the child moves up in the grades in school. Parents continuously need to keep a sharp eye on what is going on in the child's school life. Too many parents leave their child's education totally in the hands of the local school which might not be a wise decision. Check and see if your child is learning what you would expect any child of their age to know. Have them show you what they are learning in math. Is it more advanced than last year? Have them read aloud to you to measure their reading ability. Be sure your child can write a story for you that makes sense. Do not take for granted that your child is learning what you expect they are. You might be mistaken.

If chosen correctly, the decision of a school and after school programs will generally enhance the future safety and positive learning of the child. If not, it can result in a situation that can affect the child's emotional and mental capacity as well as future learning so choose carefully where your child will be spending their time.

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.