

# Wider Horizons School

## Third Week Completed !



### 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

**Monday September 2nd**  
**We will be**  
**CLOSED**

**Return to school on**  
**Tuesday, September 3rd.**

### PARKING LOT PICK UP

When you are waiting in the car line please pull up as far as you can to keep the line moving.

This way we can speed up the process of picking up the students.



Montessori math and language materials being used in Primary Class.



Group discussion taking place in Literature Class in the 5th grade. Students read a selected story and discuss the plot, characters, and new vocabulary words. Classic literature is a big part of Wider Horizons School.



### COMPLETING CHORES PROVIDES A FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.  
Traditional Realist

Farm children usually have the reputation for being excellent academic students because they were taught how to work. Many of these chores had to be done often without specific instructions. Of course, the farm children had to improvise to get the chores done correctly and in a timely manner. These varied experiences give these youngsters the opportunity to become competent individuals in many areas. They can quickly and confidently repair or replace many items in various situations.

What children living on a farm experienced to make them competent is not what children of today experience. Many children do almost nothing around the house to help out the family. The normal chores expected of children in the past are done by others such as landscapers, home cleaners, painters and others robbing the children of common knowledge they could use for their future.

Today many parents are busy doing a million things inside and outside of the home. As the children grow older it should become possible for the children to take over some tasks. "Clean up your room."

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## PRESCHOOL

Ms. Wallace and Mrs. Scaglione

This week in preschool, we continued our discussion on birds and the students are discussing "Labor Day". At the art table students are making Labor Day art as well as something special for the up coming Grandparents Day.

The preschoolers have been learning about germs. This includes learning how to blow their nose with a tissue, how to properly dispose of the tissue, and how to wash both hands immediately when finished. It is very important that the children learn good hygiene, not just for their own health but the health of others. In sensorial we had a lesson on colors and sizes (The difference between what is small/large).

We have also been practicing our letters and sounds to help us read "Bob Books". In math, we continue to learn to count, now going into our teens to adding 1-10.

The preschoolers continue to learn Spanish every morning during circle. They are learning colors, songs, and the days and months of the year.

## PRIMARY

Miss Finnerty, Ms. Skiff, and Mr. Garrand

It has been a busy week. The students have been hard at work learning new lessons. They are enjoying the variety of activities that they are able to do throughout the day. They are adapting more to our routine and seem to be more comfortable.

In language, the kindergartners continued practicing the letter sounds and alphabetizing.

Throughout the year kindergartners will master the basics in language, such as matching pictures to their phonetic sounds and identifying consonant-vowel-consonant words. First graders will work on more challenging language, such as blends and compound words.

In math, the children were given lessons using Montessori materials such as short bead stairs and number rods. These materials familiarize them with quantities up to ten and introduce them to the addition of these numbers. First graders continue to work on addition and subtraction facts.

In science, students are studying botany, they are learning the parts of a leaf and about the different kinds of trees.

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Russell

Congratulations to Cora for having a perfect reading sheet. Congratulations to Annabelle and Sebastian for mastering addition facts 1-10. Congratulations to Michael and Frank for mastering addition facts 11-20. Congratulations to Bailey for mastering subtraction facts 11-20.

In language this week second graders learned about nouns. They matched and wrote the language. For example boy-girl, dad-mom. The third graders learned about plural spelling rules such as what ends in "x", add "es" or ends in "y", change to "ies."

In math this week the students wrote geometry cards, worked in their math booklets, solved applications, had a lesson on nickel, and reviewed the penny.

In spelling this week the students wrote their spelling words 5 times,

## STUDENT EDITOR

Morgan Szabo

learned or reviewed how to make a word search using their spelling words, spelled their words with stamps, and had a worksheet.

In geography this week the students started working on landforms 1-3 and water forms 1.

They also began an activity in mapping and reviewing the compass rose with directions.

In science this week the students began working with the parts of the tree and flower.

In history this week students will be learning more in the last of the Five Great Lessons. They have completed a timeline with the days of the week and age.

In art the students worked on a card and craft for Grandparent's Day.

This week the students learned about bowling. The first step is learning about the pins, how many pins there are, how to set the pins up properly and how to hold the ball.

The students have also been introduced to keyboarding, which is learning how to type on a laptop.



## UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez and Ms. Bandini

Proposals for the Biography went out this Friday. Please take this time to research historical figures and decide who to portray for the Biography Fair. This is the first step in preparing for the presentation. Once a historical figure is chosen, a proposal is 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.

This week fourth graders continued to learn about the rules involved in changing singular nouns into plural nouns. They are also currently reading "Call it Courage" in class and at home. Students learned about positive and negative numbers through number lines in math. Students should be using a ruler when completing math sets at home. In zoology, students were tasked with choosing an animal to classify using a taxonomy chart. In geography, they learned about the southeast region of the United States.

Fifth grade has covered a lot of material this week! They are reviewing terms in Language from last year. Learning how to distinguish between direct objects and indirect objects, and locating prepositional phrases in sentences has been the focus this week. Direct address was another topic they explored. During our arithmetic period each day, I'm especially proud to report, all fifth graders are performing marvelously! This week in geography we are working on map skills and navigational terminology to build a nice foundation to move on to more complex lessons later in the year. Fifth grade students have been assigned *Hatchet* for their first book report.

Sixth graders completed chapter one test in Physical Science this week. Congratulations to Janie Padilla for earning the highest score and a 100% on the first test! In Language, students continue mastering locating the subject and predicate in sentences and diagramming the sentences. They are also learning to distinguish the difference between fragments and sentences. The novel assigned for the first book report is *My Side of the*

*Mountain*; students must complete reading by the 12th of September. A book report will be completed in class on the 13th of September.

## JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Ms. Wheeler, Mrs. Samuels

This week in the junior/high school room, we have spent time on both reinforcing learned good habits and establishing new ones. Organization and neatness from their desks to the way they store their books and work in their backpack are crucial traits for a successful student. As we give them time in every class to work on their homework after it has been assigned, it is important for them to pack up their work in such a way that it does not get lost in the shuffle between school and home and back again.

We are well into the school year. The 7th graders have a very good idea about what is expected of them in every class. There should not be any more confusion about assignments or homework. Our mission is for the students to feel comfortable enough to address their concerns regarding any work assigned to them. We are trying to prepare them for the future when they will be expected to advocate for themselves. Please encourage active reading at home as well as time management.

This week in Computer class, the 8th graders have been learning how to format a Works Cited page. They were instructed on how to both manually and digitally cite their sources. This skill will come in handy when they do their Biography Fair report as well as when they are expected to write research papers in college. In Physical Science, 9th graders studied chemical and physical changes. They did a lab using different substances in order to observe whether or not combinations of them would create physical changes, chemical changes, or both. 10th graders are studying matter in biology. They're learning about atoms and other such components of matter. They took an exam this week.

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 circle time, we discussed a potpourri of subjects. For example, "What's inside the Earth?" Inside the Earth are many layers (like the layers of an onion). We live on the thin outer layer, called the crust, also the children asked if the Earth is round like a ball. Well, it's not round, the Earth is like a round ball that has been gently squashed at the top and bottom. We talked about the ocean and one child asked if the ocean gets dark at night. The top of the ocean is called the sunlight zone. Below, this is the twilight zone, where it gets darker and colder. The children were curious and asked if there is any fish at the bottom of the ocean... yes, some very strange-looking fish live here. We

also discussed the desert. Can a desert be hot and cold? Yes, some deserts are burning hot during the day and freezing at night. We also learned camels store "fat" in their hump, not water (the hump is like a built-in food store that the camel with energy for days or even weeks). The camel can live without food or water for a long time.

During playground time, the children enjoyed making sand castles and birthday cakes while in the sand box, others were using the playground equipment and the rest were singing and playing red light, green light. Once inside, the older students worked on their homework and the rest had a chance to play with all kinds of games or puzzles of their choice.

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Usually, the mother informs the child where they can put their clothes, toys, electronic gadgets and other objects. It might take many reminders and explicit instructions where everything belongs. Eventually a misplaced object becomes an exception to the rule.

As the youngster attempts different types of chores he develops new skills. They try new methods of attacking different problems and thinking through a series of solutions. This process of rationally attacking a difficult situation is an indication the child is developing the skills necessary to become a fully functioning adult.

Helping set the table, putting the silverware in the proper place, emptying the dishwasher are a few of the many chores that even young children can do to help the family. As a child develops into a teenager, the number of ways they should help out with activities for the family increase in number and intensity. The adolescent is expected to figure out the best way to complete the chore they need to do and complete them in an efficient way to be helpful.

It is incumbent upon the parents to make sure the growing child has age appropriate things they can do to help out with family chores. Unfortunate children are those whose parents do everything for them never giving them a chance to learn simple tasks that are necessary to maintain a home or even prepare a meal.

As youngsters grows into adults, they normally will want to demonstrate their abilities to plan and complete more sophisticated projects to show their competence. The child may not realize the reward for doing the chores correctly is to develop competence in doing many different things that will benefit him all his life.

Knowledge of various methods of efficiently completing chores and experimenting with different methods to determine which is best to complete a task is a terrific method of self-learning.

Learning to do many different chores around the house is a definitive way to help a child learn diligence, time management, and the perseverance needed to be an academic achiever.

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).