

Wider Horizons School

HURRICANE CLEAN UP- AGAIN!!



DATES TO REMEMBER

- 10/18 REPORT CARDS!!
- 10/31 BIOGRAPHY FAIR
 - Early release -
- 11/8 Veterans Day Tribute

HURRICANE MILTON DEALT US A ONLY GLANCING BLOW

We were fortunate again to receive little damage at WHS. Just the tree in front lost a large limb. The students helped clean up the branches and some parents are happy to have the cedar wood for their fire pits.



The entire neighborhood had power long before it was restored at the school. Mrs. Gutierrez who lives nearby checked often to see if the power was restored.

We could not open school unless we had power and did not know until Sunday afternoon, 10/13 that there was power when Mrs. Gutierrez stopped in again and saw that the Withlacoochee Electric truck was here and the school finally had power.

We are pleased with many of the students who continued to do their school work even though they were at home during the hurricanes.

ACCOMPLISHING ANYTHING WORTHWHILE TAKES EFFORT

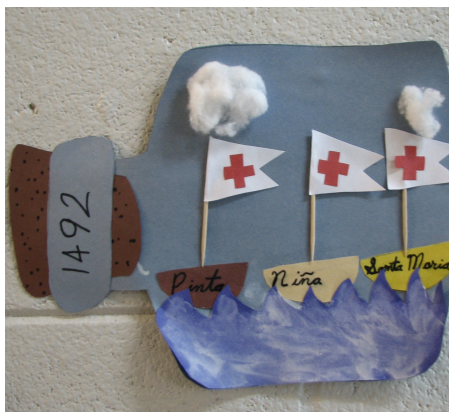
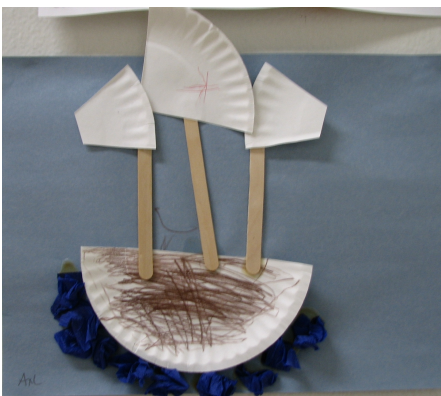
By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.,

Most youngsters have been conditioned by the culture to believe they are entitled to anything they want. They desire it, get it and throw it away. This quick turn over of interests happens daily throughout their short existence.

These children are born into a consumer-credit, fad economy. Instant gratification is the norm in their lives. When children lose or abuse a toy or precious object they immediately have it replaced. These young people rarely have to repair, maintain or build something. Our affluence has encouraged us to passively purchase services and objects rather than use our ingenuity and imagination to rebuild or create another interesting activity.

The art of living a unique life of overcoming liabilities and turning them into assets is becoming unusual in a victimized society. Youngsters, often with the consent and encouragement of their parents, would rather receive special diagnosis and assistance by professionals to complete simple objectives rather than struggle to find their own strategy to compensate for their limitations. Continued on last page

In celebration of Columbus Day, the preschoolers and lower elementary students have made various art crafts dedicated to his voyages.



PRESCHOOL
Mrs. Wallace

Welcome back! What a busy week for all and we are glad that everyone is safe.

This week we discussed Columbus Day. We made special art along with learning a new song. We are learning about different sports we can play in the fall. Along with a lesson on the changing of leaves and animals.

In math, we continue to count 1-5, 1-10, 11-20, and addition. Our materials have changed to excite learning along with the change of season.

In language, students have been working hard on reading their Bob Books. This week the following students moved up in their books, Yvan, Caleb, Cooper, Soren, Noah, and Abigail. Way to keep up the hard work. We are practicing our phonograms along with vowels and sounds.

In art, we are embracing the fall change. We are creating pictures of what Fall looks like to us.

In sensorial, we continue to practice our colors, change of season and sizes like smallest to largest.

PRIMARY

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

Welcome back! We hope everyone stayed safe during our hurricane days. This week we celebrated two birthdays, Emily and Christopher. They walked around the sun to represent each year they have been alive.

The students received lessons on the decimal system. This was a review for some children, and new to others. The children learned about concrete to abstract color coded numerals, building their association of quantity and symbols. We also introduced the the tray of nines-bead

from 1-1,000 (9 units, 9 tens, 9 hundreds, one thousand). This activity is sometimes called the exchange tray. It teaches the child that 10 units are the same as one thousand.

In language, students copied a poem about October, and then illustrated scenes that remind them of October. Students also received lessons on CVC puzzles and the first graders learned about the magic “e”. They are understanding that an e at the end of a word makes the vowel say its name. At the art table, students started making spiders to get them ready for Halloween.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek and Ms. Russell

Welcome back, we are glad to see everyone’s safe.

Congratulations to Joemanuel and Chad for having perfect reading sheets last week. Congratulations to Michael for mastering addition facts 11-20. Congratulations to Caden and Bella for mastering subtraction facts 1-10. Congratulations to Aryana and Frank for mastering subtraction facts 11-20. Congratulations to Kendra, Kinsley, Katherine, Michael and Caden for moving up on their times tables. Congratulations to Bailey, Karolyn, and Aryana for moving up to mixed times tables.

We have been verbally testing the students in their multiplication facts along with weekly testing to help them move along.

In spelling the students wrote their spelling words two times on a chalk board, partook in a verbal competition, and worked on worksheets. This week had a different type of spelling test. This was a test of definitions. We have gone over the words verbally and what each one means. It is important that they continue to remember what the words mean. We see this all the time that once we go over the words they turn around and ask what they mean again. This will get their

STUDENT EDITOR
Morgan Szabo

attention to focus more on this lesson.

In math, the students enjoyed the beautiful weather, working in groups based on their multiplication facts level outside. They also worked in their booklets applications, reviewed clocks 1 hour and had a lesson on half hour.

In language, the students have been working on punctuation. They have learned about the four different types of sentences, such as command, statement, and exclamations.

In Geography the students have been working on landforms, water forms, weather and clouds.

In botany students have been working on the tree, flower, different types of roots, and had a lesson on different leaf characteristics.

In history students have been working on the different days of the week and the months of the year.

In art the students have been working on Halloween crafts.

The book report is due October 25, 2024.

Students should have turned in their resources for the Biography already. The first copy of the rough draft should be turned in already so corrections can be made. Please make sure it is written in first person.



UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss. Bandini,

Welcome back! We were happy to see that everyone returned safely after the hurricane. We have lost some time due to days off, so we will be catching up for about a week or so.

Rough drafts for the Biography Fair research paper were due this Friday. With only two weekends left before the Biography Fair, all students are encouraged to practice their presentations for the big day. We will begin practicing in class next week; and everyone should be prepared to present. Focusing on memorizing important facts, projecting their voices and maintaining eye contact are important factors in achieving higher grades. While display boards are not required for this fair, if a student is using one, it must be incorporated into their presentation, so they should practice using their board as well.

Fourth graders completed their unit one test in Florida History. In the next unit they will explore Pre-Columbian Florida and then learn about the Spanish Conquistadors and their early attempts to colonize Florida.

Fifth graders are continuing to work in the language towers. Some are learning to classify adjectives and adverbs. While others are exploring the materials on the encyclopedia. They are also learning the different classifications of nouns: common, proper, collective and abstract.

This week sixth graders have continued their exploration of the periodic table and the classification of its elements. They also learned to identify the properties of metals and nonmetals. After sixth graders are done with this unit, they will adopt two elements and make a poster illustrating the many uses of these elements. Sixth graders completed their second unit test in

vocabulary this week. These tests require more study time because they are a culmination of three lessons; therefore after every three lessons there is a unit review test.

The second quarter began this week and report cards go out today. If there are any questions or concerns please contact the office. Scorecards are sent out on Monday; please make sure to sign and return them as soon as possible, so new grades could be updated.

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Youse, Miss. Wheeler, and Mr. Harrell

This week, we'd first like to welcome Mr. Harrell to the Junior and Senior High School team. He has been a great addition to the room, providing the students with motivation and incredibly helpful lessons that will serve them in school and beyond. We are very glad to have him with us.

The first quarter is now officially behind us. Report cards went home with the students today. All students now know where they stand in their classes and if they need to maintain their momentum or increase their efforts for the rest of the school year.

The Works Cited pages for the Biography Fair paper were due. Now, everyone should begin the stage of writing their research paper using the sources they included on the page. They should also be preparing their presentation, thinking about what they will be wearing, and what they want to include in the speech itself. We will begin practicing in class next week so that everyone will have plenty of experience delivering a presentation in front of the class. We would also like to congratulate Ryleigh for moving onto the Geometry book!

IN CASE OF A STORM OR STATE OF EMERGENCY WHERE THERE IS NO POWER - SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED. We follow the public school schedule for school closings.

AFTER SCHOOL

Ms. Brewer / Ms Wallace

This week during circle time, we read a book called, "Flowers and Trees." As mentioned before, the children always keep to watering and weeding the garden weather permitting. While doing this, some children asked very important questions. It was explained to the children that people need water and food to be strong and healthy. Plants need the same thing too, otherwise they may wilt and die. Their leaves and stems have tiny holes that are too small to see. The children are looking forward to weeding and/or watering the garden. We also read a book about farm animals and compared them to wild animals.

While on the playground, some of the children sang and danced to several songs, while others were playing "Red Light, Green Light" and "The Wheels on the Bus"; the rest were busy using the playground equipment. Once inside, the older students worked on their homework while the rest worked or played with an activity of their choice.



Continued from front page

According to child advocates it is not the fault of the child for having some limitations, as they should be given special programs and assistance to deal with their immediate problems.

Our public schools are insisting certain difficult students need to receive psychotropic drugs to attend school. When parents refuse to place their child on drugs they are sometimes confronted by child protective services. There are even cases where children have been removed from their home and placed in foster care due to the parent's not complying with the school district edicts. This has taken place without the parents being given due process to their rights as citizens.

It is not good for particular students to have tests read to them. They should only be given tests that are on their reading level. Without the ability to read they will not be functional in any modern society, nor should they receive extra time to take a test. This ridiculous practice only confirms to the child that he is less than normal. Children need to be trained and inspired to reach incremental goals, not be warehoused and labeled as defective by the system and accepted by the child.

We as a people have forgotten that our greatness as an economic powerhouse was established on the industriousness of our ancestors. Many of them had to work to help support their families from a young age. Mostly everything they had to learn came from their own initiative and experience. Their reading, math and job skills were learned by fighting for them. There were often significant people who assisted them and apprenticeship opportunities to learn job skills were identified through their own resourcefulness.

Nothing worthwhile that is accomplished is easy. It takes work, perseverance and concentration to learn a skill, complete a task well or invent a better mousetrap. When a person just makes excuses and gives up, nothing is accomplished except a sense of failure and loss of confidence. When the person fights through these challenges and resolves the crucial issues his competence increases as well as strength of character.

As a society we should stop pandering to special interest groups who demand too many privileges, concessions and accommodations for the child having difficulties. Removing all types of adversity creates a victimized and entitlement society.

Overcoming obstacles builds confident and self-reliant people. We should return to a fair merit competition to build winners. In the "everyone wins" mentality there is no motivation to improve. Without failing in something a person loses the motivation to be a winner.

Doers who succeed have to persevere to reach their goals. It takes effort to be a success not accommodations, lower standards and expectations. These are the people who never walk away from a challenge but confront it time and time again until they conquer their inner fear of failure.

Eventually they are victorious and are able to savor their temporary accomplishments then reach out for new and more difficult goals. They raise themselves to new heights and greater laser focused efforts.

Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers, 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 a new just published book, entitled, IN CHARGE PARENTING In a PC World. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.