



WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wilson, New York

Spring 2021-22

Dear Wilson Middle School Students, Parents, and Staff,

The 2022-23 school year has started off extremely well and I am very proud of the efforts of our students.

Unfortunately, with all the hustle and bustle that comes with the spring season, this newsletter was not finished until after the school year ended. Since there was so much great content, I'm still sending it out. Better late than never I guess:) As you can see, we had a lot of activities going on and the students really enjoyed themselves.

We are planning to publish future newsletters once a quarter. The Fall Newsletter will be distributed during the last week of November.

We hope you enjoy the Spring edition of the Wilson Middle School newsletter.

Be Better Today Than Yesterday.

Take care,

Scott Benton, Principal
Wilson Middle School



JANUARY WILSON WINNERS

Each month, two students from grades 6-8 are nominated by their teachers as Wilson Winners. Students may be nominated for any number of reasons, and this spring, all 54 students will attend a field trip to celebrate their achievements. Congratulations to the Wilson Winners for January 2022!

Sixth Graders:

Henry Wortkoetter was nominated by Mrs. Reagan because he is such a hard worker. Henry is always prepared and always ready to learn something new. Additionally, he is a nice kid who is willing to help others and is a friend to everyone.

Katie Hardy was nominated by Mrs. Forsyth for her exceptional work ethic and motivation to do well. She asks great questions and genuinely wants to do the very best she can. She adds that Katie is a pleasure to teach.

Seventh Graders:

Gwen Letts was nominated by Mr. Harvey and Mr. Sippel. Mr. Harvey nominated Gwen for always having a positive attitude and possessing a great work ethic. Mr. Sippel also nominated Gwen because her attitude and work ethic are tremendous. She is kind and polite to both her peers and staff. He adds that having Gwen in class is a true pleasure.

Meghan Seider was nominated by Mr. Baker because she has had a great school year so far and has excelled in art class. He states that Meghan is a pleasure to teach.

Eighth Graders:

Shamus George was nominated by Mr. Alderman and Mr. Harvey. Mr. Alderman nominated Shamus because is hard working, conscientious, and participates enthusiastically. Mr. Harvey nominated Shamus for always being polite, respectful and doing work of the highest quality.

Brady Seeley was nominated by Mr. Baker and Mrs. Aloisio. Mr. Baker nominated Brady because he has worked very hard to create awesome art, all year. He adds that Brady is a great kid and a pleasure to have in class. Mrs. Aloisio nominated Brady because he has the highest expectations for himself. He is a proactive student who is not afraid to ask questions when in doubt. His focus and dedication to his academics bring him great success. He is thoughtful and considerate to all of his peers.



FEBRUARY WILSON WINNERS

Each month, two students from grades 6-8 are nominated by their teachers as Wilson Winners. Students may be nominated for any number of reasons, and this spring, all 54 students will attend a field trip to celebrate their achievements. Congratulations to the Wilson Winners for February 2022!

Sixth Graders:

Shiann Mason was nominated by Mrs. Forsyth because she is a fantastic student who puts 100% effort in all of her work. She is a pleasure to teach and she's also a sweetheart.

Madison Horn was nominated by Mrs. Reagan because she is an energetic and hard working student. She puts a lot of effort into her work and it's always completed with high quality. Madison is a pleasure to have as a student.

Seventh Graders:

Fiona Srock was nominated by Mr. Sippel because she is a hard working student who does her best every day. She is kind and pleasant to everyone she interacts with. It is always a pleasure having Fiona in class.

Shelby Robinson was nominated by Mr. Harvey because she is a responsible student who is always kind, respectful and courteous to her fellow classmates and teachers.

Eighth Graders:

Shelby White was nominated by Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Aloisio and Mr. Freidrich. Mrs. Palmer nominated Shelby because she works hard and her academic achievement is noteworthy. She takes ownership of her learning and will be successful in her future because of her work ethic. Mrs. Alosio nominated Shelby for being devoted to her academics. She is an extremely focused and dedicated student, going above and beyond expectations. With these traits there is no doubt she will be successful in her lifelong goals. Shelby is an inspiration to her peers. Mr. Freidrich nominated Shelby because she has shown outstanding improvement with her academics as the year has gone on. Shelby frequently stays after with her teachers to make sure she understands the content, which has impacted her grades tremendously. Shelby's efforts and dedication to improve and do well, is something her peers should take note of.

Abbie Faery was nominated by Mr. Alderman and Mrs. Alessi. Mr. Alderman nominated Abbie for being a hard working, conscientious student. Mrs. Alessi nominated her because she is a kind, responsible, motivated student who takes pride in her work and is a great role model for her classmates.



MARCH WILSON WINNERS

Congratulations to the Wilson Winners for March 2022!

Sixth graders:

Trinity Kam was nominated by Mrs. Wass for showing continuous effort on a daily basis throughout the year. Her daily effort contributes to her academic success in all of her classes.

Sophie Everest was nominated by Mrs. Forsyth because she is a hard worker who has never missed an assignment. Sophie turns in quality work every single time and she is a pleasure to have in class.

Seventh graders:

Symphony Lechowicz was nominated by Dr. Condino because her self-motivation and work ethic are excellent. She strives to do well in all academic areas. Symphony assists peers when they are having difficulty understanding an assignment or when they just need a friend to talk to. She encourages others to do their best and to never give up. Symphony has a bright future ahead of her.

Bella Muck was nominated by Mr. Moberg and Mrs. Harvey. Mr. Moberg nominated Bella because she demonstrates an eagerness to always go above and beyond in class. She actively participates and is always looking to complete extra work. Mrs. Harvey nominated Bella because she is a very mature, hard working and friendly

student. She is a leader in class and never passes up an opportunity to help peers who are struggling. She is a natural teacher and loves to share her knowledge and experience with others. Bella is bound for great success and Mrs. Harvey looks forward to watching her achieve her goals in life. Both teachers add that Bella is a pleasure to have as a student.

Eighth graders:

Ruby Narehood was nominated by Mrs. Harvey and Mr. Alderman. Mrs. Harvey nominated Ruby because she is one of the nicest students she has had the pleasure of teaching. She always enters each day with a smile and that smile remains for the entire class. She is kind to everyone and is genuinely a GREAT person! Mr. Alderman nominated Ruby because she is hard working, talented, and (quietly) one of the best students that he's ever known.

Ferris Flint was nominated by Mrs. Aloisio. Ferris is a student that shines in so many ways. He greatly values his academics and it shows, as he always goes above and beyond expectations. He is meticulous and methodical, taking his time to complete his work to be the best it can be. His enthusiasm for his learning spills over to his peers. He is kind and considerate in his actions and words. He will surely be successful in all his future endeavors.



APRIL WILSON WINNERS

Congratulations to the Wilson Winners for April 2022!

Sixth Graders:

Archer Simpson was nominated by Mrs. Reagan and Mr. Neumann. Mrs. Reagan nominated him for being an all around good student. He balances school and sports well. He is kind and funny and a good positive role model for all of us. She adds that it is a pleasure having Archer as a student. Mr. Neumann nominated Archer because he is a good citizen and is kind to his classmates. He also works hard at doing his best.

Lily Gurski was nominated by Mrs. Forsyth and Mrs. Wass. Mrs. Forsyth nominated Lily because she is a very hard worker and she always puts forth great effort. She is a pleasure to teach and aims to please. Mrs. Wass nominated Lily for always coming into the classroom with a smile on her face. She has a quiet presence that lights up the room. Mrs. Wass notes that she has been a pleasure to have in her classroom this year.

Seventh Graders:

Bailey Rodger was nominated by Mr. Sippel, Mr. Baker and Mr. Moberg. Mr. Sippel nominated Bailey because she has consistently worked hard all year. She is diligent in her studies and is always willing to help a fellow student. Bailey exemplifies all the attributes that a successful student should possess. Mr. Baker nominated her because she is a great kid whose artwork is very well done and is creative with her ideas. She is always a pleasure to teach. Mr. Moberg nominated Bailey because she has performed well all year and above expectations.

Joe Dispenza was nominated by Miss Zeller because he is a kind, generous and funny young man who does what is asked of him, when he is asked to do it. Joe has overcome a lot this year and continues to persevere through without hesitation.

Eighth Graders:

Avery Nedelko was nominated by Mr. Alderman, Mrs. Aloisio and Mr. Baker. Mr. Alderman nominated her because she is a great kid, who works hard, is a good sport, and a pleasure to have in class. Mrs. Aloisio nominated Avery for being a conscientious student, focused and thoughtful of her academics. Her enthusiasm for learning in the classroom will lead to a successful academic career. Mr. Baker nominated Avery because she is a kind, compassionate and very caring person. She excels at art because of her effort and creativity.

Lyla Adamczyk was nominated by Mrs. Aloisio, Miss Schlosser and Mrs. Harvey. Mrs. Aloisio nominated Lyla because she is a proactive student who gives optimal effort at all times. She displays a passion for literature and learning which contributes to great classroom conversations. Miss Schlosser nominated Lyla because she is a hard working and respectful student. She consistently does what she is supposed to do, and chooses to surround herself with people who do the same. Mrs. Harvey nominated her because hard work and determination make her stand out above her peers. Her kindness to others and her well rounded personality make her shine at all she does. She is truly a pleasure to work with each day and a very positive role model for others to look up to.



MAY WILSON WINNERS

Congratulations to the Wilson Winners for May 2022!

Sixth Graders:

Hayden Fellows was nominated by Mrs. Wass because he has always been an active learner in the classroom. He is determined to always do his best and is proactive in his education.

Jude Cyphert was nominated by Mrs. Andres and Mr. Neumann. Mrs. Andres nominated Jude for demonstrating a strong work ethic, exhibiting maturity in group situations and possessing strong leadership qualities. Mr. Neumann nominated Jude because he puts forth a strong, consistent effort at everything he does. He was able to keep up nicely with all his work even though he had a big part and commitment in the play.

Seventh Graders:

Petrice Schwarzmüller was nominated by Mr. Moberg. Petrice has quietly performed at or above expectations. Her work is neatly done and she is always prepared for class.

Carter Kopp was nominated by Mr. Moberg for being a pleasure to have in class. He is always prepared and actively participates.

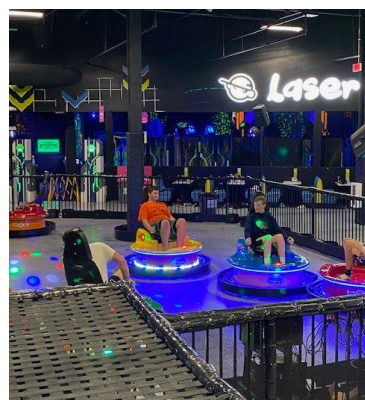
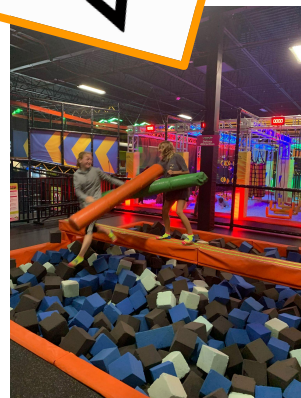
Eighth Graders:

Trent Abbott was nominated by Mr. Friedrich, who notes that Trent has shown amazing growth this school year. He has been very proactive about completing his work and asking questions. While having outstanding grades, Trent is active and excels in sports, as well as helping his classmates in and outside of the classroom.

Bailey Fournier was nominated by Miss Schlosser and Mr. Baker. Miss Schlosser nominated Bailey because she is a role model for other students and athletes. She always puts her best foot forward and makes sure everything she does is to the best of her ability, both in the classroom and in the gym. Mr. Baker nominated Bailey because she is spunky, witty and a lot of fun to be around. He adds that it is a pleasure to have her in art class.

WILSON WINNER FIELD TRIP to URBAN AIR

HAVE FUN!



MADAGASCAR JR.

The Middle School Musical, Madagascar Jr., featured the following cast members who did a fantastic job:

Aaliyah Batt, Aurora Chase, Stella Cooper, Jude Cyphert, Troy Doeblor, Taylor Ernest, Bailey Fournier, Yeardley George, Chacity Gray, Katie Hardy, Madison Horn, Savanna Jones, Gwendolyn Letts, William Maxwell, Bella Muck, Ruby Narewood, Aidan Neumann, April Paul-Redding, Violet Pittorf, Cassandra Ranney, Samantha Serafini, Kiernan Santana, Abigail Srock, Fiona Srock, Jacob Sweeney, Mackenzie Sweeney, Wyatt Thomas, Caelin Vertalino and Sophie Everest.





*Photos courtesy of
Barb Woolson and EJ Johnson.*

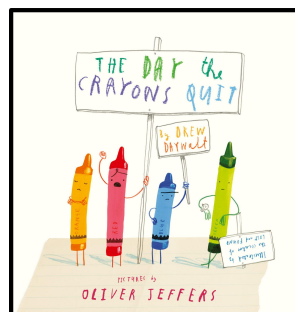
STANDING WITH TEXAS

Students in Mr. Brian Baker's Art Classes used chalk to draw the Texas flag after the violence at Uvalde, Texas. The activity was a good way for students to express themselves and show their support for fellow students at Robb Elementary school.



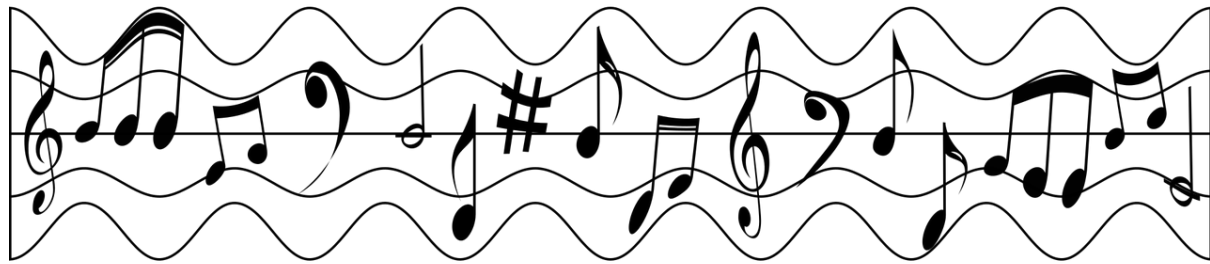
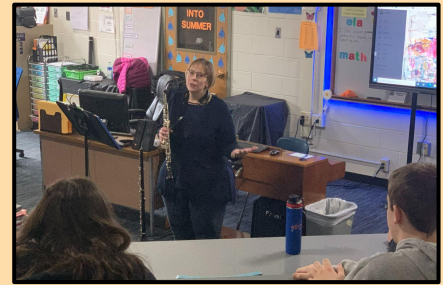
THE DAY THE STUDENTS WROTE POSTCARDS

In April, the seventh grade students in Ms. Zeller and Ms. Henzel's English classes did a unit on children's literature. After working so hard on their NYS ELA assessments, they had earned a little fun! The students read a series of stories and had a wonderful time connecting them to activities and skills, such as storytelling, plot diagramming, and letter writing. After reading The Day the Crayons Came Home by Drew Daywalt, students wrote postcards to the residents at Heritage Manor. Ms. Zeller enlisted the help of Miss Mahar to create the postcards, which featured an aerial photo of Wilson Middle School. After reading about how the main character Duncan received several postcards from his crayons as they traveled around the world, students were excited to write to the residents of Heritage Manor, and hopefully brighten their day. Once the whole seventh grade had finished writing and decorating their postcards, Ms. Zeller personally delivered them to Heritage Manor.



A VISIT FROM THE BPO

Mrs. Mercurio's 7th grade General Music students enjoyed a special presentation by guest speaker *Anna Mattix* in April. Ms. Mattix plays English Horn and Oboe with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. The presentation was titled *"Music By, About, and For Women: In Honor of JoAnn Falletta's 20th anniversary with the Buffalo Philharmonic."* This program features music by women composers, music composed for women, and music inspired by the amazing contributions of JoAnn Falletta to our community. A special thank you to the Shared Decision Making Committee for providing grant money that allowed us to have this presentation.

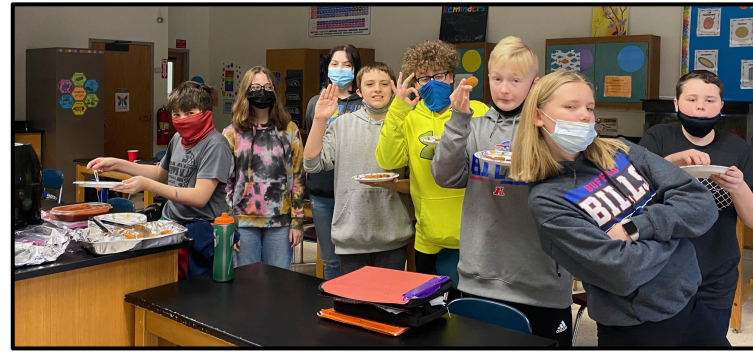


MIDDLE SCHOOL GLOW IN THE DARK DANCE PARTY



LET'S GET COOKIN'!

When Mrs. Salvatore's Home & Careers class (3rd quarter) was discussing what they should make, Jacob Wills had one request: **ketchup**. Most of the class was resistant. Mrs. Salvatore told Jacob that if he could convince the class, they would do it. Jacob created a very convincing slide presentation and won the class over. After following an online recipe, students tasted the ketchup on french fries and chicken nuggets. They also compared it to a popular store-bought brand. A majority of the class agreed that their homemade ketchup was much better than the brand name. Jacob gave it a 10/10 and stated that "it is the best day of my life"! Mrs. Salvatore's classes also made macaroni and cheese, smoothies, hummus and had a cake decorating competition. The ketchup recipe may be found [here](#).



SEWWW AWESOME!

Seventh and eighth grade students made some really creative projects in Mrs. Harvey's Home and Careers class this spring. Seventh graders began by designing and constructing monsters and then sewed their own locker organizers. Eighth graders made athletic bags as part of an entrepreneurship unit, and used the embroidery machine to add their names.





TIE-DYING IN READING

Sixth graders in Mr. Baia and Mrs. Wass's reading class recently finished the book Schooled, by Gordon Korman. The book is set in the 1960s and follows the story of Capricorn 'Cap' Anderson, a 13 year old middle schooler who had been homeschooled by his grandmother in a hippie commune. There is a scene in the book where Cap tie-dyes shirts in the art room so as a wrap-up activity, the students spent some time outside, tie-dying their own tee shirts. They turned out great!



SAND AND SUN FUN RUN

The Sand and Sun Fun Run that was held on Friday, 4/8 helped put everyone in high spirits, heading into Spring Break. **Mr. Ryan Friedrich** did a great job planning the event and raising money for Samaritan's Purse. Special thanks and appreciation to the **Village of Wilson, NYS Troopers, Niagara County Sheriff's Department, Wilson Fire Company, South Wilson Fire Company and Ransomville Fire Company** for providing escorts and making sure our students remained safe. Congratulations to the winners!



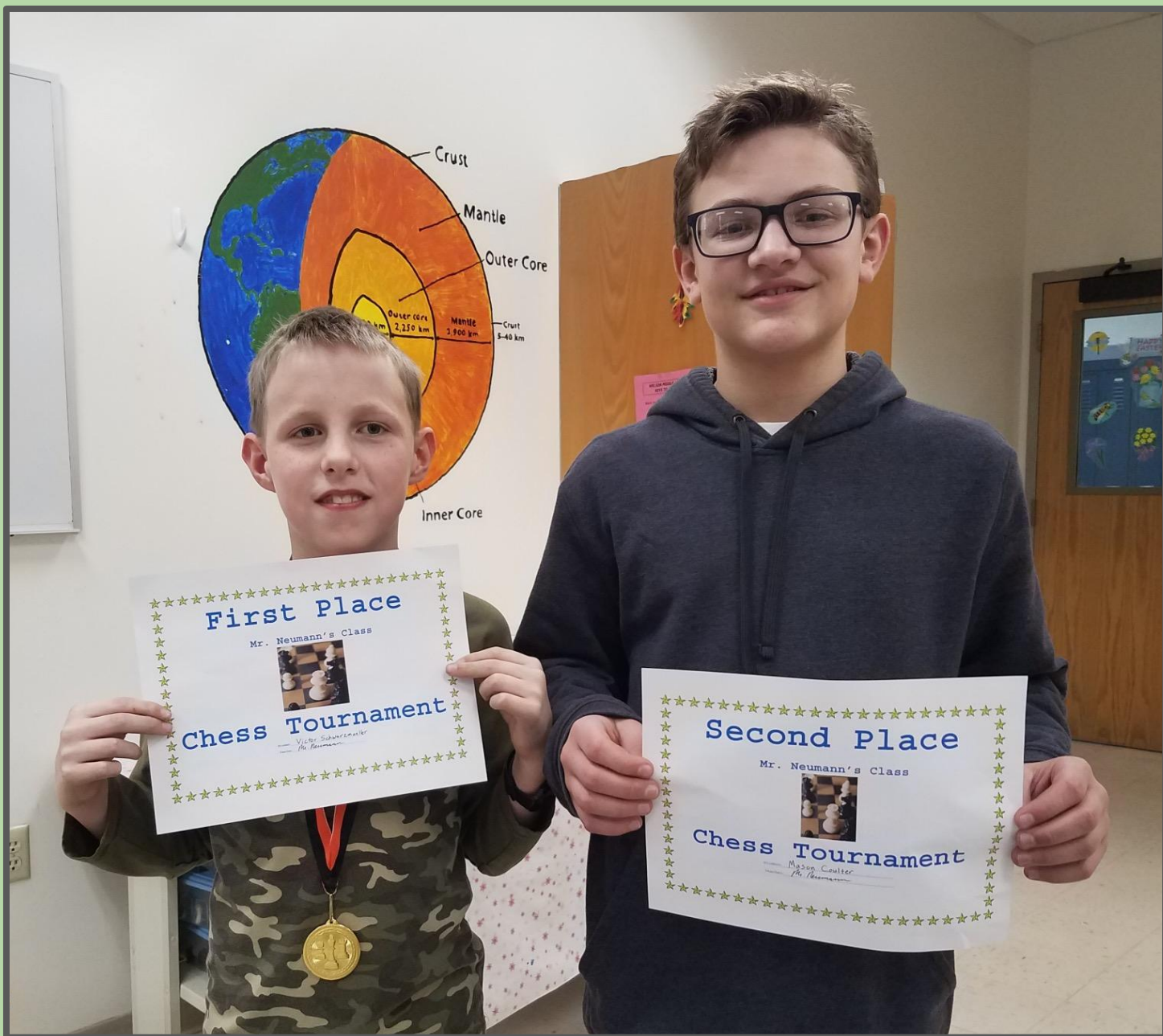




8th Graders Celebrating at the Moving Up Day Dance



Honor Roll Students Celebrate with a Field Trip at Tuscarora Park



First Ever Middle School Chess Tournament
1st Place Victor Schwarzmüller 2nd Place Mason Coulter



Thank you to our Food Service Staff for all
their hard work!

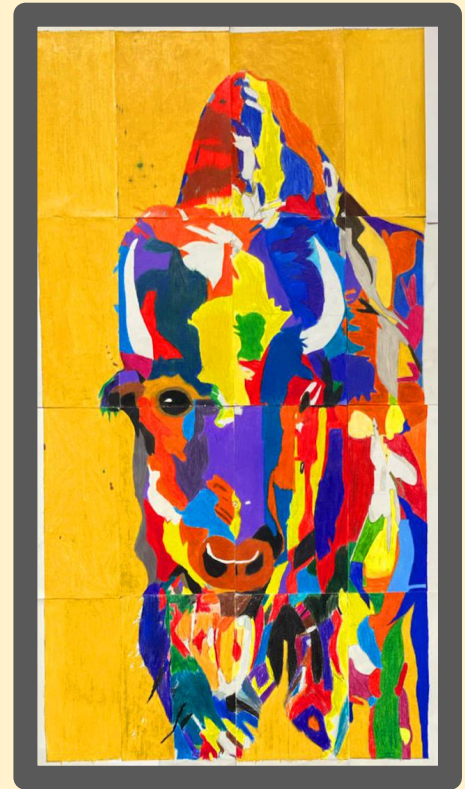
Mr. Baker's Art Show Pieces



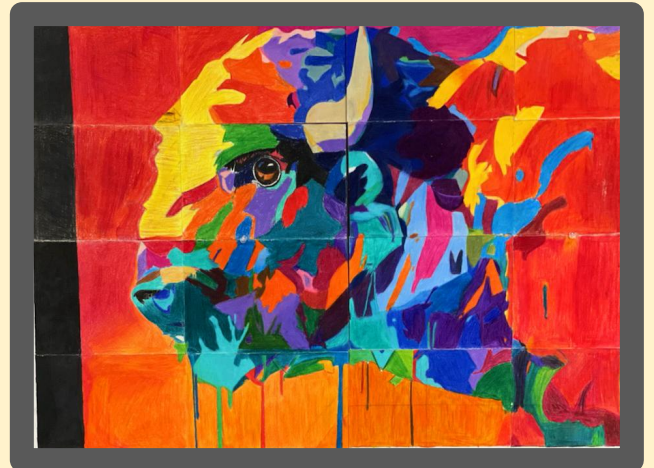
Period 2



Period 4



Period 8/9



Period 10



Period 11

TOP 5 STRATEGIES TO HELP KIDS' BEHAVIORS AT HOME

MRS. TAYLOR - WCSD SOCIAL WORKER

VISUAL SCHEDULES

Personally, I love visual schedules! One reason kids have trouble transitioning from one task or activity to another is that they don't have a heads up. It's especially hard if they have to transition to something they don't like.

Visual schedules combine pictures with words. They let kids know what to expect during the day.

It's important to review the schedule regularly so that kids know what's coming next, whether it's something they like or not. If there's something they really don't like, make sure to follow up with something they love the next day or following the activity directly.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

When some hear this term, they think it's bribery, but it's not! Positive reinforcement means rewarding someone for their hard work. As adults, we get reinforced all the time! How many of us would stay at our jobs if we didn't get a paycheck? Would anyone try to eat healthier if it didn't result in feeling better?

Positive reinforcement means doing something to encourage the child to keep doing what they are doing. Whatever it is, it should always be accompanied by a verbal praise. A simple, "You did a great job focusing on your homework today" will do the trick! Try doing it with just one behavior because you will never remember to reinforce everything.

TIMERS

Timers are a LIFE SAVER. Most kids have a hard time putting down their phones or their video games to do something boring like homework or going to the grocery store. As adults, we have a hard time getting up to go as well. I mean come on, how many of us hit that snooze button when our morning alarm goes off because we "just need 5 more minutes..."

The most important part of a timer is following through. First starting, when the timer goes off there will be a lot of "can I just have 5 more minutes, pleaseeeeeee?" It's tough and may get upsetting in the beginning, but the important part is to take [that really awesome thing] away once the timer beeps.

REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Just because kids are the same age doesn't mean they have the same strengths and challenges. Just like adults, kids are individuals and need expectations to be realistic for their individual abilities, you're an expert on your own child, so tailor expectations to what's realistic for your child.

It takes some trial and error, and that's okay. Also remember that some kids need to hear things several times before absorbing what you're saying. Being clear about expectations and repeating them multiple times is always a good idea!

TAKE A BREATH

Remember, Rome wasn't built in a day, so take these steps one at a time. Start with one behavior you want to help change and focus your energies there. When consistently used, these strategies will definitely improve your child's behavior, but it may take a moment to see it. Also change is hard, you could see a behavior get worse before it gets better; but I promise it's worth the wait!

Also give yourself some grace, you're doing your best. It won't be perfect, but it can and will get better! Then go and reinforce yourself for all of your hard work with a bubble bath or a glass of your favorite drink because you deserve to reward yourself too!

TEACHER TYPE-OFF!

As part of the sixth grade Life Skills class, students learn keyboarding through the typing.com website. To gauge their progress, they occasionally take typing tests to see if there have been improvements in their accuracy and words-per-minute. Sometimes, special guests are invited into class to take part in one-minute typing tests, that are meant to be friendly competitions. During the third quarter, many sixth grade teachers along with Principal Benton stopped by Life Skills class to see who was the best typist. Students liked seeing their teachers illustrate how well they could type, after years of practice.



25 BOOK CLUB

Congratulations to the following students, who met quarterly goals to join the 25 Book Club last year!

Brendan Gormley

Madison Horn

Liam Josker

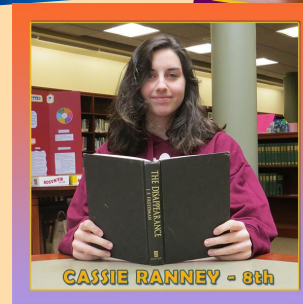
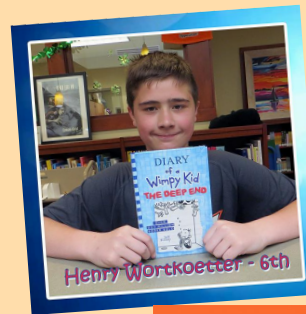
Taylor Ernest

Kelly Bedolla

Henry Wortkoetter

Cassie Ranney

Kenneth Hilwig



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