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Welcome to the Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter, which is sent out weekly when school is in session. It serves as a glimpse of some of the wonderful things going on in our schools, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

Your Partner in Education, Michele R. Pillari, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Standing Tall









Students in Mrs. Makhlouf's second grade class at Charles Olbon School did a STEM challenge using marshmallows and toothpicks to build a tower. The objective was to build a tower that could stand independently for at least 5 seconds.









Visual Inspiration

Ms. Miranda's third grade class at Beatrice Gilmore School work on personalizing their writers journal. The students added photos of their family, pets, vacations, and other important events onto their journals to help inspire writing ideas.

Virtual Back to school nights offer parents wealth of information

Charles Olbon, Beatrice Gilmore and Memorial Middle schools all held their Back to School nights this week virtually (School 1 held theirs last week; link to story can be found here). Building principals, nurses, guidance counselors and others posted either live or pre-recorded slideshows or presentations to provide information, which are all available on the school websites. Classroom and specials teachers also held live Zoom meetings for parents. Here are some important updates and notes.

TECHNOLOGY: Students accessing their classrooms virtually via Google Suite this year. Parents are encouraged to daily check their child's Google classrooms for assignments due, whether they are in-person or all-virtual.

COMMUNICATION: Parents and guardians are asked to make sure that their information is up to date on the Parent Portal. The profile can be found on the child's portal profile page under "contacts" on the left side. Include an email address to ensure that important updates and information can reach you. If you are unable to access the portal, please contact your building principal.

HEALTH: Please do not send your child to school sick. This is how germs are spread. Frequent hand washing with soap and water is our best defense. Any student that has any COVID-19 or any other illness symptoms (including but not limited to fever 100.0 or higher, diarrhea/vomiting, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of taste or smell) should not be sent to school. Any student that has asthma, allergies or any chronic illness that does not have medications/permission forms filed with their school nurse should do so immediately so that an action plan is available for your child. All medications, including over the counter, must have a signed permission slip on file, which can be found on the website under the nurse's tab.

SAFETY: Teachers encourage students to have an extra mask or two in their backpacks. Extras are available in all buildings if they are needed. All rooms include numerous safety precautions including hand sanitizers and plexiglass partitions on desks.

SEE PAGE THREE

Learning Through Play









Preschool special education students in Mrs. Parker's class at Charles Olbon School are off to a great start to their school year. They are working hard learning by playing in various centers in their class.



Dollars and Sense

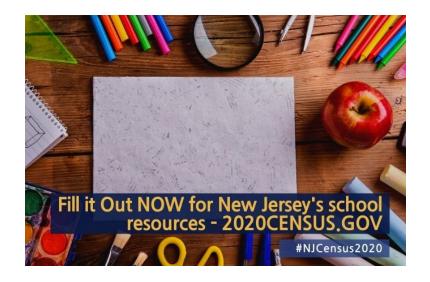
Memorial Middle School is thrilled to have launched a new Financial Literacy class for grades 6-8. The nineweek course covers nine core ideas that will help students build core personal finance skills and learn real-world strategies they can use. Class instructor Mrs. Donato, who has been with the District for 18 years, has created a money tree bulletin board to get the students ready to learn. Class topics include budgets, debt, credit cards, banking, taxes, stock market, investing and much more.

All students are offered free "grab & go" food bundles daily

All students, regardless of eligibility status, can take a FREE "Grab & Go" food bundle at the time of dismissal, which consists of the featured meal of the day along with a breakfast selection for the following morning. All meals will be comprised of the same nutritious components (protein, whole grain, fruit, veggie and milk) as students have always been served. Free meals will be available to all students until Dec. 31, 2020. The United States Department of Agriculture has extended this benefit to ensure that children have access to nutritious food as the country recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Make It Count

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly 1 million children were not counted in the 2010 Census. When children aren't counted, our community can lose out on federal funding for education, school programs and more. If you have not yet done so, please respond to the U.S. Census 2020 questionnaire TODAY at 2020Census.gov or by phone at 844-330-2020 or 844-468-2020 (Spanish). All information is confidential and only used to produce statistics. Deadline is Sept. 30.



FROM PAGE TWO

SCHEDULES: Principals clarified the way students should be doing their special classes (art, music, gym, etc.). As the instructors all work with several grades, they will post their pre-recorded lesson at the beginning of each week. Students can complete their special for the day on the day they are to have it, or whenever they would like. All assignments are due by the end of the week. In addition to their required special classes, there are live enrichment sessions daily. These are optional for students.

LIBRARY: The Alfred Baumann Library's presentation was available for all the schools. Parents/guardians were encouraged to take advantage of all the library's resources and to sign up for a free library card.