

# Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter

Building the road to success

Oct. 19, 2018

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## Important dates to note

Monday, Oct. 22 -  
BG Pumpkin Patch

Tuesday, Oct. 23 -  
COHSA Halloween Dance

Friday, Oct. 26 - CO Pumpkin Patch

Friday, Nov. 16 - BGHSA Purse  
Bingo

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

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



## Students receive safety lessons from Woodland Park police officers

As part of School Violence Awareness week, students at local schools received visits from police officers on Oct. 16, who gave them age appropriate tips to keep safe.

Sgt. Erik Luker and Officers Timothy Condrón and Justin Castro from the Woodland Park Police Department visited Charles Olbon School in the morning, and Luker and Castro visited Beatrice Gilmore School in the afternoon along with Special Class II Officer Brian Newman.

"We need you to be our eyes and ears," Luker told the students at Beatrice Gilmore. "You are partners with us in keeping the town safe."

At each school, talks were tailored to age appropriate safety basics for the children. At both schools, officers stressed to the students that they should know their address and phone number and that they should only call 911 in a real emergency. At Beatrice Gilmore, officers covered bullying as well as reporting bullying. They covered the topic of strangers and explained the difference between a safe stranger and a not safe stranger at Charles Olbon as well as the importance of safety drills at school and how students should always pay attention to the adults there.

With Halloween approaching, the officers stressed that kids should trick or treat only where they know and never alone. Luker urged the kids to be extra careful crossing streets, in addition to wearing reflective clothing or carrying a flashlight or glow sticks.

SEE PAGE TWO

# Students of the month chosen as part of Character Education Program

Last fall, Memorial School implemented a Character Education Program called the “6 Pillars of Character Education.” These six principles are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. They can be found in the district's Code of Conduct.

Students have character education instruction each week. The students of the month are chosen by the homeroom teachers – one from each homeroom.

“These students are chosen because they possess the attributes of 'a student of character,'" according to Vice Principal Lisa Barreto. “They are told that they ‘represent’ their homeroom for that month.”

Five students are chosen per grade level (one from each homeroom) each month. Photos of the students are taken and hung in the main lobby. They are given a certificate and will be acknowledged at the awards assembly at the end of the school year.

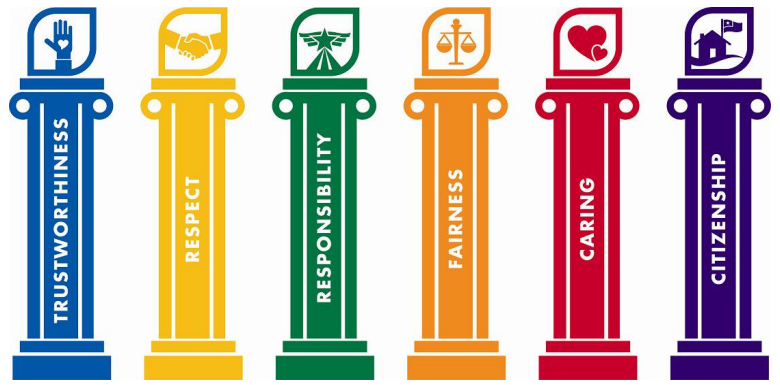
Here are the students of the month for October:

OCTOBER, GRADE 5 - Gabriella Atallah, Damaris Cruz, Emma Doherty, Jillian Troiano and Gianna Ricci

OCTOBER, GRADE 6 - Sophia Pugliese, Emma Jurkic, Kishaun Gayle, Rose Kim and Aiyman Shanaa

OCTOBER, GRADE 7 - Nicholas Ragueso, Ryan Arroyo, Kaitlyn Amanullah, Itala Desa and Arianna Zapata

OCTOBER, GRADE 8 - Amanda Rausch, Allison Neyra, Connor O'Brien, Grace Martinez and Christopher Colon



## Volunteer 'trunkers' needed for annual Trick or Trunk'

The Municipal Alliance is asking residents and businesses to consider volunteering for its annual “Trick or Trunk” to be held on Oct. 31 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the WP Boys & Girls Club parking lot, 8 Memorial Dr. Volunteer “trunkers” are needed to make this event a success. Consider volunteering or buddy up with some friends to help provide candy and decorations. Attendees are asked to donate a bag of candy as admission which offsets the amount of treats needed. Currently, two dozen trunks are registered and approximately 50 are needed. Should not enough cars register, the event will be canceled. To register, contact Michele at 973-219-9111 as soon as possible.



This event is for Borough children only. Registration is required at <https://register.communitypass.net> by Oct. 24. No late registrations accepted. Cost to attend is a suggested donation of one bag of candy per family.

## FROM PAGE ONE

School Violence Awareness Week is a week to reflect on school safety and ways to prevent violence in schools. School violence is less likely to occur if the school environment is nurturing and inclusive. All students and staff should feel safe and accepted regardless of their differences, such as cultural background, religious beliefs, family income, etc.

At CO, in order to celebrate and embrace the diversity of the community the students also worked on activities regarding tolerance and being bully-free. It concluded with the creation of a bulletin board in the main hallway that showcases ways they will all stand up to bullying.



# Moving up

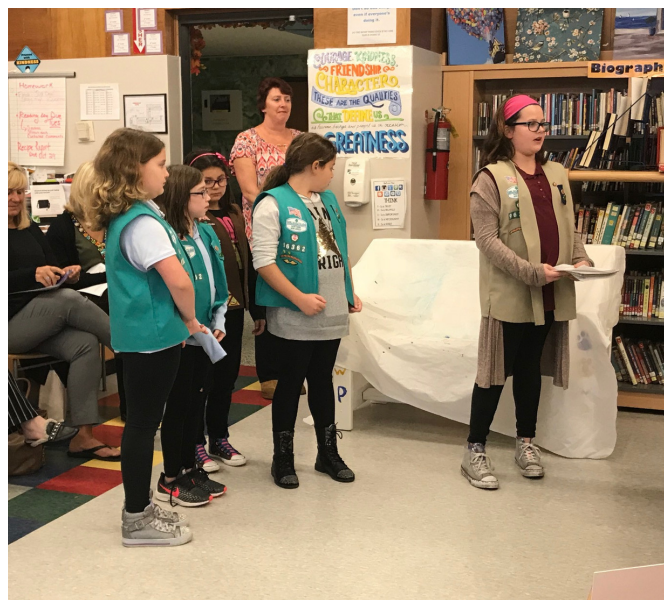
Girl Scout Troop #96362, under leaders Trish Ryan and Michele Bolen, held a Bridging ceremony for troop members on Monday. A multi-level troop, they welcomed four new girls (one Brownie, one Junior and two Cadettes), bridged four girls to Juniors, and two girls to Cadettes. The troop also welcomed back two Juniors.



## Girl Scout earns her Bronze Award with creation of 'Buddy Bench'

Erin Ryan, a sixth grader at Memorial School, earned her Girl Scout Bronze Award (the third highest award you can earn in Girl Scouting. She created a "Buddy Bench" for Beatrice Gilmore School and presented it to the Board of Education on Monday evening. She was thanked and praised by Superintendent Dr. Pillari and all of the Board members. Erin built, painted and decorated the bench herself with assistance from her parents Gerald and Trish Ryan.

A "Buddy Bench" is a designated seating area where students feeling lonely or upset can seek camaraderie. Designating such a bench is a helpful way for schools to facilitate peer support among students, a critical factor in combating school bullying.



## Deadline for Borough's Halloween Parade & Party sign up is today

The Borough's annual Halloween Costume Parade & Party for Woodland Park children pre-school to 5th grade will be held Saturday, Oct. 27. The parade will start at Dowling Gardens at 9 a.m. and end with a party at the Memorial School cafeteria. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required by tomorrow, Oct. 19. Register online at <https://register.communitypass.net>.