

Oct. 23, 2020



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

Uniting Together



This week, our school district honored School Violence Awareness Week. On Wednesday, we celebrated Unity Day which was started by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center in 2011 and is the signature event of National Bullying Prevention Month. This is a day when we come together in a wave of ORANGE to denote the message of hope and show support against bullying and unity for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Ms. D'Astolfo's fourth grade class showed off their unity from their heads to their toes - literally!

National Day of Writing prompts lots of creativity by students

This past Tuesday was National Writing Day. Several teachers shared the ways they celebrated.

Mrs. Murray's preschool class at School 1 wrote poems about their simple machine explorations. Ms. Gutierrez and Mrs. D'Amico's first grade classes at Charles Olbon School wrote about small moments in their lives. Mrs. Hawkins' and Mr. Sans' fifth grade students at Beatrice Gilmore School wrote creepy stories to practice narrative writing. Students are looking forward to sharing their stories the day before Halloween. Hybrid and virtual students in in Mr. Sans' class worked as pen pals to peer edit and review each other's work. Ms. Colsey's sixth grade students at Memorial School participated in a creative prompt: "If you could live anywhere, during any time period, where would you want to live and why?".

Mrs. D'Amico's first grade students at Charles Olbon School wrote about special small moments in their lives. Third graders in Ms. Capo's class at Beatrice Gilmore School increased their independent writing stamina time with a new pencil and jazz music in the background.

Writing is an important part of life. It helps us communicate and work with each other, supports our learning, and helps us remember. The National Day on Writing celebrates writing and the many places, reasons, and ways we write each day — as an essential component of literacy. #WhyIWrite has encouraged thousands of people to lift their voices to the things that matter to them.

Here are some #WHYIWRITE messages from Mrs. Brunini's fifth graders: Yeislee Cruz: "I like to write because I like to tell stories."

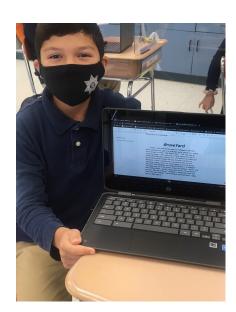
Justin Zummo: "I write because I always want to share my feelings with the world. Without writing, I am meaningless. If I ever need cheering up, I'll grab a piece of paper and write down all my feelings."

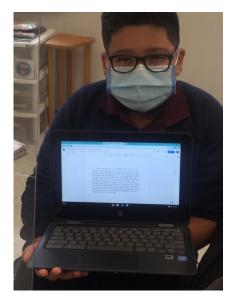




SEE PAGE THREE



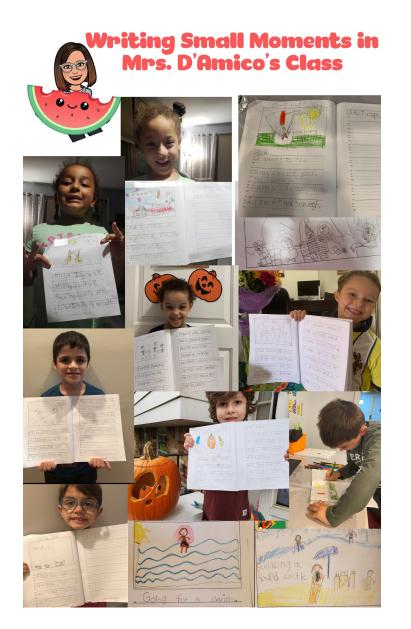


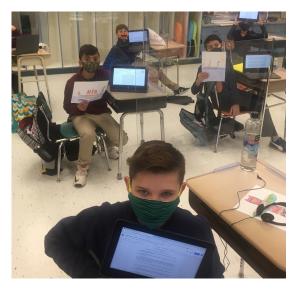


FROM PAGE TWO

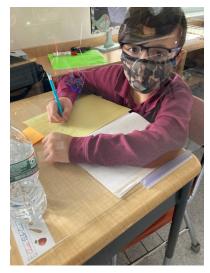
Lucas Rijo: "I write because I like to write my feelings down."

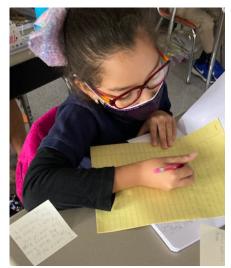
Lorenzo Flumenbaum: "I write because when I get sad I can write my feelings. And I can write to the people I love. I love writing."





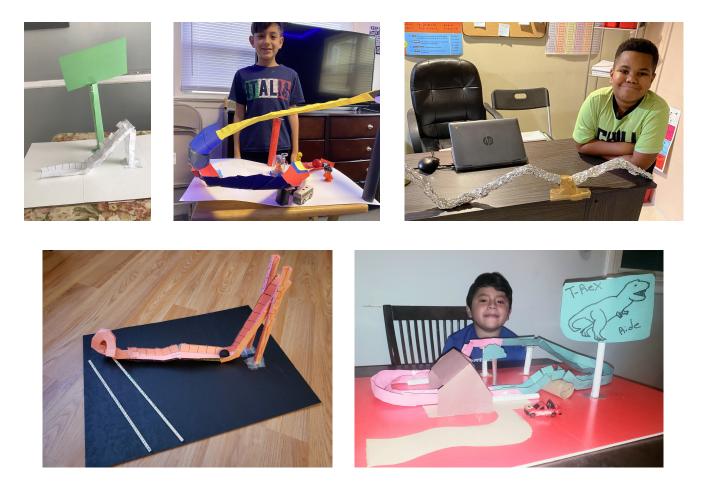








Understanding Energy



Mrs. Ayala's fourth grade students at Beatrice Gilmore School built their own roller coasters to study potential and kinetic energy. At the conclusion of the experiments the students recorded the findings.

Homecoming Salute



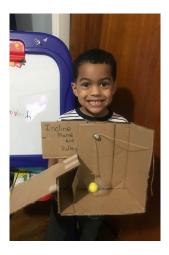
Woodland Park and Totowa Tigers 8th grade football players and cheerleaders were saluted at the recent homecoming game at the Totowa PAL complex. The Woodland Park and Totowa football programs merged a few years ago.

Creating Simple Machines







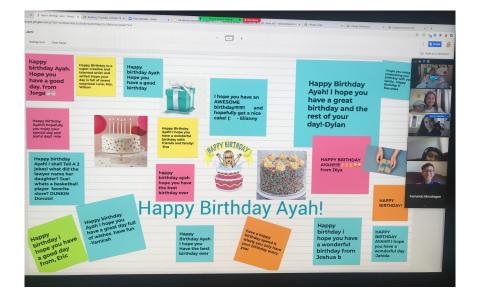


Ms. Krasnomowitz's Pre-K 4 virtual class had an end of simple machines study celebration. Each student shared his/her project and talked about how their project works and the materials he/she used. The students have been learning about simple machines since September and worked with their families to build a project that uses one or more simple machines. These amazing projects include wheels and axles, levers, screws, pulleys, and inclined planes. Ms. Krasnomowitz would like to thank her students' parents for their hard work and dedication to their child's education.





Celebrating Virtually



Remote learning won't stop Mrs. Wilson's fourth grade students at Beatrice Gilmore School from celebrating birthdays and important life events! Students start with a birthday dance getting everyone out of their seats, followed by a song. Students join a collaborative Jamboard and create a virtual birthday card for their classmate which can be saved or printed as a keepsake. Birthday students pick the scavenger hunt topic for the day.