



Building the road to success

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

Important dates to note

Monday, Feb. 11, 2:30-4:30 and 5:30-7:30 p.m. -
Charles Olbon Parent/Teacher Conferences

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2-4 and 5-7 p.m. - Beatrice
Gilmore Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2:30-4:30 p.m. and 5:30-
7:30 p.m. - Memorial School
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Footprints For Life teaches early prevention skills to second graders

The Center for Prevention has brought the Footprints for Life program back to Charles Olbon School this year. The Woodland Park Municipal Alliance Against Alcoholism and Drug Abuse has funded the program's facilitation to all second grade classes. The six-week early prevention program teaches important life skills to the students through the use of puppets and stories that feature real life situations experienced by a children's soccer team.

The program offers opportunities for students to practice the skills they have learned in a fun and non-threatening way. The lessons address decision-making practice, interpersonal skills, peer pressure, and peaceful conflict resolution. Parents and guardians can visit the program website at www.footprintsforlife.org/kids to learn more about the characters and lessons.

Beatrice Gilmore concludes Young Audiences program with showcase

The third and fourth grade classes at Beatrice Gilmore School that have been taking part in the fall Young Audience Arts for Learning of New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania program culminated the activity with a showcase of what they've learned. Both Beatrice Gilmore and Charles Olbon have had artist in residence, Mrs. Candace, working with the teachers and students, learning about storytelling through West African dance and drumming. Mrs. Candace noted how the program takes traditions from the past and brings it to the present. Gym Teacher Mr. Pomante said he was proud of the students, who he said worked hard for two months learning the dancing and drumming, and were very open to trying something new. In addition, the program was tied in to the art curriculum. Art Teacher Mrs. Toole had students create African mask designs which lined the gym walls and were featured on a hallway billboard.



STRIVE students enjoy salad bar with their school-grown produce

Memorial School STRIVE 7th and 8th graders last Friday enjoyed pizza and a salad bar which utilized the first cut growths off their Tower Garden, a vertical, aeroponic growing system which enables the growing of up to 20 items in less than three square feet, indoors or out, at a time.

Under the direction of Miss Ament, STRIVE teacher, the students planted seeds to grow bibb lettuce sprouts, rainbow chard, marketmore cucumbers, and bok choy. The lettuces harvested Friday allowed the students to sample the fresh produce that will be utilized in the school cafeteria as it continues to grow and produce.

The Tower Garden, which was donated to the school by food service provider Pomptonian, uses aeroponic technology, which is the process of growing plants in an air or mist environment, without the use of soil. It is an effective and efficient way to provide plants with the necessary nutrients, hydration and oxygen.



Quiz Bowl Winners



Congratulations to 8th grade STRIVE students Connor O'Brien, Michael Preziosi, and Maria Flores, who took second place at the recent Passaic County Quiz Bowl, which was held at the Passaic Gifted and Talented Academy. These students answered extremely tough questions and showed that their hard work is paying off. They faced off against peers from Little Falls, Passaic, Ringwood, Wanaque, Haskell, Prospect Park, Haledon, and Hawthorne.

Council Honor



Matteo Vapore, a fourth grader at Beatrice Gilmore, was honored by Mayor Keith Kazmark and the Borough Council for his selection as a Passaic County Clerk poster contest winner. His artwork is featured for the month of October. From left, are Mayor Kazmark, County Clerk Danielle Ireland-Imhof, Vapore and Councilman Vincent DeCesare.

Kindergarten registration will be held next Tuesday, Wednesday

The Woodland Park School District will hold registration for the 2019-2020 school year for children entering Kindergarten in the district at the Charles Olbon School, 50 Lincoln Lane, on Tuesday, Feb. 12, and Wednesday, Feb. 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 2 to 6 p.m. Children entering kindergarten must be 5-years-old on or before Oct. 1, 2019. To obtain the registration packet, visit www.wpschools.org. Parents must present the following: original birth certificate with raised seal; proof of residency (three documents required – deed/current mortgage statement or current lease/notarized letter from landlord, current utility bill, and valid driver's license or photo ID for parent/guardian; and proof of vaccinations, as required by NJ Law. Physical examinations are also required for all new students before entering school.

Memorial School names Students of the Month for February

The Students of the Month for February at Memorial School are:

Grade 5: Maite Olivera, Devin Natusch, Lindsey Hewitt, Gracyn Roehrich, and Tristan Abdul-Hakim

Grade 6: Sebastian Nayda, Isabel Tiseo, Sarah Ramierez, Alia Pashtinuar, and Katerina Stojanov

Grade 7: Amanda Sedeyn, Faris Aayoush, Ava Mania, Carlos Regalado, and Nayla Trako

Grade 8: Alexa Lopes, Daniel Batukh, Alicia Morales, Denis Begic, and Theresa DeProspo

Charles Olbon's Hero Classes of the Month are announced

Each month at Charles Olbon School, students work to be named among the winning Hero Classes of the Month. Winning classes earn a special treat. During lunch, students must work together to follow the rules, and by doing so, they can earn "Chipmunk Chips." Classes with the most each month win. CO Chip Class Hero for February are as follows: Kindergarten: Mrs. Woessner's class; First Grade: Mrs. Hope and Ms. Tonti's classes; and Second Grade: Mrs. Voinov's class.

Helping Those in Need

The Beatrice Gilmore School community collected 784 items of non-perishable food for its annual "Souper Bowl" drive. The food was donated to the Food Pantry at St. Agnes Church in Little Falls and will benefit those in need throughout the area. Charles Olbon's collection effort concludes today. See next week's issue for their end result!

