

# 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.

# 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



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

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.

