

Jan. 10, 2020

Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter

Building the road to success

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Important dates

Thursday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m. -
Memorial Middle School
Home & School Association meeting

Friday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m. - Beatrice
Gilmore School Home & School
Association Game Night

Monday, Jan. 20 - District closed
for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

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

Teachers/Educational Services Professionals of the Year named

The Woodland Park School District announced the recipients of the annual New Jersey Governor's Teacher/Educational Services Professional of the Year for 2019-2020 prior to winter break. These awards are voted on from nominations from parents and students.

The winners, chosen by a committee at each school, are as follows:

Charles Olbon School - Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Tundo and speech therapist Mrs. Farsakh

Beatrice Gilmore School - Fourth grade teacher Ms. D'Astolfo and library aide Mrs. De Rosa

Memorial Middle School - Physical education and health teacher Robert Romeo and classroom aide Dalia Alhatto



'One School, One Book' initiative launched at Beatrice Gilmore

The Woodland Park Municipal Alliance Against Alcoholism and Drug Abuse sponsors a number of initiative in the three borough schools each year. One such initiative is the "One School, One Book" program, which began this week at Beatrice Gilmore School.

The Municipal Alliance purchased copies of "Friendship According to Humphrey" by Betty G. Birney for every student and staff member. At a school-wide assembly, details about the program were given to the students. Their school mascot Buddy The Bear then appeared, wearing an inflatable ball as a clue - a hamster wheel. He unwrapped the book revealing the title to the students.

In the book, Humphrey, a class pet hamster, gets a big surprise as a new class pet, Og the frog, is introduced. Og doesn't respond to his friendly squeaks and the students are so interested in Og, they almost stop paying attention to Humphrey altogether. Friendship can be tricky, but Humphrey is an intrepid problem-solver. If any hamster can become buddies with a frog, he can.

Parents/guardians are asked to read the book at home with their child, a chapter a night, by Jan. 24. The book is theirs to keep. The school community is all reading it together at the same pace.

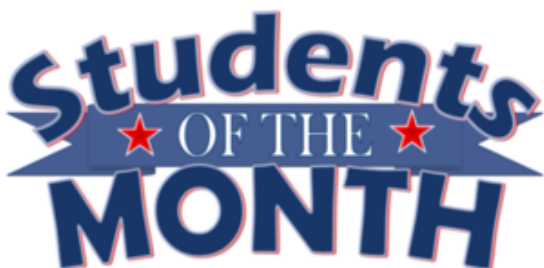
The goal is to bring the Beatrice Gilmore community together to talk about the importance of reading and friendship. "Friendship According to Humphrey" covers such topics as friendship, conflict resolutions and acceptance and the "One School, One Book" program facilitates conversations and understanding.

Find out more about the program at <http://readtothem.org>.



Alfred Baumann Library's winter reading program kicks off Monday

The Alfred H. Baumann Library's Winter Reading Program, "Snow Better Time To Read," begins on Monday, Jan. 13 and runs to March 31. The Winter Reading Program is a passive program that can be done at home or in school - wherever children feel most comfortable reading. All of the children's reading accomplishments will be celebrated in the Spring with a party for participants. Register online at www.abwplibrary.org, call the Library at 973-345-8120, or stop by at 7 Brophy Lane. Instructions and a reading log can be found on the Library's website on the Winter Reading Program page in the Youth Services tab. For each book read, the Library will place a snowflake with your name on it on the foyer windows.



Congratulations to Memorial School's "Students of the Month" for January: grade 5 - Tayeeba Ahmed, grade 6 - Samuel Mendoza, grade 7 - Emma Jurkic, and grade 8 - Maroun Sakhat. These students are chosen as they possess the attributes of a "student with character" and they represent their grade for the month.

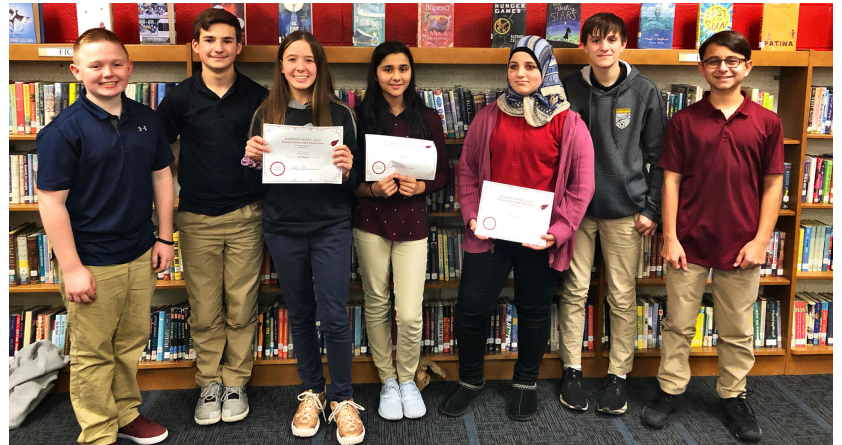
Leading The Way

Woodland Park Mayor Keith Kazmark at the Board of Education's annual reorganization meeting swore in two of the three trustees elected in November to the Board, each for three-year terms – Dr. Joe Giamarella and Christine Tiseo. Trustee David Amanullah will be sworn in at a later date. The Board trustees also selected Laura Vargas to serve as President and Jairo Rodriguez to serve as Vice President for 2020.



Taking The Challenge

The 8th grade STRIVE students at Memorial School recently competed against other schools in the Kahoot Bowl, where they answered questions on various trivia subjects. The following students participated Scott Nayda, Nick Raguseo, Kaitlyn Amanullah, Yastika Singh, Montaha Moraktan, Alex Limone, and Nick Salemi. The girls team came in third place out of eight schools.



I Spy With My Little Eye

Mrs. Odaman's kindergarten class at Charles Olbon School made I Spy tubes. They used the tubes for a writing activity and made word lists of all the things inside.

