

Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter



April 5, 2019

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Important dates to note

Monday, April 8, 7 p.m. - Board of Education workshop meeting at Memorial School

Tuesday, April 9, 7 p.m. - Charles Olbon Home & School Association meeting

Friday, April 12 - Charles Olbon Home & School Association School Store

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 complete Kindness Challenge logging thousands of acts

Woodland Park District Schools recently completed the "Think Kindness" 15 Day Challenge. They were competing against 7,000 other schools in their efforts to become "Kindness Ninjas" and become the kindness school district in America.

Charles Olbon School recorded over 3,000 acts of kindness. Guidance Counselor Miss Indri collected 3,429 acts of kindness in the form of journals and kindness meters along with 108 pairs of shoes to be donated to children in need – bringing the grand total to 3,537. A special kindness spotlight went to Ms. Miranda's class who recorded 660 acts of kindness over the course of the challenge.

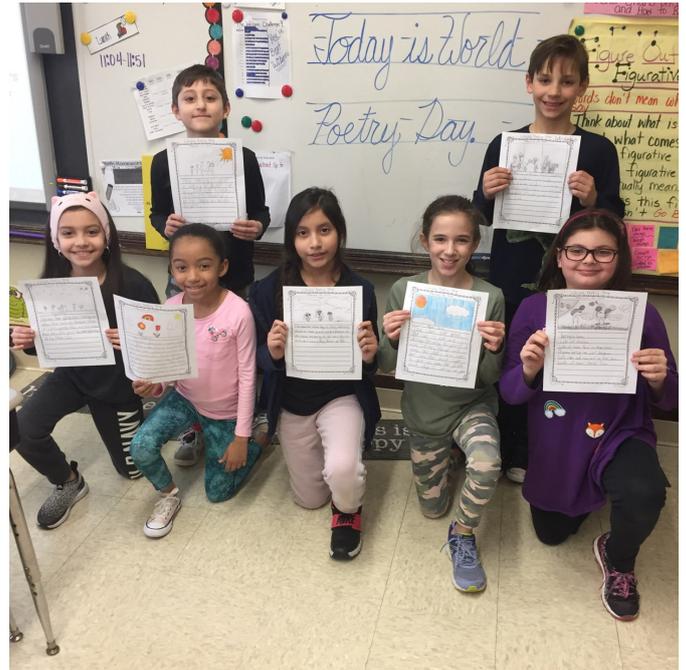
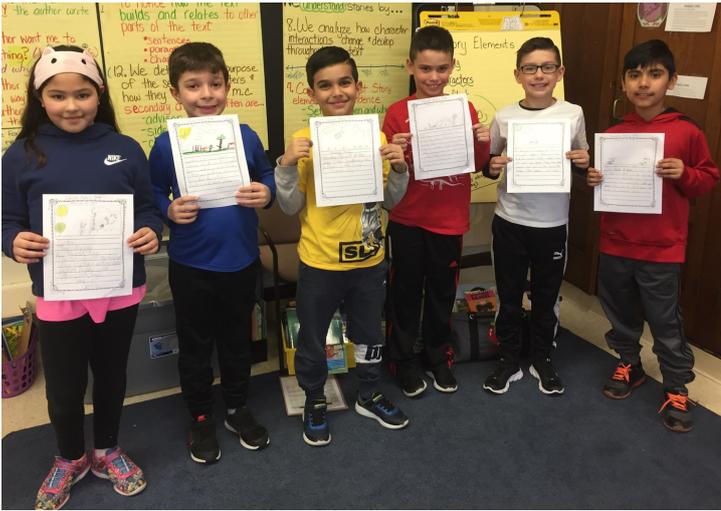
"I told the students on the last day that even though we technically did not reach the 5,000 acts of kindness goal we were challenged with, I believed that we did and that all of our kind acts were just not written down," Miss Indri said. "We had students who did multiple journals, students who made their own journals to record their acts of kindness, and students who took their journals home to spread kindness with their families. It is weeks later and I still have students talking about acts of kindness they are doing and ways to keep kindness going in our school."

SEE PAGE TWO



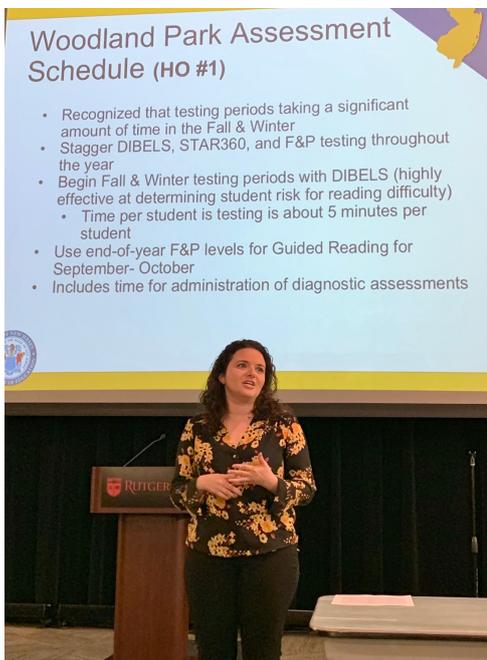
BG's Kindness Ninja Tayeeba A. recorded 260 acts of kindness!

Inspired By Spring



On the recent World Poetry Day, students in Ms. Capovilla's class wrote free verse poems inspired by spring.

Presenting To The State



Educational leaders Mrs. Triglia, Mrs. Castrovinci, Mrs. Irizarry, and Mrs. Tomback were asked to present the work they have done to support districts across the state on how to maximize instructional time for intervention. Mrs. Castrovinci, and Mrs. Irizarry presented this work on March 28 at the New Jersey Department of Education's Tiered System of Supports for Early Reading regional meeting held at Rutgers University in Piscataway.

FROM PAGE ONE

Beatrice Gilmore recorded about 2,000 acts of kindness in addition to over 100 pairs of shoes to donate.

Their overall "Kindness Ninja" was Tayeeba A., a 4th grader from Ms. Facciollio's class. During the challenge, Tayeeba completed 26 Kindness journals which totals 260 acts of kindness. "We are very proud of Tayeeba," Guidance Counselor Donna Farraye said. "When I asked her where she learned to be so kind, she responded, 'My mom.'"

Champions

Congratulations to the WP Boys & Girls Club 7th Grade Panthers girls basketball team, who won their division's fall league championship title. The team is the first ever local girls travel basketball team to win a championship.



Congratulations

The Mayor and Council honored the WP Boys & Girls Club Panthers 5th/6th grade 2018 fall soccer team for taking first place in the New Jersey Rec Soccer League Fall 2018 Championship Games, under coach Adam Turkel. The team includes: Eyad Abumwais, Lucas Chow, Hannah Cusack, Harry Cusack, Joey Dasilva, Dimitri Dragisic, Mila Dragisic, Nico Flumenbaum, Rique Pires, Aiyman Shanna, Kristofer Terzioski, Jason Turkel and Liliana Wszolkowki.



Submissions sought for Library's 24th annual Poetry Contest

The Alfred Baumann Public Library announces its 24th annual poetry contest. Deadline for entries is May 4. Poems may be written in any form. Poems must be original and unpublished. Poems must be typed or clearly printed on a single sheet of 8 1/2 x 11 paper. Submissions will be accepted as an email attachment sent to library@abwplibrary.org with "Poetry Contest" in the subject line.

Three print copies or one electronic copy must be submitted by Saturday, May 4 by 3 p.m. The back of each page or the body of the email must include the author's name, address, telephone number, and category (print clearly). Categories: grades K-2; grades 3-4; grades 5-6; grades 7-8; high school to age 18; and 18 and older. This contest is for Woodland Park residents, Passaic Valley High School students, and Berkeley College students.

All works submitted will be bound in a book and added to the Library's permanent collection. Prizes will be awarded for first to third place in each category. Winners will be asked to read their selections at a poetry reading scheduled for June 13. Refreshments will be served.



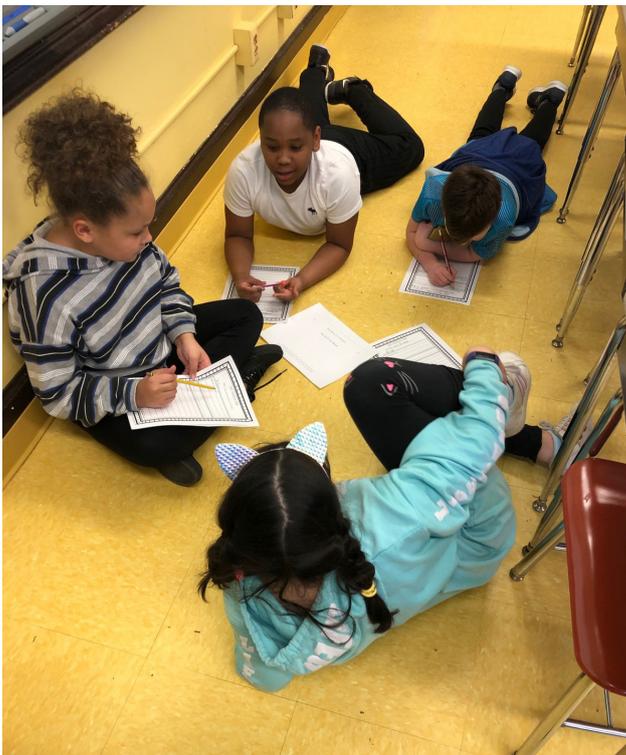
Game On

Last Friday after school, Memorial School 8th grade students took on a team of teachers and staff at a fundraising volleyball game for the 8th Grade Dance Committee.

Young Playwrights



Students in Mrs. Yesenosky's class at Beatrice Gilmore excitedly began their playwriting project - turning prose into drama. They have been working to turn a fable into a play.



Sleepytime Stories



The Charles Olbon Home & School Association held a pajama storytime for kids on March 26.



Hands On Learning



Mrs. Szorc's students at Beatrice Gilmore have been observing and researching the unique properties of rocks through a microscope. They had a visit from Mr. Rich, who brought in a huge specimen of an amethyst in its raw form. This rock has been in his family for three generations. How cool is that?

National Library Week celebrates the role libraries play in communities

Next week, the Alfred H. Baumann Free Public Library joins libraries of all types in celebrating the many ways libraries build strong communities by providing critical resources, programs and expertise. April 7-13 is National Library Week, an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries, librarians and library workers play in transforming lives and communities.

Library programs encourage community members to meet to discuss civic issues, work together using new technologies or learn alongside one another in English language classes, craft classes, or joining in on a book discussion group. Library staff also partner with other civic and service organizations to actively engage with the people they serve, always striving to make sure their community's core needs are being met.

The Alfred H. Baumann Free Public Library helps lead the community by providing quality materials, information, and innovative and interesting programming. They also develop and engage the community in service programs, such as the recent "Dream Mats" community service project, creating portable sleeping mats for the homeless population in Passaic County.

"Libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting the free exchange of information and ideas for all," said Library Director Linda Hoffman, "We are the gathering place and information center for our community, while fostering a love of learning and reading. We promote health and wellness for the mind and body through the variety of programs and services that we offer."

Our Library is celebrating National Library Week by with a variety of interesting programs such as Mozzarella Making on April 11 at 6:30 p.m. It also has a first rendering and floor plan of the anticipated renovation and expansion on display.