



Important dates to note

Tuesday, Dec. 4, early dismissal
Memorial and BG, 12:48 p.m.;
CO, 1:28 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 4 - Memorial
School parent teacher
conferences, 2 to 4 p.m.
and 5 to 7 p.m.

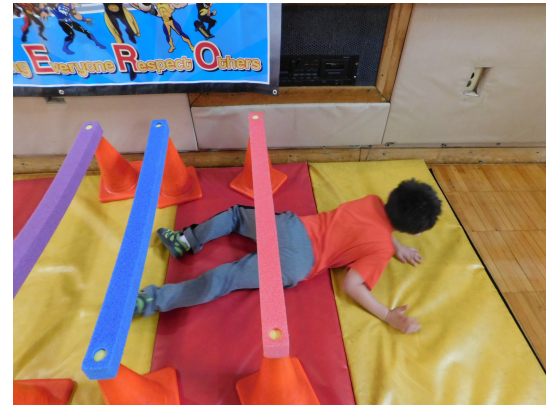
Welcome to the Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter, which will be sent out weekly when school is in session. This will serve as a glimpse of some of the wonderful things going on in our schools and with our students, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

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



CO students learn about their heart health

This week, the students at Charles Olbon School took part in the Kids Heart Challenge, a fun event where kids learned about their heart while helping others and raising money for the American Heart Association. The goal of the event is to teach kids jump rope skills, how their heart works and to raise money to help kids with special hearts. They also learned how to develop heart-healthy habits while being physically active.



The Kids Heart Challenge marks the Association's 40th year working in schools and meets the changing needs of today's youth and educators by preparing kids for success through physical and emotional well-being. The event was formerly known as Jump Rope for Heart.



Gym teacher Mr. Scholtz set up stations in the all-purpose room where the students rotated through several activities during their gym classes. Afterwards he spoke with them about their hearts, and how the event helps raise funds for kids with medical needs.

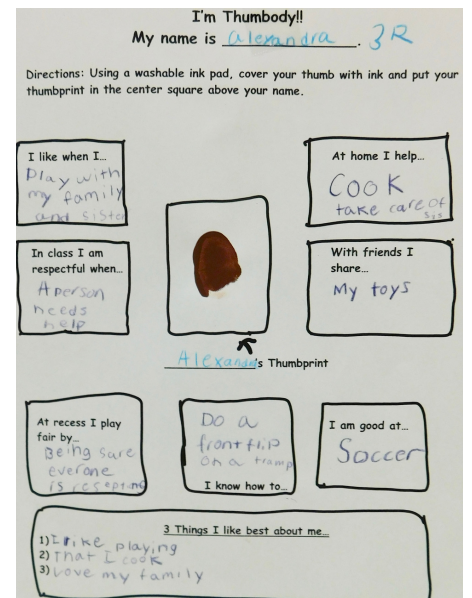
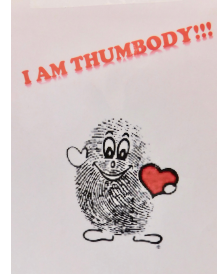


"Thumbbody" program stresses uniqueness

Students at Beatrice Gilmore School learned that everybody is "thumbbody" through a program launched by Guidance Counselor Donnamarie Scarpa Farraye. During indoor recess time, Mrs. Farraye worked with students to complete an "I'm Thumbbody" worksheet, which centered around a ink-stamped print of a student's thumb.

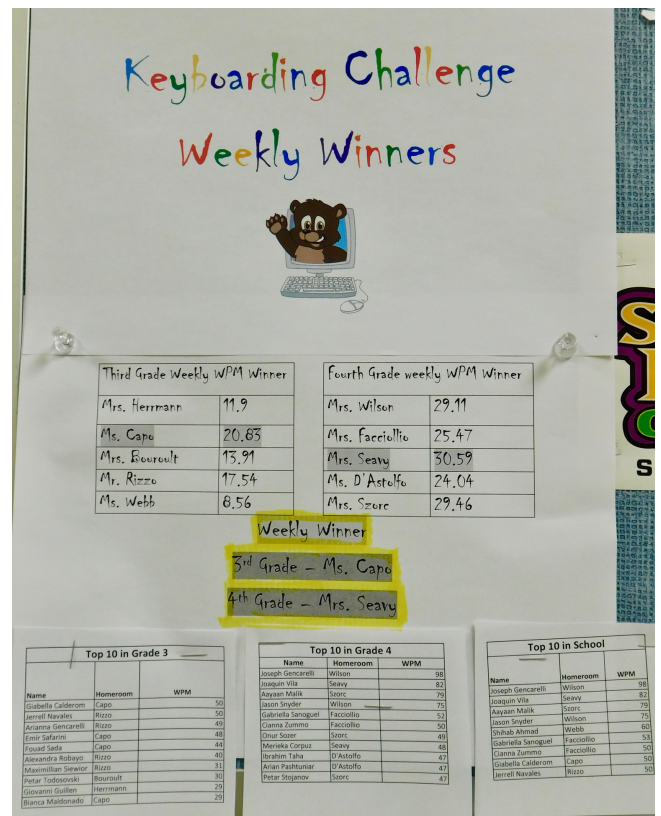
"There are so many ways to be different," Farraye said. "We are born different. We choose to be different. No one has a right to judge."

The students learned through the character lesson that just as no one of us has the same thumbprint, every one of us is uniquely different in the things we like, do and choose.



Keyboarding Challenge motivates students to practice typing skills

Beatrice Gilmore School students have been working hard on their weekly one-minute keyboarding challenge. Students compete to see who can score the highest words typed per minute. Winning classes get to keep a special "golden keyboard" award for as long as they remain the winner. Principal Mrs. Tomback said that the goals set for for this year are: 15 words typed per minute for end of fourth grade and 10 words typed per minute by the end of the third grade. "However, based upon our current student performance, I think we will be able to increase those," she said, noting that the current class averages are more than double the end of year expectation.



STRIVE members excel in regional problem solving competition

Seventh grade STRIVE students participated in a Logic Problem Solving Competition recently in North Haledon. The students worked collaboratively with students from surrounding districts to use problem solving skills and logical thinking to solve complex problems and riddles. Congratulations to Montaha Moraktan, who was a part of the third place team; Yastika Singh, who was a part of the second place team; and Nicholas Salemi who was a part of the first place team.

Help build a library of possibilities via Giving Tuesday, Amazon Smile

This past Tuesday, the Friends of the Alfred H. Baumann Free Public Library took part in Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration.

You can help build a library of possibilities by making a charitable donation to the Friends of the Alfred H. Baumann Free Public Library to help fund its renovation and expansion. It's easy to help. Send a check to the library (7 Brophy Lane, Woodland Park NJ 07424) payable to the Friends of the Alfred H. Baumann Free Public Library.

Another easy way to help the library is through your online shopping. If you shop on Amazon, you can sign up for AmazonSmile, a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. Our library is one such charitable organization that is signed up and they are asking for your support.

To sign up for AmazonSmile, visit www.smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to make it even easier to return. You use the same account on Amazon and AmazonSmile. On your first visit, you will select an organization to receive donations from eligible purchases. The site will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at will result in a donation.

Memorial's Anti-Bullying Alliance running drive for Eva's Village

Eva's Village is a non-profit social service organization in Paterson. It's one of the largest and most respected anti-poverty programs in New Jersey. Eva's operates 12 programs including food, shelter, medical and dental care, addiction services, job training and job placement. During the holidays, the staff at Eva's Village creates gift bags for all adults living at their shelter, as well as every guest who dines with them on Christmas Day.

For several years, the Memorial Middle School Anti-Bullying Alliance has sponsored a donation drive to assist the efforts of Eva's Village. You can support these efforts by making a donation by Dec. 5 of the following new items: fleece blankets, hats, scarves, gloves, toothbrushes, toothpaste, full size shampoo, soap and socks. Items can be brought to the school during operating hours. There is a "drop and go" cart in the vestibule.



Sounds of the season

The Memorial Middle School concert band performed at the Borough's Tree Lighting Festival on Nov. 26. The students did a medley of seasonal songs prior to the Mayor and Council lighting the Christmas tree at Dowling Gardens.