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June 2024- Issue 6

Math Competition Winners!

More than 100 third through fifth graders partook in a virtual First in Math competition on March 21st. These students were challenged with grade level skill sets based on the game "24." Job well done to all who practiced for, participated in and had fun with this math competition. Our team of 4th grade students (pictured here: (L to R) Matthew Rose, Aiden Weinsztok and Gabe Mamorella) won the regional competition and will compete at the state competition in Albany on June 1st!



Plory Visits Cherry Road and Walberta Park Schools

Walberta Park and Cherry Road had a special visitor in May! Plory, a character from the iReady math program, visited each classroom at both schools to congratulate students on their hard work this year and celebrate their achievements. Plory was a fan favorite and the recipient of many hugs and high fives. Staff and students alike enjoyed Plory's visit!



Walberta Park and Cherry Road Schools

Author Visit at Walberta Park

In March Walberta Park School hosted author Charles R. Smith Jr. Students were excited for his visit after reading his picture books, *I Am America* and *Bessie the Motorcycle Queen*. During his presentation Charles described how he became an author and the process for making picture books. Students were excited to meet an author and asked many questions. A big thank you to WEST for helping to sponsor this author visit at our school! Pictured below is the author with Mrs. Roulston's 1st grade class.



IDEAS Club

The IDEAS Club at Cherry Road school has spoken a lot about inclusion during the season. We had a lot of open dialogue on how to include others and how it feels to not be included. The students did a "Wonder" book study. Activities were played with restrictions like, hearing impaired, loss of sight, non-mobile, etc. We spoke about the deaf community needing to use ASL, we spoke about Down syndrome, the blind Community needing to use braille, and other needs that we use wheelchairs for. The students realized that this community of people weren't included in a lot of activities. The students figured out how to be more inclusive. Ms. Shah stopped by to speak to the group by Arabic heritage. We also learned how to write our names in Arabic. Ms. Connelly spring and Ms.Hollis-Breen stopped by to talk about Mental Health. We spoke about healthy ways to take care of our brains and ourselves.



Storytelling with High School Students

On Thursday, May 23rd, third graders got to provide feedback to some 9th grade ELA students to help them revise the stories they have been working on in class. Third graders got to listen to the stories, and provide not only praise, but suggestions on how 9th graders could improve the stories for the targeted audience. It was a wonderful opportunity for both groups to experience the writing process in action. Pictured here is Ms. Tooley's third grade class with some 9th grade students in Ms. Starowicz's class.



Walberta Park and Cherry Road Schools

Walberta Park and Westhill CSD Honor Fallen Police Heroes

To honor and show support for fallen officers, Sheriff Lieutenant Michael Hoosock and Syracuse Police Officer Michael Jensen, Walberta Park School dressed in blue on Thursday, April 18th, "Wear Blue" day, and gathered for a school picture to honor the families of the officers and show their appreciation and support for current law enforcement and first responders. All schools in the district collected donations to support the families of the officers which totaled \$407. The Power of We!!!!



4th Graders Perform The Wizard of Oz

This year the 4th grade Drama Club presented The Wizard of Oz. It was a tremendous experience for our 4th graders to be a part of a musical, and show off their talents. Bravo!! Pictured are the participants from scene 5, they were all smiles after their performance!



Walk to Read

Students in Mrs. Pickett's Walk to Read classroom worked to have a guest reader in their classroom. At the end of the week Mr. Auge stopped by to listen to each student read their decodable text! Students were very motivated to read to someone special!



3rd Graders off to Baltimore Woods Third Graders have been learning about habitats, frogs and other amphibians. In May all third graders took a field trip

other amphibians. In May all third graders took a field trip to Baltimore Woods to see first hand various organisms in their habitat. They were able to get right in the water, lift up logs and look all around for various forms of life. It was an extremely fun and educational experience.



Erie Canal Field Trip

4th Grade students took their yearly field trip to the Erie Canal Museum. 4th graders learn a lot about state and local history, and the museum provides an excellent opportunity to visualize many of the things they learned throughout the school year pertaining to NYS and specifically Syracuse. Pictured are students from Mrs. Randall's 4th grade class.



Cherry Road and Onondaga Hill Middle Schools

OHMS Visits Cherry Road School for a Solar Eclipse Event!

OHMS science students visited Cherry Road to teach third graders about the solar eclipse. Students learned why and how the solar eclipse happens through several hands-on activities. Thank you to Mrs. Derrenbacher and her science students for visiting us!



Mileage Club

Cherry Road students came to school early on Thursday's to get some extra steps in for mileage club. The students would do laps around the field, or in the gym if it was raining, to reinforce the idea of being healthy. Thanks from Mr. Connelly to all the students that participated in starting Thursday mornings off with some exercise.

Chess Tournament

Congratulations to OHMS students John Samhammer, Joseph Widrick and Jonathan Masset who competed in the Pine Grove Scholastic Chess Open tournament on April 6th.

John and Joseph both went 3-1 and tied for fifth place. Jonathan went 3-0-1 and ended up tied for third place. As a team, their combined scores brought home the overall first place for the K-5 division. This tournament had almost 80 participants split between the K-5 and K-12 divisions, with over thirty schools involved.





Students of the Month

March

<u>5th Grade</u>: John Samhammer: John is a model fifth grade student. He has an amazing love of math and excels in the subject. John doesn't brag about his math intelligence but instead uses it to help others understand hard concepts during group work. John can be seen asking partners if they understand how he got the answer rather than just solving the problem and walking away. John is a leader and shows amazing qualities of kindness, perseverance, and love of learning.

<u>6th Grade</u>: Olivia LaRosa- Olivia's enthusiasm is contagious and she adds a vibrant energy to every task she takes on. Whether it's working on iStaff activities, participating in Battle of the Books, delivering engaging morning announcements, or warmly welcoming our visiting author her passion and dedication shine through. She helps create a positive and dynamic environment within our school.

<u>7th Grade:</u> Audrey Mahoney - Audrey always has a great attitude, she consistently gives her best effort and is kind to her peers and staff.

<u>8th Grade:</u> Isabella Gerasimovich- Izzy is a hard working and responsible student. She strives to do her best and takes pride in her work. She is kind and caring towards her classmates.

April

<u>5th Grade:</u> Grace Herne: Grace is a genuine friend who shows so much empathy and patience toward her classmates. Her hard work and conscientious effort consistently shine through her academics. However, her most endearing trait is her strength to remain positive. Working toward having this mindset has helped her to serve as a role model for her peers. Great job!!!

<u>6th Grade</u>: Alex Scozzari- Alex is a stand-out student and friend. She puts 110% into everything that she does, demonstrates a passion for learning, and is an inclusive and thoughtful friend to everyone. She approaches challenges with resilience and determination, and inspires others with her humble and positive attitude!

<u>7th Grade:</u> Jeremy Sova- Jeremy is a hard working student who always puts forth his best effort. He always has a smile on his face and seems to enjoy being a part of the Westhill community.

<u>8th Grade</u>: David Satalin- David is always very kind and respectful in class. He works hard on his classwork and his homework and he helps others in class. He is always on time for class and participates a lot. An overall great person and student!

Education Day with the Syracuse Mets

A little rain couldn't dampen the spirits of our enthusiastic fifth graders at the Syracuse Mets' recent education day at NBT Stadium! Building on their classroom studies of civil rights hero and baseball legend Jackie Robinson, students got to experience the ballpark firsthand. Everyone had a wonderful time dodging raindrops, trying to catch fly balls, and chatting with friends. An awesome time was had by all!









The Great American Eclipse

Earth Science students at OHMS have been highly involved in learning activities centered around the April 8, 2024 Total Solar Eclipse. Not only did students become experts on the science behind the eclipse, they also planned and presented learning activities with students at Cherry Road, the STEM Night at WHS and a school-wide Eclipse Celebration at OHMS. Kate Thornton (News Channel 9 meteorologist) came into class ahead of the eclipse to see what we were planning. Yes, we have been busy.

These learning opportunities included constructing a large-scale model of the Earth - Moon - Sun to show how an eclipse happens. Additionally, students demonstrated with our class iPads how anyone could participate in collecting data during the eclipse as part of the NASA Globe program. Thank you to Mrs. Lootens for helping to organize this incredible learning experience for our students at OHMS and Cherry Road.

Special thank you to the Westhill Educational Foundation for funding the NASA Globe program. In addition to our daily atmospheric data collection, we participated in providing NASA with data before, during and after the Solar Eclipse. What an amazing experience for all of our students.







March Madness iReady Competition

OHMS 6th through 8th grade math classes participated in a cross-grade level March Madness iReady competition. Classes had to work together to achieve their weekly goal and advance in the 14 team tournament. The final round came down to time spent on learning games as both classes had 100% of the students meet their goal. Miss Lyons' 6th grade homeroom was a very close runner up and the 2024 champion was Mrs. Delay's 6th grade homeroom. The class celebrated with an ice cream party before spring break. Congratulations to everyone for their hard work and participation!



Lunch Group Fun!

Lunch groups at the middle school are a great way to make new friends, manage stressful situations and have fun! This 5th grade group took lunch outside to enjoy the beautiful spring weather.



IDEAS Club Logo Contest

Congratulations to Mayar Thabet, who won the IDEAS Club logo contest! Mayar is a 5th grader at OHMS who has dedicated her time to play an active role as a leader of the IDEAS Club. Thank you to everyone who submitted illustrations for a logo.

During the Spring months we have been educating ourselves more on developmental disabilities. The students traveled around school with different mobile equipment to feel how difficult it would be to go to school with the walker, crutches, and a wheelchair. The students quickly had compassion for other people. We were also treated to a 6th grade leader presentation from Ella Stash, who taught us about "Ableism" and how to stand up against discrimination of differently abled people. We also heard from Isla Baracco, who educated us on what Cerebral Palsy is and how to help people with CP. Ella and Isla have played a huge role in IDEAS as they became advocates for people with disabilities.

We also learned about Arabic heritage. Ms. Shah was our guest speaker. We were educated on tradition, food, and lifestyle. Since a lot of leaders are in the Henna club, Ms. Shah brought Henna for the students to show everyone what they have been learning. Maysa Mosleh, also educated everyone on the Islamic religion. Maysa is a 6th grader who loves being a leader and standing up for what's right. We also spent time discussing mental health and our guest speakers were Ms. Strickland and Ms. King from Helio health. They answered a lot of great questions and brought some stress release fidgets that we can use. Kathryn Carroll gave an important presentation advocating for mental health. The 5th grade students enjoyed her and had a host of questions. We also had Nora Worden stop by and give an excellent presentation on "Access to clean water". Nora focused on what happened in Flint, Michigan with the water supply. As you can imagine, the students showed a lot of empathy for the people of Flint.

We are ending IDEAS with a "United in Diversity" celebration with Henna club. Following that event, there will be an "IDEAS worth spreading" volume 2 book signing. Thank you for all your support. Choose kindness, always.



OHMS Quarter 3 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 8 High Honor

Almamari, Shahd Athanas, Andrew Carruth, John Centore, Angelina Chaddock, Evan Coleman, Reilly Collacchi, Emma Columbus, Hannah DeFabbio, Sophia Delay, Clare Dixon, Reagan Donegan, Redd Dowd, Cameron Dunbar, Teagan Eldred, Jade Francisco, Dean Gaines, Lyla Gerasimovich, Isabella Glover, Charles Gridley, Dylan Grosso, Eva Jaquint, Stone Lin, Cayla Maestri, David Marceau, Adrien Marinelli, Joseph McMahon, Emmett Mondo, Melissa Morse, Shealyn Mower, Addison Napolitano, Sabine Platt, Hayden Pluff, Katherine Presley, Alexandra Rewakowski, Andrew Root, Addison Savelesky, Sofia Scott, Khloe Scozzari, Samuel Spinner, Kaleigha Starowicz, Fiona Straub, Emily Stroman, Grace Tjaden, Julia Tyszka, William Viscome, Cailin Zheng, Winnie

Grade 8 Honor

Auringer, Schuyler Belcore, Rosella Bova, Sophia Buckman, Skylar Buell, Sydney Cassalia, Patrick Cognato, Averie Cordova, Christian Culligan, Brea DelRio, Stef'Fonie Diaz, Naomi Flegel, Julia Franco, Maxwell Gaffney, Liam Ganley, Daniel Glover, Henry Hamam, Aiham Hange, Brooke Hubert, Daniel Ibrahim, Ahmad Kelly, Quinn Ketchum, Hayden Mathews, Leigh Mesa Espinosa, Ariana Morales, Willa Parry, Evangeline Pichoske, Nicholas Pizarro Fuentes, Edriel Powless, Shaniya Ritz, Leo Ross, Caleb Satalin, David Scarfino, Stella Schug, McKenzie Seitz, Noah Tarolli, Thomas Tremblay, Addyson Wilson, Blake

Grade 7 High Honor

Anderson, Eliana Barcak, Natalie Canavan, Virginia Carroll, Elliott Carson, Landon Cobb, Logan Colangelo, Carmella Coleman, Reagan Collett, Reagan Cook, Jack Czaplicki, Kate DeLine, James Destito, Amelia Detor, Bridget Dimovski, Luka Durant, Clark Engle, Isabella Etoll, Keira Gallardo, Sophie Giannino, Arianna Green, Dylan Greenfield, Gavin Horning, Anne Jackson, Griffin Judge, Antonia Konkol, Khaya

Mahoney, Audrey Morgan, Ella Olesh, Sofia Paparo, Morgan Pluff, Shanley Pratt, Tyler Quattrocci, Bryan Robinson, Cassius Rogers, Brian Rufus, Levaja Scanlon, Michael Schilling, Aedan Sisack, Brynna Soule, Charles Sova, Jeremy Sprouse, Eamon Tjaden, Trey Valenti, Michael Walsh, Reagan Walsh, Riley Young, Elizabeth Zuckerman, Alexander

Grade 7 Honor

Abdelfatah, Sela Altheblah, Yusuf Auringer, Giada Battista, Jacqueline Besaw, Jacob Brown, Juliana Burns, Madigan Campanella, Luke Canavan, Luna Casazza, Annabelle Chase, Livia Condon, Madigan Danboise III, Real Dhamoon, Gurtej Ellis, Nicholas Flegel, Jackson Fowler, Tyler Fraser, Brady Friend, Connor Fuller, Owen Gumtow, Evey Hagan, Albert Headd, Matthew Hubler, Audrey Hughes, Elizabeth LaSalle, Amelia LeFever, Alaina Manning, Kierra Marshall, Spencer Montalto, Eliana Nelson, Amari Obernesser, Charles Pendergast, Tanner Preville, Nicholas

OHMS Quarter 3 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 7 Honor continued

Primiano, Adelina Ramos, Cielo Rashid, Teffero Rowley, Mya Scheirer, Gianna Schermerhorn, Kiley Stoddard, Franklin Storinge, Harry Thabet, Alyaa Thompson, Trishaniyea West, William White, Layla Zhdan, Yuliia

Grade 6 High Honor

Aiduk, Mya Aladwar, Malik Allen, Daniel Almamari, Ahd Amidon, Alexander Auge, Cooper Bagnell, Clive Baracco, Isla Brooks, Judah Burns, Charles Campbell, Miehara Carlyle, Kathryn Carroll, Kathryn Carruth, William Carruthers, Jasper Cass, Joseph Cenajko, Elliot Chang, Samantha Clark, Avery Clyne, Landon Collins, Joseph Connelly, Quinn Couse, Vincent Crawford, Trenton DAgostino, Hailey Dixon, Maura Donegan, Ella Eischen, Jane Esposito, Jocelyn Francisco, Juliana Freund, Ethan Gehm, Julia Goodwin, Kelly Gridley, Luke Grome, Macie Henderson, Aiden Hennigan, Evelyn Hicks, Blin Holowinski, Lucas Ibrahim, Janelle Ireland, Madilyn

Jackson, Colin Jaquint, Atticus Kalinowski, Elliott Kelly, Quest Killoran, Kellan Kinney, Caroline Klamm, Dilynn Konkol, Tobi LaRosa, Olivia Loucks, Gabriel Maestri, Emilia Maguire, Kendall Mamorella, Isabel Marceau, Oliver Mathews, Max Montague, Benjamin Mosleh, Maysa Nugent, Jackson O'Brien, Helena ONeil, Molly Padula, Ana Parr, Kendall Past, Lilv Pautz, Peyton Pillari, Patrick Platt, Jayden Presley, Clare Primiano, Alana Pucello, Ella Redmond, Julia Richardson, Jillian Romano, Jack Root, Seamus Satalin, Gehrig Satalin, Kathleen Savelesky, Aurora Scozzari, Alexandra Seitz, Eden Seymour, Lyla Sisson, Charles Stash, Ella Streiff, Chiara Thabet, Jenna Thomas, Zahle Tyszka, Benjamin Weinsztok, Noah Wells, Karah Whipple, Mason Wilmot, Lily Woodring, Emma Worden, Nora Zheng, Suri

Grade 6 Honor

Abedrabbah, Muhammad Abraham, Nina Agley, Logan Alsofari, Ahmed Armani, Joviana Bailey, Zirah Cassidy IV, Charles Connell, Taylor Connelly, Griffin Fogarty, Connor Grobosky, Rowen Herne, Charles Hill, Javel Holt, Shiloh Hope, Lilly Huggins, Jahsai Jackson, Owen Kearney-Tiano, Lilianna Kelly, Khloie Kimball, Julia Kimball, Michael Kincaid, Megan King, Xander Kline, Tatum LaFramboise, Naomi Maldonado-Rover, Madeline McNeilly, Harrison Morse, Malachy Nicholson, Shaniy O'Brien, Mason Omar, Asha OSullivan, Hannah Pickett, Jack Pope, Deja Post, Jay'Don Rotella, Lyla Scanlon, Henry Singletary, JaLani Sow, Ahmad Stokes, Lucas Viavattine, Francesca Wells, Ava Williams, Isabella



Super Regional Battle of the Books

On May 20th our 7th/8th Grade Battle of the Books team The Bookworms: Final Chapter came in first place at the Super Regional Battle of the Books competition! It was a thrilling and exciting race all the way to the finish!

A HUGE round of applause goes to our winning team members, Reagan Dixon, Emma Collacchi, Reilly Coleman, and Katherine Pluff coached by the amazing Mr. Jackson. Two of the original members, Emma and Reagan, won the regional battle as 5th graders. What a great middle school legacy they leave as they go off to the high school next year.

On May 22nd our 5th/6th Grade Battle of the Books team Expelliarmus tied for third place at their Super Regional Battle of the Books. The questions were challenging and they fought to the bitter end! We can't wait to see what this team does when they compete at the 7th/8th grade level next year.



Math Team Success

Congratulations to the OHMS math team! The last competition took place at CNS in March. The team ranked third overall in the Onondaga Jr. High Math League. Individual awards went to Winnie Zheng and Evan Chaddock who tied for 3rd place individually. And a big congrats to Stone Jaquint who took first place individually. Great job team!

Author Jennifer Nielsen Visits OHMS

It was an exciting day when New York Times bestselling author Jennifer Nielsen visited Onondaga Hill Middle School on April 2nd. It was an awesome opportunity for our students to engage with literature and explore the world of storytelling. Leading up to the author visit, students had the chance to participate in the "Spin It To Win It" author trivia game in the library, offering them the opportunity to win one of Jennifer's books. We are thrilled to announce that a total of 45 books were given away through this fun and exciting activity! Additionally, students had the opportunity to submit questions for Jennifer Nielsen through an Author Choice Board assignment in their ELA classes. This interactive approach allowed students to take an active role in shaping the conversation during the author visit. Furthermore, more than forty lucky students were selected to have breakfast, lunch, or a writer's workshop on the day of the visit. This provided them with a unique and intimate experience to engage with Jennifer Nielsen and further delve into the world of writing. Jennifer's warm and caring demeanor resonated with both students and staff members alike, making the day truly memorable and inspiring for everyone involved. We extend a HUGE shoutout to the Westhill Educational Foundation for their generous support in making this event possible. Their dedication to enriching the educational experiences of our students is truly appreciated.





School of Life Holds 1st Annual SWAP Party

School of Life (club) collected donations of gently used and new clothing for our first ever Swap Party. 7th and 8th graders, as well as staff, donated their fashion items to be traded or given away at the event. The middle schoolers were allowed to "shop" for fashion items such as shirts, dresses, pants, shoes, jewelry and accessories. Many students left with free items or even bags a plenty, while others stayed for the fun. All of the leftover items were collected and then donated to GoodWill on Onondaga Blvd in Syracuse, NY. In the future, School of Life students would like to host an even bigger event! Thank you to all staff and students that donated. Thank you to everyone that came to support.





Spirit Week Pep Rally

The 6th, 7th & 8th grade bands (160 students in all!) under the direction of Ms. Buell performed Green Day's 21 Guns during February's Spirit Week



Onondaga Hill Middle & Westhill High Schools

Harmonizers and Modern Band Entertain at PWP

Special thanks to the OHMS Harmonizers and Thursday's Dead from the WHS modern band program for their amazing performances throughout the PWP event, plus all of our amazing volunteers.





Pictured above are some of our volunteers. Thank you to all PWP volunteers! We couldn't do it without you!!

Thursday's Dead from the WHS Modern Rock Band Program.



OHMS Harmonizers

Westhill High & Onondaga Hill Middle Schools

HOSA Club at Westhill High School

The newly established Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) club at Westhill High School recently participated in the HOSA State Conference in East Syracuse on March 20th. With enthusiasm and dedication, 21 of our students competed in various events such as the biomedical debate, health career research and mock interviews, showcasing their skills and knowledge in the medical field. Additionally, our students volunteered their time to assist with judging other events, furthering their understanding and expertise in healthcare. This achievement not only demonstrated our students' passion for healthcare but also their commitment to excellence. We are very proud of our HOSA members for representing Westhill High School with pride and determination and they should be proud of themselves as well for their fantastic achievements!



All-County Music Honors

Every year, the Onondaga County Music Educators' Association hosts a junior high music festival consisting of the finest seventh, eighth and ninth grade band, choral and orchestra students in Onondaga County. Auditions are held in December to determine the strongest possible ensembles. The following OHMS students were selected to participate in this 2024 Junior High All-County Band: Owen Davidson (trombone), Clark Durant (tuba), Jack Carruth (trumpet), Evan Chaddock (clarinet), Dylan Green (alto saxophone), Bryanna Sisack (alto saxophone), Sofia Savelesky (clarinet), A'shawn Weaver (bass clarainet). All County Jazz Band: Andrew Rewakowski (trombone), Sydney Buell (trombone), Jack Carruty (trumpet), Clark Durant (electric bass), Jackson Flegel (drum set), Eamon Sprouse (alto saxophone) and Bryanna Sisack (alto saxophone). All County Chorus: Katherine Pluff



Westhill High School

National Honor Society

The Westhill High School Chapter of the National Honor Society Spring Induction Ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. Forty-six members of the junior class joined the current membership made up of 68 seniors. It was an exciting evening filled with celebration. The Senior Class officers reviewed the National Honor Society Qualities during the candle lighting ceremony. Current NHS officers include: President Emily Rinaldi, Vice President Molly Thompson, Secretary Connor Knohl, and Treasurer Cade Caloia. Mrs. Tracy Bitner, Chapter Advisor, and Westhill High School Principal, Mr. Dan Dolan, offered words of welcome, congratulations and praise for the talented group of inductees.

Selection to the National Honor Society is based upon four criteria set forth by national standards including Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character. Juniors who achieve a cumulative academic grade point average of an 88.0 or greater through the second quarter of eleventh grade are invited to submit an information packet sharing accomplishments and activities. The faculty is given an opportunity to review this information and provide recommendations. The NHS Faculty Committee of five members then reviews the information and makes the final selection.

During the school year, National Honor Society provides peer tutoring and continues the commitment to service within the school and community. This past year members collected personal care items for St. Lucy's Church and sponsored a sock drive for We Rise Above the Streets Outreach. Members also assisted at WHS events such as Open House and New Student Orientation. They continue to complete individual service endeavors throughout the year.

The juniors who were inducted include: Amana Abdelfatah, Sike Ajagbe, Ava Antoine, Emily Balduzzi, Grace Burkett, Samantha Burkett, Phoebe Burns, Jocelyn Caputo, Anabelle Colangelo, Clair Detor, Molly Dorfman, Zane Eldred, Nora Fitzgerald, Adyson Goldman, Mya Goral, Emma Gorman, Phoebe Gumaer, Georgia Hange, Morgan Heise, Aubrey Holowinski, Siena Jetter, Lauren Kimball, Abigail LaReau, Sydney MacBain, Camryn Mathews, Julie McGann, Julian Metzgar, Owen Mulholland, Emma Murphy, TJ Pichoske, Teddy Popp, Cadence Ramsing, Emily Rienhardt, Olivia Rodriguez, Conor Rose, Kara Rosenberger, Nicholas Scheel, Riley Sheridan, Helena Sipley, Emlyn Sisack, Avery Starowicz, Evangelina Tarolli, Emily Taylor, Ramzi Thabet, Sabri Thabet, and Sophia Valenti.

Congratulations and best wishes to our graduating seniors: Gabrielle Allahar, Bridget Allen, Ayesha Altheblah, Hasan Altheblah, Vincent Amorese, Megan Battista, Gavin Borne, Bryce Burdick, Cade Caloia, Alden Carroll, Kendall Carson, Nina Cognato, Catherine Cottrell, Charles DeMore, Peyton Deno, Emma DeSanto, Sofia Dimovski, Shamus Edlund, Grace Enriquez, Rachel Evans, Sean Finnerty, Lauren Formica, Hannah Goodness, Joshua Gratien, Gracelyn Gray, Ella Grosso, Elle Herrera, Jameson Hogan, Isabella Johnson, David Kleberg, Elena Kleberg, Caitlyn Knohl, Connor Knohl, Morgan Kohanski, Alexa Korrie, Alison Lancette, Ava Lasher, Michael Madigan, Grace McGlynn, Benjamin McPeak, Elizabeth McPeak, Elizabeth Mueller, Luciana Nagraj, Andrew O'Reilly, Emma Paetow, Grady Pens, Luke Pickett, Mary Kate Rewakowski, Emily Rinaldi, Regan Robbins, Kathleen Rogers, Katelyn Sainsbury, Adriana Saya-Pucello, Brynn Schneider, Keegan Sexton, Julia Sparks, Gianna Spasevski, Jackson Suddaby, Reagan Talucci, Veronica Taylor, Julianna Terek, Molly Thompson, Hannah Tjaden, Emma Wilsch, Isabel Young, Dominic Zawadzki, and Rose Zema.





National Honor Society students package donations for St. Lucy's.

Westhill High School

Piece of Cake Day

The Counseling Center hosted their 5th annual event for seniors this year to celebrate Decision Day.

"Decision Day" was celebrated during lunches, and seniors enjoyed cake, made posters indicating their future plans, and received their writing folders that included works from elementary school on up. This inclusive event was for all seniors, giving them the opportunity to share future plans for college, military, employment or other training programs. Congratulations to the class of 2024!









WHS Quarter 3 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 12

Allahar, Gabrielle Allen, Bridget Altheblah, Ayesha Amorese, Vincent Andrella, Kyle Battista, Megan Borne, Gavin Burdick, Bryce Caloia, Cade Campanella, Jack Campbell, Ryan Carfagno, Sophia Carroll, Alden Carson, Kendall Chandler, Willow Cognato, Nina Cottrell, Catherine Craven, Ryley Dabbiero, Ioshua Darling, Damon DeMore, Charles Deno, Peyton DeSanto, Emma Dimovski, Sofia Edlund, Shamus Enriquez, Grace Etoll, Owen Evans, Rachel Falcone, Taylor Fanelli, Michael Finnerty, Sean Formica, Lauren Fuller, Sophia Gacek, Chloe Goodness, Hannah Gratien, Joshua Gray, Gracelyn Herrera, Elle Hogan, Jameson Johnson, Isabella Johnston, Brendan Kaczor, Carrie Kleberg IV, David Kleberg, Elena Knohl, Caitlyn Knohl, Connor Knoll, Caroline Kohanski, Morgan Korrie, Alexa Lancette, Alison Langdon, Kameron Lasher, Ava Leonardo, Isabel Lopez, Cameron MacLachlan, Nathan Madigan III, Michael Mahoney, Rosemary Maines, Owen McClave, Miley McGlynn, Grace McPeak, Benjamin McPeak, Elizabeth Medeiros, Steven Mueller, Elizabeth Nagraj, Luciana

O'Reilly, Andrew Paetow, Emma Pens, Grady Petrone, Sophia Pettiford, Ni'Jhay Phillips, Marissa Pickett, Luke Plochocki, Alexander Pollard, Xavier Rewakowski, Mary Rinaldi, Emily Robbins, Regan Rogers, Kathleen Saini, Danish Sainsbury, Katelyn Saya-Pucello, Adriana Schneider, Brynn Sexton, Keegan Shanahan, Maggie Sheridan, Patrick Sherwood, Ryan Simmons, Alexandria Small, Chloe Smithers, Samuel Smyth, Shay Sparks, Julia Spasevski, Gianna Spencer, Logan Stanton, Jane Stiner, William Stiner, Zero Suddaby, Jackson Talucci, Reagan Taylor, Veronica Terek, Julianna Thomas, A'my Thompson, Molly Thornton, Ellie Tjaden, Hannah Van Epps, Jack Walsh, Maggie Wilsch, Emma Young, Isabel Zawadzki, Dominic Zema, Rose Marie

Grade 11

Abdelfatah, Amana Abedrabbah, Razan Abraham, Sarah Adams, Alexandra Agley, Lucas Ajagbe, Oluwafeyisike Allen, Tate Alt, Maille Andrella, Dylan Antoine, Ava Balduzzi, Emily Baty, Ava Bender, Alice Bergett, Grace Bova, Michael Burkett, Samantha Burns, Phoebe Campbell, Miracle Caputo, Jocelyn

Cardoso, Anthony Cecile, Annabella Ciaramella, Francesca Colangelo, Anabelle Cole, Chloe Cowin, Timothy Cusimano, Rocco DeLine, William DeMore, Timothy Detor, Claire Donegan, Sophia Dorfman, Molly Eldred, Zane Esposito, Stephen Fitzgerald, Nora Geiger, Angelyna Goldman, Adyson Goral, Mya Gorman, Emma Gregory, Chyla Griffin, Maxwell Gumaer, Phoebe Hamam, Israa Hange, Georgia Haves V, Robert Heise, Morgan Henesey, Luke Holowinski, Aubrey Jetter, Siena Joyce, Camaryn luman, Eli Stuart Kelly, Caleigh Kelly, Colin Kimball, Lauren Klamm, Jeremiah LaReau, Abigail Loveless, Lillian MacBain, Sydney McGann, Julie Medeiros, Sydney Merrick, Thomas Metzgar, Julian Mulholland, Owen Murphy, Emma O'Hern, Keller Pease, Jack Ryan Pendergast, Thomas Pichoske, Thaddeus Pirong, Joseph Popp, Edward Ramsing, Cadence Rienhardt, Emily Roesch, Elizabeth Rose, Conor Rosenberger, Kara Sampo, Anthony Sauer, Tripp Scheel, Nicholas Sheridan, Riley Shiel, Colin Sipley, Helena Sisack, Emlyn Stanton, Laura Starowicz, Avery Sullivan, Grace

WHS Quarter 3 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 11 (cont.)

Swierk, Ryan Tarolli, Evangelina Taylor, Emily Thabet, Ramzi Thabet, Sabri Valenti, Claire Valenti, Sophia Williams, Amaya

Grade 10

Amidon, Aiden Amorese, Gabriel Anderson, Elizabeth Bruzdzinski III, John Buell, Addison Burke, Kiley Campanella, Tyler Carruthers, Adelynn Cognato, John Cordova, Vincent Cowin, Maxwell Curtis, Fenris Czaplicki, Benjamin D'Agostino, Elizabeth Eckert, Anna Faigle, Grace Ganley, Caroline Gilhooley, Brendan Goode, Delaney Goode, Hadley Goodness, Jackson Goodwin, Zachary Gorman, Grace Mary Hatch, Milo Hayes, John Hayes, Selina Hill, Jael Hoffman, Sophia Holleran, Liam Hunt, Thomas Jackson, Anna Kaczor, Stella Kenny, Ronan Kenny, Tiernan Kincaid, Cormac King, Kayleigh Kohanski, Adriana Langham, Allison Lopez, Collin Maines, Aiden McKeon, Hunter Militi, Eva Mondo, Andrew Mullen, Eileen Napolitano, Stella Olesh, Anita Ortiz, Leila Parry, Eleanor Pellegrino, Brandon Pens, Kellen Perry, Alexa Petrone, Calvin Pickett, Ella Pope, Sienna Poston, Aryanna

Prince, Elias Ramos, Carlos Reilley, Olivia Rice, Lorenzo Richardson, Carter Roach, Meara Rudiger, Abigail Ryan, Molly Sadowski, Andrew Sainsbury, Claire Sainsbury, Ryan Satalin, Érin Scarfino, Dominic Schmitz, Lily Shephard, Madicine Shepherd, Ellis Shewchuk, Aurora Sierotnik, Christopher, Jr. Sisson, Kevin Snyder, Amie Snyder, Meghan Snyder, Samantha Somers, Adelynn Soule, Madelyn Sparks, Olivia Speer, Trinity Stephenson, Stotler, Adam Talucci, Gage Thompson, William Turner, Braelvn Tyszka, Alexander Valerino, Angelina Vaughan, Margaret Ward, Alexis Wilbur, Iena Wilson, Carter Wright, Reagan Young, Katherine

Grade 9

Abdallah, Sadeen Alberts, Adeline Allen, Brooke Allen, Max Altheblah, Brahim Bagnell, Tatum Bruzdzinski, Lottie Cardoso, Nicolas Choe, Austin Colangelo, Samantha Columbus, Kailyn Conley, Colleen Conroy, Mackenzie Crawford, Lane D'Agostino, Claire DeLine, Lucas DeMore, Lucy Destito, Isabella DeTomaso, Giana Domick, Isabella Ellis, Christine Enright, Aaliyah Finnerty, Ryan Gallardo, Isabella Garcia, Jamil

Gehm, Tyler Gray, Owen Headd, John-Paul Henesey, Matthew Herne, Louis Horning, Grace Ide, Caitlin Jackson, Jake Johnson, Sophia Judge, Charles Kelly, Claire Kelly, Teagan Kimball, Samantha Kinney, Mary Kodoe, Andrea-Ann Krenrich, Kaitlin Lasher, Sophia MacLachlan, Thomas McGann, Sean McGee, Felicity McNeilly, Hazel McRae, Ayanah Montalto, Adelina Moore, James Murphy, Kaylin Murphy, Lucy Nagraj, Mariana Pawelczyk, Allison Pease, Logan Piel, Alexander Primiano, Eulalia Roberts-DuMont, Cadeanne Rogers, Reagan Rouse, Brielle Ruski, Serenity Scanlon, Charles Shephard, Mathew Singh, Harjot Sobotka, Mariusz Soule, Eva Spasevski, Ivana Taylor, Addison Thabet, Dhuha Thompkins, Amora Vashchishin, Walker, Eli West, Emma Wilmot, Owen Young, Daniel Young, Trevor Zuckerman, Zoe



Spring Teams Earn NYSPHSAA Academic Honors

At the end of each sports season, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) honors those teams and individuals that excel in the classroom. Those student-athletes, teams, and schools work very hard throughout the year and deserve to be recognized for their academic success. To receive Scholar-Athlete team recognition the team's average GPA for 75% of the roster must be greater than or equal to 90%. If a team does not meet the Scholar-Athlete Team Criteria, the individuals on that team with a 90% or above GPA are considered individual Scholar-Athletes.

This spring, Westhill had eight out of our eight varsity teams earning the team honor. Scholar Teams included boys' lacrosse, girls' lacrosse, softball, baseball, girls' outdoor track and field, boys' outdoor track and field, boys' tennis and girls'golf. We had 175 varsity student athletes participating in the spring sports program with 102 of them earning a 90% or greater average for the 3rd quarter. Congratulations student athletes!

Warriors of the Month

MARCH

9th Grade: Samantha Colangelo

Sam is an extremely conscientious student. She works hard to put forth her best effort everyday while also going out of her way to help her peers and engage them to further their learning. She demonstrates leadership qualities everyday and yet does so in a modest way. Her positivity lights up the classroom. Great job Sam!

10th Grade: Aurora Shewchuk nominated by Mr Fort-Diaz

During study hall she noticed I had a couple holes in my cardigan, the student then asked me if it was okay for her to take it for the day. I didn't know exactly why. Until the next day she approached me and handed me my cardigan which she knitted and fixed the holes in it. Leaving me impacted with her amazing ACT OF KINDNESS. Goes to show how a simple HI or a SMILE to a student can impact a student as far as to go out of their way to impact You!

"Thank you AURORA. This ACT OF KINDNESS will forever live in my memories!"

11th Grade: Angelyna Gieger

When she observes that a student is in distress, Angelyna takes the courageous step to go above and beyond to first soothe the student, but also seeks out an appropriate adult to ensure that the student is attended to with the appropriate care. Rather than being a bystander Angelyna is brave and seeks to help those in need either by herself or by seeking out help. Angelyna also pushes herself... even if it means making a mistake. This requires her to be brave because she is willing to make a mistake socially or academically, so that she can grow and become the best version of herself.

12th Grade: Alison Lancette

Every single day in class, Alison comes in ready to give her best effort despite having multiple commitments and responsibilities on her plate. Not only is she ready to give her all, but she is willing to step in and help others as well. She does a great job of assisting group members and contributing to class discussion with thought provoking questions. She steps up in class and outside of class when a leader is needed but is a great team player as well. She is a funny and personable student who helps contribute to a great class environment.

Westhill High School

Students Visit Onondaga County Courthouse

Mrs. Murphy's English 10 class recently took a field trip to the Onondaga County Courthouse and listened to closing arguments in a civil trial in front of Judge Rory McMahon and enjoyed a question and answer session with Westhill alum, Judge Matthew Doran in the The Honorable Judge James C. Tormey III Criminal Courthouse. Additionally, students visited Hancock Estabrook law firm where they were treated to lunch and participated in a question and answer session regarding careers in the legal industry.





Warriors of the Month

<u>APRIL</u>

9th Grade - Bella Domick: As a 9th grade student, Bella is wise beyond

her years. She is an attentive, hardworking student, loyal friend, compassionate peer, doting big sister and a fantastic "Westhill Buddy". Bella is the type of student that goes above and beyond. She is exceptionally thorough with her work in class. I've been impressed by her active participation in Character Education, along with her commitment to making her experience with her Westhill Buddy the best it can be. Bella leads by example and that commitment to doing what's right does not go unnoticed. I'm proud of both her effort and growth this school year! You're a true Westhill Warrior, Bella!

<u>10th Grade</u> - Eva Militi: Each day, Eva has an amazing ability to brighten up a classroom with her positive energy. She is funny and kind to both her classmates and the adults in the school and helps to create an atmosphere that is welcoming and enjoyable. Eva consistently volunteers in class and contributes with great questions. When working with others, she is able to help foster a productive work environment while enjoying her time in class. Overall, Eva is easygoing and a great addition to any class and has the spirit of a true Westhill Warrior! Way to go Eva!

<u>11th Grade</u> - Anthony Sampo: Anthony is a kind and caring young man. He goes out of his way each and every day to greet his teachers and engage in meaningful conversation. His warm personaliaty shines through in everything he does. He genuinely cares for others and is supportive of everyone in our learning environment. We are lucky to have such a kind and inclusive young man in our classroom! Anthony devotes a great dael of his time to baseball and it's apparent he is not only a team player but a leader in the classroom and on the sports field!

<u>12 Grade</u> - Mikey Madigan: Mikey embodies the spirit quintessential of a model student. He consistently demonstrates a genuine respect for his teachers and a commitment to including others. He is a natural leader who encourages others to show that same level of kindness and inclusivity. Mikey is exceptionally outgoing, gregarious and is sure to bring a healthy does of humor to any learning situation. He has been a please to have in class and is a true Westhill Warrior!

Westhill High School

AP Class Visits Metro Water Treatment Plant

The AP Environmental Science class recently visited the Metro Water Treatment Plant. While there, they learned about the process of water filtration and treatment, as the sewage water is purified, and returned to Onondaga Lake. The students were able to embark on a tour around the grounds of the plant, seeing the different steps of the process. For the next part of their field trip, the students made their way to Onondaga Lake Park. At the park, they searched for and identified different aspects of biodiversity. Next, a few members of the group suited up in waders and ventured into the lake, nets in hand, on the hunt for macroinvertebrates. They discovered many mollusks, snails, and many other organisms.







Our Belgian Friends

On Saturday April 27, students from Belgium arrived at Westhill high school. After months of communication between their English teacher, Madame Plompteux, and our French teacher, Madame Amerault, they were able to plan a wonderful trip for 42 Belgian students and their teachers. Many generous Westhill families offered to host these students in order to show them a typical American life. Over the course of three days the Belgian students explored Syracuse and all that it has to offer. Starting off over the weekend the host families were able to show the Belgians around however they wanted. The Westhill and Belgian students went to diners for breakfasts, shopped at the mall, and toured various parts of the city.

On Monday the Belgian students followed their host students to school. Throughout the day the Belgians followed their students to class where they experienced an average day for the students of Westhill. They asked a slew of questions to better grasp how Westhill students live and in turn the students of Westhill, even the ones not hosting students, asked many questions in return. Despite a small language barrier for some of the students, all of the Westhill students welcomed the Belgians with open arms. The mix of cultures was an interesting sight as each student was discovering something new about a world unlike their own. After school the host students and their Belgians went to Apex where they bowled and played "laser game" as the Belgian students called it. On Tuesday morning the Belgians were scheduled to leave after a big breakfast filled with laughs. After three days of bonding, many of the Westhill students were sad to see their new friends leave. However, many were comforted by the idea of keeping in touch with their Belgian friends through social media. Following the departure of the Belgians, Westhill students continued to share stories from their time here and talk about their new found fond memories with them. Although they were only in Syracuse for a short period the Belgian students left a lasting impression on many Westhill students and the memories from their trip will follow many into the future.





Westhill Diversity Committee Cookbook

On behalf of the Westhill Diversity Committee, we are excited to prepare to launch our first community cookbook! Our community is full of rich cultures and a variety of great food. We would like to share this through a cookbook. Please consider filling out the form below and share your favorite recipes with us. We'd love a wide variety of appetizers, meals, desserts etc. More information will be shared later about the roll out of the cookbook.

Here is the link: bit.ly/westhillcookbook or use the QR code:



The Westhill Educational Foundation is proud to announce the recipients of The Barduhn Family Scholarship and The Kathleen Tompkins Memorial Scholarship for the senior class of 2024:

Barduhn Family Scholarship

This \$1,000 scholarship, in honor of former superintendent Casey Barduhn and his mother, Mary, was awarded to Julianna Terek. Her outstanding character throughout her high school years and her notable contributions to the local community make her an exceptional member of the Westhill community. Julianna will attend Onondaga Community College in the fall and major in nursing.



Kathleen Tompkins Scholarship

This \$1,000 scholarship, in memory of OHMS music teacher Kathleen Tompkins, was awarded to Luciana Nagraj. Since starting dance at Caitlin Clark's Centre of Dance in 2012, Lucy has demonstrated an appreciation and passion for the fine arts. Over the past four years at Westhill High School, she has inspired everyone around her through dance and through her participation in the National Honor Society. This fall she will continue her career in dance by attending the Boston Conservatory at Berklee and major in contemporary dance.



These two scholarships were made possible by the generous donation from the Lupine Haven Organization to the Westhill Education Foundation in March of this year. We wish both recipients the best of luck in their future endeavors!

District News

Paint Westvale Purple was a Great Success

Thank you to every one of you who supported the 11th Annual Paint Westvale Purple (PWP) event held on May 19, 2024, at Cherry Road School. The event was a tremendous success, with almost 500 registered participants across all three events- Free Kids Fun Run, 1-Mile Bubble Run, and 5K Run/Walk!



This year, PWP brought back a revamped charity writing contest for Westhill elementary students along with the first-ever logo design contest for the middle and high school students. We are pleased to announce that Braelyn Turner is the winner of this year's PWP logo-inspired design contest. The Charity Writing Contest chosen entries were from Regin Hall, who advocated for "Hugs for Hope," and Teresa DeStefano, who wrote on behalf of "Hope for Bereaved." Both organizations will receive funds from PWP, in addition to our traditional recipients, the St. Charles Food Pantry, the Westhill Educational Foundation, and new this year - the Solvay Fire Department.



The more people engage in this event, the greater our ability to impact the community positively through donations. It's the community's unwavering support and dedication that makes PWP a meaningful and successful event! For those interested in reliving the moments, all event-related photos, race results, and more can be found at www.pwp5krun.com.





District News

Buckets for St. Baldrick's

Cherry Road School played host to the 3rd annual Buckets for St. Baldrick's 3v3 youth basketball tournament for pediatric cancer research on April 14.

More than 350 schoolchildren, including many from Westhill, hit the court to help raise more than \$64,000 for St. Baldrick's. New to this year's event, five Westhill staff members shaved their heads in advance of the event, with their proceeds benefitting the tournament, as well as the Luke's Army Pediatric Cancer fund, created in honor of Luke Ungerer, son of Westhill alumni Scott Ungerer, who died at the age of 3 of brain cancer.

Players from grades 2 through 8—including three cancer survivors—competed in grade level age groups from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m., winning medals and basketballs provided by Play It Again Sports, Syracuse. They were visited by Otto the Orange and three members of the Syracuse University women's basketball team. Players also helped raise money through their personal fundraising pages.

Staff members who shaved their heads on Friday before the event were Superintendent Steve Dunham, Assistant Superintendent Rick Chapman, WHS principal Dan Dolan, Cherry Road principal Jeremie Auge, and WPS PE teacher Kevin Hoag.

The tournament was created in 2022 by then Westhill junior Bodie Centore and continues with the help of so many volunteers and sponsors from both within and outside of the Westhill district. Special thanks to Jon Connelly and Zachary Kiggins for making the day such a huge success and to Cherry Road's Joe Farino for all his help.

















BOARD OF EDUCATION Westhill Central School District 400 Walberta Road Syracuse, New York 13219-2214 Non-profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 3523 Syracuse, New York

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The Westhill Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, sex or race in its employment practices or educational programs.

Registration Procedures for New Students (K-12)

All students who are new to the Westhill Central School District must be registered by their parents or legal guardians. The Registration Office is located at Walberta Park School; at 400 Walberta Park Road; Syracuse, NY 13219. Registrations are by appointment only.

There are Registration forms available on the Westhill website at https://www.westhillschools.org/teacherpage. cfm?teacher=1258. Please review the forms on the right side of the page.

Other required documents include:

- Original Birth Certificate or Passport
- Up to date immunization records from the Student's Doctor (must include Doctor's signature)
- 2 Proofs of Residency (1 Primary and 1 Secondary

Primary Proof of Residency:

- Residential mortgage statement/deed; lease/rental agreement (signed by both parties)
- If you just purchased a home, copy of signed purchase agreement for residential real estate property within the district (copy of signed contract if you just purchased house)

Secondary Proof of Residency:

- Pay stub with address
- Homeowner's insurance or Renter's insurance; or Car insurance
- Social Security Correspondence
- Credit Card Bill
- Government issued mail; (Example; Medicare or Medicaid)

Parent/Legal Guardian Photo Identification

The following additional documents may be required:

- Court Issued Custody Papers (if applicable)
- Form DSS 2999 for foster children
- Copy of child's IEP (if child is receiving Special Education Services)
- Copy of child's 504 Plan (if the child is receiving 504 accommodations)

Please contact the Registration Office at 315-426-3440 or email at registrar@westhillschools.org with any questions regarding the registration process.