

WESTHILL FRENCH STUDENTS GO TO FRANCE!

During February break, 27 students, 2 mini Dolans and 5 chaperones spent an incredible week touring France. We started in Paris where we saw, among other things, the Louvre, Notre Dame, the musée d'Orsay and the Eiffel Tower. We were also able to meet with some of our Belgian friends/penpals and spend some free time with them in Paris. (See additional pictures on page 24)



SPECIAL GUEST VISITS MRS. BYRNE'S KINDERGARTEN CLASS

Mrs. Byrne's kindergarten class had a very special visitor on the 100th Day of School. Mrs. Katie Byrne, Mrs. Byrne's 100 year old mother-in-law, came in to talk with the students. She told the children what school was like when she was in kindergarten. She shared how the friends she made in kindergarten were some of her lifelong friends. The children asked her some wonderful questions! What is your favorite animal, your favorite sport, your favorite thing to eat and drink, what do you like to do with your family? How lucky we were to have her as our special guest!







AUTHOR VISITS WALBERTA PARK SCHOOL

Walberta Park students enjoyed a visit with author John Sardella. He has written multiple books for kids featuring the character quick-stick Harry, a lacrosse player who is learning about teamwork and the importance of passing the ball. Students picked up some tips on how to play lacrosse and enjoyed Mr. Sardella's engaging presentation on teamwork and sharing.

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS CELEBRATE THE GLOBAL DAY OF PLAY

On February 5th, kindergarten students at Walberta Park celebrated The Global Day of Play. Each classroom had a different theme and students rotated through all of the classrooms. Students enjoyed: painting, sensory toys, STEM activities, dramatic play, blocks and arts & crafts. Best. Day. Ever.







Cherry Road School

LIBRARIAN VISIT

We had some visitors in the library recently! Mrs. Bewsher, the Youth Services librarian at Onondaga Free Library, came to Cherry Road to meet with 2nd graders in Mrs. Ziober and Mrs. Dusart's classes. She brought along her pet corn snake named Pumpkin Spice and shared some facts about snakes. Students made a snake craft to take home and were even able to carefully pet the snake if they wanted to!



Cherry Road School

IDEAS CLUB

During the past month, IDEAS Club celebrated Black History Month with activities that helped students learn about many Black Americans who have made important contributions in a variety of fields. One of those activities included a very catchy tune called "Black People Who Changed the World" - be sure to ask your student to sing it for you! Our next topic focuses on the differently-abled and will include the book "Wonder". Each participant was lent a copy of the book to read outside of school and will be using it to talk about the challenges faced by people with disabilities. Looking forward to some great discussions with our Leaders in Training!

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST





On March 18th, third grader Esmae Baracco from Cherry Road Elementary will join meteorologist Kate Thornton from News Channel 9's Storm Team to present the noon weather forecast live. This incredible opportunity includes a studio tour where Esmae can showcase her meteorological skills! Esmae has always dreamed of becoming a meteorologist and even has a weather station kit at home, where she practices her own local predictions. We can't wait to see her in action!

GRATITUDE, GOATS AND GIVING BACK

This past November, Mrs. Wight's and Ms. Feeney's Second Step class explored the many things in our lives we are grateful for. Family, friends, food, clothing, and the opportunity to attend school were all highlighted. We discussed how easy it is to take our education for granted and explored this further with a special story. We read Beatrice's Goat by Page McBrier, the true story of Beatrice Biira. Beatrice's family couldn't afford her schooling until they received a goat that produced enough milk for their needs and enough to sell. The profits from the milk sales made Beatrice's dream of attending school a reality.

Inspired by Beatrice's story, our class decided to make a difference. We began collecting change and then launched "Warm Fuzzies" – small gifts with positive messages that students could purchase during lunch in January to send to friends and staff. Our efforts were a huge success! A Tremendous Impact! Thanks to the generosity of our students and staff, we raised \$225! This incredible amount was donated to Heifer International, allowing us to purchase a goat, rabbits, chicks, ducks, and bees for families in need. We were thrilled to put our Second Step lessons into action and witness the impact we could make.

Looking Ahead: Hugs for Hope! Our class is already planning our next project! We recently welcomed Mrs. Hall to our classroom, who shared information about the Hugs for Hope Foundation (https://hugsforhopefoundation. org/). This organization provides support, comfort, encouragement, and love to those on a cancer journey. They've invited us to create a media campaign to raise awareness about their important work. Stay tuned for more details on how you can help!





Onondaga Hill Middle School & Walberta Park School

OHMS MUSICAL PREVIEW AT WALBERTA PARK

OHMS students will be performing the musical Shrek very soon! Students came to WPS to preview the musical to kindergarteners and 1st graders. WPS students loved seeing the middle school students perform. WPS staff loved seeing former students and how they have grown! Pictured above from left to right is Ben Tyszka, Hunter Ross, Stella Mastronardi, Lucas Eurich, Spencer Marshall and Charlie Soule.



CELEBRATING MRS. BUELL

Congratulations to Liz Buell on being named the WCNY Music Educator of the Month! She was surprised with the award during her band rehearsal on March 12th. She joins a remarkable group of music educators in our region who have been celebrated for their accomplishments. Mrs. Buell was nominated by a colleague and family for her care, professionalism, and musicianship. Congratulations, Mrs. Buell!





IDEAS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY



We spoke about "Poverty in America" during January. The students of IDEAS hosted a sock drive. We collected toothbrushes, toothpaste, and a host of other essential items for the Samaritan Center. We spent some time learning about a lot of important facts and statistics on "Poverty in America". With the help of donations from the community, IDEAS Club at OHMS had almost 300 sock donations and made 137 care bags! We talked about a quote that fit perfectly with this activity," Be more of a fountain than a drain". The group expressed how amazing this actually made them feel. Ms. Dottie, A volunteer at the Samaritan Center, met with the students and spoke with them about the Samaritan Center and the guests there. The students of IDEAS Club were very moved by what she talked about. Then the students were able to carry out donations they collected and load them in her truck. It was wonderful to see how well these students worked together. Thank you everyone for contributing to this year's sock drive. And a special thank you to the students of IDEAS club for collaborating to help people in need!

Onondaga Hill Middle School

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Students of the Month for the second quarter were recognized at the PS I Love You Day assembly in February. Westhill alum and current NY Giants' football player, Casey Rogers, was on hand to present the students with a token of appreciation for the kindness, hard work and dedication they demonstrate each day. Congratulations to the following students: AJ Hagan, Shaniy Nicholson, Isabella Mamorella, Charlie Sisson, Owen Johnson, Amelia Destito, Derry Downs, Mikala Berger, Keena Kelly, Rhianna Nelson, Vincent Moro and Henry Barfield.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OHMS JUNIOR MATH LEAGUE

Congratulations to the OHMS Junior Math League team! The team consisting of 8th graders Eliana Anderson, Natalie Barcak, Audrey Mahoney, Aedan Schilling, and Brynna Sisack, took 3rd place at the final meet of the year at CNS. A special congratulations to Eliana and Natalie who tied for second place with individual high scores. Great job team! Brynna also received recognition in class on Pi Day (March 14th) for correctly reciting 101 digits of pi.



OHMS Quarter 2 Honor Roll 2024-2025

Grade 8 High Honor

Sela Abdelfatah Eliana Anderson Natalie Barcak Juliana Brown Madigan Burns Logan Cobb Carmella Colangelo Reagan Coleman Reagan Collett Jack Cook Kate Czaplicki James DeLine Amelia Destito Luka Dimovski Clark Durant Nicholas Ellis Isabella Engle Brady Fraser Sophie Gallardo Dylan Green Gavin Greenfield Anne Horning Audrey Hubler Griffin Jackson Antonia Judge Khaya Konkol Audrey Mahoney Ella Morgan Sofia Olesh Morgan Paparo Shanley Pluff Tyler Pratt Nicholas Preville Adelina Primiano Bryan Quattrocci Cielo Ramos **Brian Rogers Kiley Schermerhorn** Aedan Schilling Brynna Sisack **Charles Soule** Eamon Sprouse Harry Storinge Trey Tjaden Reagan Walsh **Riley Walsh** Alexander Zuckerman

Grade 8 Honor

Caleb Abreu Yusuf Altheblah Giada Auringer **Jacqueline Battista** London Boatman Luke Campanella Virginia Canavan Elliott Carroll Landon Carson Annabelle Casazza Livia Chase Real Danboise III Bridget Detor Gurtej Dhamoon Daniel Donegan Keira Etoll Jackson Flegel Connor Friend Arianna Giannino **Evey Gumtow** Albert Hagan Matthew Headd Jaylan Hill Lyric Johnson Owen Johnson Amelia LaSalle Alaina LeFever **Kierra Manning** Spencer Marshall Eliana Montalto **Tanner Pendergast** Teffero Rashid Abigail Reynolds **Cassius Robinson** Jaliyah Robinson Mya Rowley Michael Scanlon **Gianna Scheirer** Lillian Sierotnik Jeremy Sova Franklin Stoddard Alvaa Thabet Michael Valenti Briahnna Wall William West Layla White Liam Wright Nic Zema Yuliia Zhdan

Grade 7 High Honor

Mya Aiduk Malik Aladwar Ahd Almamari Isla Baracco William Carruth Jasper Carruthers Joseph Cass Elliot Cenajko Samantha Chang Joseph Collins **Ouinn Connelly** Hailey D'Agostino Maura Dixon Jane Eischen Ellie Faigle Juliana Francisco Ethan Freund Julia Gehm Luke Gridley Macie Grome Aiden Henderson **Evelyn Hennigan** Giavana Herron Lucas Holowinski Janelle Ibrahim Colin Jackson Atticus Jaquint Elliott Kalinowski Kellan Killoran Caroline Kinney Tobi Konkol Olivia LaRosa Isabel Mamorella Oliver Marceau Max Mathews Jackson Nugent Molly ONeil Lily Past **Peyton Pautz** Patrick Pillari **Javden** Platt **Clare Presley** Alana Primiano Julia Redmond Aurora Savelesky Alexandra Scozzari Eden Seitz Charles Sisson Ella Stash Lucas Stokes Jenna Thabet **Belle Walts** Noah Weinsztok Karah Wells Emma Woodring Nora Worden Suri Zheng

Grade 7 Honor

Muhammad Abedrabbah Nina Abraham Daniel Allen Alexander Amidon Cooper Auge **Clive Bagnell** Judah Brooks **Charles Burns** Kathryn Carlyle Kathryn Carroll Charles Cassidy IV Avery Clark Landon Clyne Taylor Connell Griffin Connelly Vincent Couse Ella Donegan Jocelyn Esposito **Connor Fogarty** Kelly Goodwin Rowen Grobosky Charles Herne Gian Herron Blin Hicks Shiloh Holt Lilly Hope Jahsai Huggins Madilyn Ireland Owen Jackson Quest Kelly Xander King Dilynn Klamm Gabriel Loucks Emilia Maestri Kendall Maguire Madeline Maldonado-Royer Harrison McNeilly Cameron Minier Benjamin Montague Malachy Morse Maysa Mosleh Shaniy Nicholson Helena O'Brien Mason O'Brien Ana Padula Kendall Parr Ella Pucello Jillian Richardson Jack Romano Seamus Root Lyla Rotella Gehrig Satalin

OHMS Quarter 2 Honor Roll 2024-2025

Grade 7 Honor Cont.

Kathleen Satalin Dylan Savastano Henry Scanlon Lyla Seymour Chiara Streiff Zahle Thomas Benjamin Tyszka Francesca Viavattine Ava Wells Mason Whipple Lily Wilmot

Grade 6 High Honor

Somayah Altheblah Broderick Cassalia Avery Christopher Luke Colangelo Griffin Coleman Connor Collacchi Mary Collett Olive Craver Katarina Dacko Matthew DeFabbio Lillian DiMarco **Evelyn** Dixon Tanner Dowd Avery Evans Eliana Fowler Morgan Franco Caleb Gallardo Kayla Gibson

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Havden Green Nolan Greenfield Nicholas Grosso Catherine Headd Briana Henderson Alice Henesey Grace Herne Ella Holleran Brandon Ide Cora Iwachiw Emelia Kurro Hudson Linden Arminda Lora Gonzalez Margaret MacLachlan Jonathan Massett Edan Mitchell Ilithvia Mollie Massimo Montalto Vincent Moro Mackenzie Mulligan Ellen Obernesser Lux ONeill Annabelle Osterman **Ouinn Pease** Griffin Platt Chase Preville Seamus Price Connor Rudiger Anelia Russo John Samhammer **Declan Schilling** Kaleah Seymour

Wesley Shelmidine Emmy Sisson Samuel Stroman Anthony Summa Ilias Tacea Rana Thabet Evelyn Vidas Joseph Widrick Noah Winchell Upton Ziober Lucas Zuckerman

Grade 6 Honor

Ousai Abdallah Eliana Ayesh Madelyn Baker Kendra Bandel Henry Barfield Matthew Bidnvi Kemiyah Byrd Mia Chalker Mia Cheston Rosalia Ciambriello Claire Connell Eliza Earl Brooklyn Edmond Benjamin Galvin Danielle Gersbacher Kenzie Hares Josephine Hoffman Laura Hope Giuliana Ibarra

Violet Irving Liam Kenneally Caleb Ketchum Liam Krawczyk Sasha Madonia Vasilios Marku Todd Martin Evan Morgan Rihanna Nelson Olive Panighetti Thomas Parry III Matthew Pease Brooklyn Perski Alana Pratt Eva Prince Keti Ramage **Jameson Ramsing** Eliza Ritz Mason Rotolo Beckett Ryan Lelan Steenrod Arianna Stoddard Jocelyn Straub Isidora Tacea Ismael Thabet Mayar Thabet Dylan Vidas Brielle Wallace Ella Ward Gracelyn Waters **Tobias Wheeler**

Onondaga Hill Middle School Onondaga Hill Middle School Singers Perform at Syracuse Crunch Game

On Saturday, February 1st many OHMS Harmonizers and 7/8 Chorus members sang God Bless America at the Syracuse Crunch game. Following their performances, the singers and their families spent time together taking in the hockey game! Bravo singers!



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Huge congratulations to our Science Olympiad team for their outstanding performance at the Regional Tournament at North Syracuse Junior High. Our students, working in pairs, tackled diverse events like Road Scholar, Anatomy & Physiology, Meteorology, Crime Busters, and Fossils, bringing home an impressive 19 medals! Adding to our success, Onondaga Hill took 2nd place in the Science Bowl tournament, and Will Tyszka achieved a remarkable 1st place overall. We're incredibly proud of the teamwork and dedication shown by our 6th through 9th grade team members. You represented yourself and our school admirably. Congratulations on an excellent season!

Members of this year's team include:
6th graders Luke Colangelo & Lilly DiMarco
7th graders: Caroline Kinney, Maura Dixon, Ben Tyszka & Suri Zheng
8th graders: Eliana Anderson, Carmella Colangelo, Bridget Detor, Griffin Jackson, Audrey Mahoney, Aedan Schilling
9th graders: Andrew Athenes, Evan Chaddook, Pangan Dixon, Cayla Lin, Haydon Platt, Will Tyszka &

9th graders: Andrew Athanas, Evan Chaddock, Reagan Dixon, Cayla Lin, Hayden Platt, Will Tyszka & Winnie Zheng







ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE STUDENTS VISIT CHERRY ROAD

Environmental science high school students brought the history of Onondaga Lake and Syracuse to life for Cherry Road Elementary second graders. Through engaging storybooks, videos, and activity books created by older students, they shared the lake's rich, albeit complex, past. The visit fostered environmental awareness and a sense of local history in the younger students, while providing the high schoolers with valuable experience in science communication and community engagement. This peer-to-peer learning initiative successfully connected students of different ages with their shared environment, with the hope of inspiring a future generation of stewards.



WHS Quarter 2 Honor Roll 2024-2025

Grade 12

Abdelfatah, Amana Abedrabbah, Razan Aboushanab, Abdelmeguid Abraham, Sarah Adams, Alexandra Agley, Lucas Ajagbe, Oluwafeyisike Al Mamari, Amr Allen, Tate Alt, Maille Andrella, Dylan Antoine, Ava Balduzzi, Emily Baty, Ava Bender, Alice Bergett, Grace Bleskoski, Jordin Burkett, Samantha Burns, Phoebe Caputo, Jocelyn Cardoso, Anthony Cecile, Annabella Colangelo, Anabelle Cole, Chloe Curriden, Morgan Cusimano, Rocco DeLine, William DeMore, Timothy Detor, Claire Donegan, Sophia Dorfman, Molly Douglas, Julie Eldred, Zane Esposito, Stephen Ferrer-Menendez, Emma Fitzgerald, Nora Gedney, Ellianna Geiger, Angelyna Glover, Michael Goldman, Adyson Goral, Kaylee Goral, Mva Gorman, Emma Gregory, Chyla Griffin, Maxwell Gumaer, Phoebe Hamam, Israa Hange, Georgia Hayes V, Robert Heise, Morgan Henesey, Luke Herring, Quinn

Holowinski, Aubrey Jetter, Siena Joyce, Camaryn luman, Eli Kelly, Caleigh Kelly, Colin Kelly, Kara Kimball, Lauren Klamm, Jeremiah LaReau, Abigail Loomis, Christian Loveless, Lillian MacBain, Sydney Marshall, Emma Mathews, Camryn McCloat, Abrianna McGann, Julie Medeiros, Sydney Merrick, Thomas Metzgar, Julian Monds, Mava Mulholland, Owen Murphy, Emma O'Hern, Keller Olesh, Anita Pease, Jack Pirong, Joseph Popp, Edward Prince, Jaydin Ramsing, Cadence Rienhardt, Emily Rodriguez, Olivia Roesch, Elizabeth Rose, Conor Rosenberger, Kara Rouse, Owen Sampo, Anthony Sauer, Tripp Scanlon, William Scheel, Nicholas Sheridan, Riley Shiel, Colin Simpson, Juakin Sipley, Helena Sisack, Emlyn Stanton, Laura Starowicz, Avery Sullivan, Grace Swierk, Ryan Tarolli, Evangelina Taylor, Emily Thabet, Ramzi Thabet, Sabri

Torres Ramos, Lyannis Turner, Makenna Valenti, Claire Valenti, Roman Valenti, Sophia Vashchishin, Anna Williams, Amaya

Grade 11

Amidon, Aiden Amorese, Gabriel Bruzdzinski III, John Burke, Kiley Campanella, Tyler Carroll, Miles Carruthers, Adelynn Cognato, John Colon, Aaliyah Cordova, Vincent Currier, Tahjiar Curtis, Fenris Czaplicki, Benjamin D'Agostino, Elizabeth DeJesus, Josselyn Downs, Blake Eckert, Anna Faigle, Grace Franco, Mason Ganley, Caroline Goode, Delaney Goode, Hadley Goodness, lackson Goodwin, Zachary Gorman, Grace Hatch, Milo Hayes, John Holleran, Liam Holstein, Eric Hunt, Thomas Jackson, Anna Kenny, Ronan Kenny, Tiernan Kincaid, Cormac King, Kayleigh Kohanski, Adriana Langham, Allison Lopez, Collin Maines, Aiden Mann, Mackenzie McKeon, Hunter Militi, Eva Mondo, Andrew Mullen, Eileen

Napolitano, Stella Ortiz, Leila Parry, Eleanor Pens, Kellen Perry, Alexa Petrone, Calvin Pope, Sienna Poston, Aryanna Prince, Elias Ramos, Carlos Raner, McKenzie Reilley, Olivia Rice, Lorenzo Richardson, Carter Roach, Meara Rowe, Mateo Rudiger, Abigail Ryan, Molly Sadowski, Andrew Sainsbury, Claire Sainsbury, Ryan Satalin, Erin Scarfino, Dominic Schmitz, Lily Shephard, Madicine Shepherd, Ellis Shewchuk, Aurora Sisson, Kevin Snyder, Amie Snyder, Meghan Snyder, Samantha Somers, Adelvnn Soule, Madelyn Sparks, Olivia Speer, Trinity Stotler, Adam Stroman, Peter Talucci, Gage Thompson, William Turner, Braelyn Tyszka, Alexander Valerino, Angelina Vaughan, Margaret Wallace, Caleb Wilbur, Iena Wilson, Carter Winkler, Avery Wright, Reagan Young, Katherine

Grade 10

Abdallah, Sadeen Alberts, Adeline

WHS Quarter 2 Honor Roll 2024-2025

Grade 10

Allen, Brooke Allen, Max Altheblah, Brahim Bagnell, Tatum Bruzdzinski, Lottie Cardoso, Nicolas Choe, Austin Clarry, Bryson Colangelo, Samantha Conley, Colleen Conroy, Mackenzie Crawford, Lane D'Agostino, Claire DeLine, Lucas DeMore, Lucy Dennee, Christopher Destito, Isabella DeTomaso, Giana Edlund, Kiera Ellis, Christine Enright, Aaliyah Etoll, Grady Finnerty, Ryan Frasier, Jackson Gallardo, Isabella Garcia, Jamil Gehm, Tyler Gray, Owen Gutierrez, Kamora Headd, John-Paul Hemingway, Arianna Henderson, Ayriana Henesey, Matthew Herne, Louis Hodkinson, Anna Horning, Grace Ide, Caitlin Isimbi, Rabia Jackson, Jake Johnson, Sophia Kelly, Claire Kelly, Teagan Kimball, Samantha Kinney, Mary Krenrich, Kaitlin Lasher, Sophia MacLachlan, Thomas Marshall, Ava McGann, Sean McGee, Felicity McNeilly, Hazel

McRae, Ayanah Mersfelder, Tyler Montalto, Adelina Moore, James Mulligan, Ava Murphy, Kaylin Murphy, Lucy Nagraj, Mariana Pawelczyk, Allison Pease, Logan Pendergast, Cooper Pervea, Javden Petrone, Madeleine Piel, Alexander Primiano, Eulalia Roberts-DuMont, Cadeanne Rogers, Reagan Rouse, Brielle Ruski, Serenity Ryan, Elliette Sanavonxay, Jazlyn Sauer, Parker Scanlon, Charles Shephard, Mathew Sobotka, Mariusz Soule, Eva Sow, Ibrahim Spasevski, Ivana Taylor, Addison Thompkins, Amora Vashchishin, Samuel Veasley, Ah'Nari Walker, Eli Wallace, Ashton West, Emma Wilmot, Owen Young, Daniel Young, Trevor Zhdan, Vitalii Zuckerman, Zoe

Grade 9

Al Mamari, Shahd Asim, Umamah Athanas, Andrew Auge, Emmerson Auringer, Schuyler Beal, JreShawn Belcore, Rosella Bova, Sophia Brown, Jordon Buckman, Skylar

Buell, Sydney Burke, Jameson Carroll, Daniel Carruth, John Cassalia, Patrick Centore, Angelina Chaddock, Evan Cognato, Averie Coleman, Reilly Collacchi, Emma Columbus, Hannah Cordova, Christian Culligan, Brea Davidson, Owen DeFabbio, Sophia DelRio, Stef'Fonie Dillard Jr., Brandon Dixon, Reagan Donegan, Redd Dowd, Cameron Dunbar, Teagan Eldred, Jade Flegel, Julia Francisco, Dean Franco, Maxwell Gaffney, Liam Gaines, Lyla Ganley, Daniel Gerasimovich, Isabella Glover, Charles Glover, Henry Gridley, Dylan Grosso, Eva Hamam, Aiham Hange, Brooke Harrison, Serani Hubler, Evan Ibrahim, Ahmad laguint, Stone Kelly, Quinn Ketchum, Hayden Lin, Cayla MacMaster, Kaylie Maestri, David Marceau, Adrien Marinelli, Joseph Mathews, Leigh McMahon, Emmett Mondo, Melissa Morales, Willa Morse, Shealyn Mota, Alexis

Napolitano, Sabine Parry, Evangeline Pichoske, Nicholas Pizarro Fuentes, Edriel Platt, Hayden Pluff, Katherine Powless, Shaniya Presley, Alexandra Rewakowski, Andrew Rewakowski, Jacob Ritz, Leo Root, Addison Ross, Caleb Satalin, David Savelesky, Sofia Scarfino, Stella Scheel, Annabelle Schug, McKenzie Scott, Khloe Scozzari, Samuel Seitz, Noah Spinner, Kaleigha Starowicz, Fiona Straub, Emily Stroman, Grace Tarolli, Thomas Tjaden, Julia Tremblay, Addyson Tyszka, William Viscome, Cailin Wilson, Blake Zheng, Winnie Ziober, Beckham



Westhill High School

DECEMBER WARRIORS OF THE MONTH

9th Grade - Danny Carroll:

Danny exhibits positivity everyday. When he comes to class he is friendly, honest, and always willing to help others. He participates very frequently in class even when no one else will. He is dedicated not only to class activities but also during SEL. Keep it up Danny!

10th Grade - Brooke Allen:

Brooke is a very dedicated student in any activity she takes part in, from working in class to outside activities such as during SEL and in Student Senate. She helps contribute to a positive group environment in class and she is determined to do well but also helps those around her. Brooke is very personable and a great addition to any class.

11th Grade - Alex Tyszka:

Alex is an outstanding student who consistently excels academically, but his qualities extend far beyond his intellectual achievements. He is a kind and compassionate individual who genuinely cares about others, always going out of his way to offer help and support. Through his thoughtful nature and strong interpersonal connections, Alex fosters a positive and welcoming environment, making those around him feel valued and supported.

12th Grade - Luke Henesey:

Luke consistently puts forth his best effort in class, demonstrating a strong work ethic and dedication. Beyond his academic commitment, he is an exceptionally kind and thoughtful individual. Every day, Luke takes the time to check in on those around him, showing a sincere interest in their well-being. His ability to connect with others and foster positive relationships contributes to a welcoming and supportive classroom environment for everyone.



Westhill High School

JANUARY WARRIORS OF THE MONTH

9th Grade - Umamah Asim:

Umamah is a truly exceptional student. She is a great partner to all and is always looking to improve herself. Her dedication to learning is evident in her consistent hard work and commitment to academic excellence. Beyond her studies, Umamah embodies kindness and thoughtfulness, always considering the needs of others. Umamah's humble nature, combined with her ability to collaborate effectively with virtually anyone, makes her a valuable asset to our school community. Though new to our school this year, she has already made a significant positive impact, and we are incredibly fortunate to have her.

10th Grade - Allison Pawelczyk:

Allie is a dedicated hard working student who is always willing to be a role model for her peers. She comes to class everyday prepared and ready to learn. She is excelling well in AP World History. Keep it up!

11th Grade - Kevin Sisson nominated by Mrs. Weinsztok:

Kevin is a quiet leader who shows a great deal of compassion and empathy towards others in our school, including his teachers. Kevin comes to class each day with a smile on his face and greets his teachers each day with sincerity and kindness. Most recently, while on a field trip, Kevin stayed with a fellow classmate that needed some extra support snowshoeing. He did this without complaint or worry that he was falling behind the group or wasn't with his group of friends. I was so proud of his leadership skills and his genuine concern for others! Kevin is a true Warrior.

12th Grade - Phoebe Burns:

Phoebe is an incredible example of what it means to be a kind, hardworking, and dedicated student. Not only does she excel academically, but she also treats others with respect and humility. Phoebe consistently challenges herself by taking on rigorous courses, and she always strives to do her best. When she is faced with challenges, she meets these head on and does not let set backs stop her from reaching her goal. She is a role model for the underclassmen and a valuable asset to our school community.



DECA COMPETES IN STATE COMPETITION

Last week, 16 DECA (business club) students went to Rochester to compete in the state competition. They had all qualified at the regional competition in December. There were 3100 students at this competition. We had a few winners! Sike Ajagbe & Sydney Macbain placed 3rd overall in Hospitality Services and qualified for Nationals in Orlando next month. John Bruzdzinski placed in the top 10 in Business Finance. We are so proud of these three as well as everyone else who competed!







March 2025

STUDENT COMPETES IN SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION



SPRING RECESS

APRIL 14 - 18



Samantha Colangelo joined other contestants from around the county for the Syracuse Branch Shakespeare Competition March 1st at the Syracuse Stage where each student performed a monologue and sonnet before a panel of distinguished judges as well as their fellow contestants. Samantha performed a monologue from Pericles and recited Sonnet 17. Samantha had a great experience and hopes to return to the competition next year.

Samantha, a 10th grade student, achieved first place at the English-Speaking Union High School Shakespeare Competition on January 22nd. The high school competition also included second place winner Claire Kelly and third place winner Skylar Buckman. Each student performed a Shakespearean monologue of their choice. Competitors were judged on their understanding of their selected texts and on their ability to communicate their interpretation to the audience. Judges for the high school competition included Ms. Moira Kelly, Ms. Jessica Regitano, and Ms. Jennifer Donegan.

The English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition is a performance-based education program in which high school students nationwide read, analyze, perform, and recite Shakespeare's works. Through the program, students develop communication skills and an appreciation of the power of language and literature. In the Competition's three progressive levels, students perform in their own schools, at ESU Branch community competitions, and at the National Shakespeare Competition in New York City. Since 1983, more than 400,000 young Americans of all backgrounds have taken advantage of this opportunity to bring the timeless works of Shakespeare to life and learn to express his words with understanding, feeling, and clarity. For additional information regarding the English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition please contact Mrs. Mary Ann Murphy, advisor or please visit www. shakespearecompetition.org.

AP SPANISH STUDENTS VISIT LA CASITA CULTURAL CENTER

On March 3rd, our seniors enjoyed a visit to La Casita Cultural Center, funded by an Arts in Education Grant. They participated in a lively dance workshop and expressed their creativity by crafting social justice posters, inspired by works of Latin Americans. The students also explored the thought-provoking "Weird Barrio" art exhibit. La Casita, a Syracuse University program, fosters civic engagement and cultural understanding between the university and CNY's Hispanic communities. This enriching experience provided our seniors with a unique blend of artistic exploration and cultural immersion right here in our own community.



Students at Westhill High School have been busy earning work-based learning hours. To start the year, a club was formed and officers were appointed. The club then chose a variety of fundraising opportunities to make Faculty Fuel a self-sustaining school-based enterprise. The club had the opportunity to partner with Panera Bread, Chipotle, Tully's and Fun Pasta to raise money and then they held a **bake sale**, **pie sale** and most recently sold **charcuterie boards** for Valentine's day. To spread the word about our schoolbased enterprise, the students visited Walberta Park School and provided free coffee and tea to staff and parents visiting for parent/teacher conferences. Our partnership with Syracuse University is still going strong with weekly visits and we have another campus visit coming up in March. Along with Syracuse University, we also made a connection with O'Neill Printing to have official Faculty Fuel "uniforms" made for our weekly deliveries to staff. It continues to be an exciting time at Westhill High School and if you're an employer interested in being a part of our work-based learning journey, please scan the QR code and let us know!





AUTHOR VISIT AT WESTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

Westhill High School was one of two local high schools who won a virtual author talk with acclaimed young adult author, Neal Shusterman. Mr. Shusterman spoke to students about his new book All Better Now (which the library received 2 signed copies of!) and students were able to ask him questions about his writing, his process, and how he gets his big ideas. Over 40 students attended the event and the library is grateful for the help of the English Department teachers for their support in promoting the event to students!



WESTHILL HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM

Congratulations to the Westhill Academic Decathlon Team who earned second place at the state competition. Students took tests in 10 different subject areas and the team starters also competed in an additional speech competition, which included both rehearsed and impromptu speeches. Congratulations to the entire team for all of their hard work this year!



Team members pictured with the trophy: Front row: Godwin Kodoe Middle row: Laney Sipley, Ava Antoine, Sike Ajagbe, Tommy Hunt, Jack Cognato, Max Cowin, Matt Shephard, Addie Montalto Back row: Will Tyszka, Austin Choe, John Bruzdzinski, Morgan Heise, Reagan Dixon, Andrea-Ann Kodoe, Caitlin Ide, Allie Pawelczyk, Trinity Speer (not pictured)



Godwin Kodoe wins big! Godwin won nine medals in the Varsity Division!



Individual Medal Winners

Honors Division	Division Overall: Sike Ajagbe (Bronze) Science: Sike Ajagbe (Silver) and John Bruzdzinski (Bronze) Essay: Slke Ajagbe (Silver) Interview: Sike Ajagbe (Gold) Speech: Sike Ajagbe (Silver) and Laney Sipley (Bronze) Math: John Bruzdzinski (Gold) and Laney Sipley (Silver) Economics: Laney Sipley (Bronze)
Scholastic Division	Division Overall: Tommy Hunt (Bronze) Art: Jack Cognato (Gold) Essay: Jack Cognato (Bronze) Speech: Jack Cognato (Bronze) Music: Tommy Hunt (Silver) Science: Tommy Hunt (Silver) Mat: Tommy Hunt (Gold) Economics: Tommy Hunt (Bronze) Social Science: Tommy Hunt (Bronze) Interview: Tommy Hunt (Bronze)
Varsity Division	Division Overall: Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold) & Godwin Kodoe (Silver) Literature: Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold) and Godwin Kodoe (Silver) Music: Godwin Kodoe (Gold) and Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Bronze) Science: Godwin Kodoe (Gold) and Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Silver) Art: Godwin Kodoe (Gold) and Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Silver) Math: Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold) and Godwin Kodoe (Silver) Economics: Godwin Kodoe (Gold) and Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Silver) Essay: Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold) and Godwin Kodoe (Silver) Speech: Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold) and Godwin Kodoe (Silver) Social Science: Godwin Kodoe (Gold) and Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold) Interview: Andrea-Ann Kodoe (Gold)
Alternate Division	Essay: Ava Antoine (Gold) & Max Cowin (Gold) & Trinity Speer (Bronze) Literature: Max Cowin (Bronze) Art: Max Cowin (Silver) Economics: Max Cowin (Silver) Social Science: Max Cowin (Silver) Math: Allie Pawelczyk (Bronze) Science: Sienna Pope (Bronze) and Matt Shephard (Bronze)

FRENCH STUDENTS TRAVEL TO FRANCE!

During February break, WHS French students travelled to Paris. We were accompanied the whole time by Vincent, our exceptional French-Algerian guide. We could write a five page essay, but here are a few highlights of our adventures: Visiting museums, visiting nine different UNESCO world heritage sites, climbing the Eiffel tower, visiting nine cities and towns and Monaco, exploring two castles in the Loire Valley, preparing and eating a French meal with clasically trained chefs, riding the Metro in Paris, the tram in Tours and the TGV from Paris to Avignon, visiting sites that were constructed in 60 AD and 100 AD--the Arenes in Nimes and the Pont duGard, an ancient Roman aqueduct. Students also had free time visiting cities and finding lunch on their own with friends.

We can't wait until our next trip! Take French and join us!



WINTER TEAMS EARN NYSPHSAA 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. The 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.

We are pleased to announce that four of our winter varsity teams have been recognized as NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Teams. Scholar Teams for the winter 2024-2025 season include girls' basketball, girls' track and field, boys' track and field and ice hockey. Westhill had 144 varsity student athletes participating in the winter sports program with 94 of them earning a 90% or greater average for the 2nd quarter. Congratulations to all of our student athletes on this tremendous accomplishment and to our faculty and staff for always supporting our student athletes in the classroom.

PRINCE SCORES 1000 POINTS

Eli Prince, a standout basketball player for the Warriors, has joined an elite club by scoring his onethousandth career point. The extremely talented guard reached the milestone in the Section III semi-final contest versus South Jefferson, cementing his legacy as one of the top players in Westhill history. Eli is the 11th male basketball player at Westhill to reach this outstanding mark in his basketball career. Eli is a two-sport varsity athlete participating in soccer and basketball for the Warriors. Congratulations, Eli!



Athletics

ELI PRINCE NAMED ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Eli Prince has been named a News Channel 9 Student Athlete of the Week for his outstanding accomplishments with the Warrior basketball program. Eli, known for his scoring ability, leadership and relentless work ethic has been a key player for the Warriors. Prince's achievements are a testament to his hard work and determination. With the season still underway, he will continue to support his team and lead them to further achievements.



EMILY BALDUZZI PARTICIPATES IN ALPINE SKI





From the track to the mountains. That's where you will find senior Emily Balduzzi competing with the MPH Alpine Ski Team. This season Emily won eight regular season races, finished first in the NYS Qualifier and was the individual Section III Champion in Slalom, Giant Slalom and Combined. Emily also helped lead the MPH girls' Alpine Ski team to a Section III Title.

Boy's Varsity Basketball wins Section III Championship.



Girls' Indoor Track and Field Championship

Athletics

WINTER SEASON SUMMARY

The Warriors winter athletic season has culminated with numerous successes on the court, track and even mountains. Westhill earned two OHSL Championships, two Section III Championships and multiple individual accolades.

On the track, the girls track and field team earned an OHSL Championship and their 7th consecutive Section III Title. Although the girls team was honored as champions there were many individual champions on both the girls and boys teams as well. The following were individual Section III Champions:

Allison Langham - 55m dash Emma Murphy - 55m hurdles and long jump Ava Baty - pole vault Eric Holstein - high jump Derrika Trotman - High jump Jael Hill - shot put Owen Mulholland - 600m run

At the conclusion of the Section III Championship the track and field teams had another opportunity to compete in the State Qualifier Meet. This meet provides athletes an opportunity to qualify for the NYS Championship Meet. At this meet the Warriors 4x200 relay composed of Allison Langham, Emma Murphy, Ava Baty and Derricka Trotman earned the honor to compete at the NYS Championship Meet on Staten Island where they placed 6th in Division Two. The boys 4x400 relay team also earned the opportunity to represent Westhill on Staten Island. The team of Gage Talucci, Owen Mulholland, Nick Scheel and Eric Holstein placed 12th in the NYS Championship Meet.

The Westhill boys' basketball team continued their tradition of success on the court. The team earned an OHSL League Title and a Section III "Class A" Championship for the basketball program. The boys beat Franklin Academy in the sub-regional contest to earn a spot in the NYS Regional Championship game. The Warriors eventually fell to a very talented Glens Falls team in the NYS Regional Final.

The Warriors would like to acknowledge and thank the parents, faculty and community for cheering them on all season long. Congratulations to all of our winter student athletes!



Girls' Indoor Track and Field 4 x 200



Boys' Track and Field 4 x 400



Girls' Indoor Track and Field League Championship

District

READERS FROM BIRTH RETURNS

After a hiatus during the COVID-19 era, the beloved Readers From Birth program has made a triumphant return to Westhill Central School District, thanks to the dedication of Intervention Specialist, Wendy Smith!

This program, designed for children from birth to preschool age, offers engaging evenings of storytelling, crafts, and snacks. Special guest readers bring stories to life, providing a wonderful opportunity for young children to interact with peers and become familiar with Walberta Park School before kindergarten. Parents also benefit from building connections with other families in the community.

The success of Readers From Birth is a testament to Wendy Smith and her dedicated team of Readers From Birth helpers. Three successful sessions have already taken place in January, February, and March. Don't miss the final session of the 2024-2025 school year on Thursday, April 24th at 6:00 PM at Walberta Park School (doors open at 5:45 PM). Join us for an evening of fun and literacy!



District



Congratulations to Samantha Chang, the winner of this year's PWP Logo Design Contest. Sam's creative design serves as the inspiration for this year's Paint Westvale Purple T-shirt. A big thank you to all the students from *Onondaga Hill Middle School* and *Westhill High School* who participated.





This month, students from *Walberta Park School* and *Cherry Road School* will have a say in the PWP charitable contributions. Last year, PWP generously donated \$11,000 to

local charities! This year, we will support the Westhill Educational Foundation, the Westhill Elementary Schools Together Community Fund, St. Charles Food Pantry, and two other local charities selected through the "Charity Choice Contest." Students will write and illustrate why their chosen charity matters to them, and one winner will be chosen from each elementary school.

To enhance our donations to the community, we need your help and involvement! Race Day is set for Sunday, May 18, 2025. You can register at pwp5krun.com or by scanning the QR code. Join us for the 5K and/or the 1-mile Bubble Run, plus a free Kids Fun Run for children aged 7 and under at Cherry Road School and in the Westvale neighborhood.



District News

Westhill Educational Foundation

MULCH FUNDRAISER

High Quality Mulch – HUGE 30 Pound Bags - Covers 2 Cubic Feet!



Order & Payment Deadline: May 1st Pick up Location: St. Ann's School - 4471 Onondaga Blvd Delivery/Pickup Dates: Friday, May 16, 2025 (4pm – 7pm) Pricing: \$7.00/Bag (minimum purchase of 4) Optional Delivery Fee*: Up to 20 bags for \$10.00 OR 21+ bags for \$20.00 Payment Methods: Check, Venmo, PayPal or Credit Card

*Delivery is only available for: Fairmount, Onondaga Hill, Solvay, Split Rock, Taunton, Westvale, & Winkworth

Scan to Order



westhillfoundation@gmail.com

Order Form for Check Payments

Mail to: Westhill Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 15073, Syracuse, NY 13215

Name: ______Address: ______ Phone Number: ______ Email: _____ Total Due (Please include delivery fee, if applicable): _____

westhillfoundation.com

Type of Mulch: Black Brown Natural

Number of Bags: ____

Delivery?*

(\$10 for up to 20 bags or \$20 for 21+ bags) Yes No *Delivery is only available for Fairmount, Onondaga Hill, Solvay, Split Rock, Taunton, Westvale, & Winkworth

Driveway Delivery Location: On side of driveway Adjacent to your driveway

Official School Calendar 2025 - 2026 Westhill Central School District

September 2025					
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Key:
Holiday – School Closed
O Staff Development Day - No Students
Regents Exams
♦ Regents Rating Day
\wedge $\frac{1}{2}$ Day for Students
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CALENDAR INFORMATION
August 28 Staff Development Day
September 1
September 2
September 23 Rosh Hashanah*
October 2Yom Kippur*
October 6Sukkot begins*
October 13 Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 20 Diwali*
November 4 Staff Development Day November 11 Veterans Day Observed
November 11 Veterans Day Observed November 26-28
December 14Hanukkah begins*
December 12-January 2Holiday Recess
December 25 Christmas*
December 26 Kwanzaa begins*
January 1New Years Day January 19Martin Luther King Day
January 19Martin Luther King Day
January 20-23 Regents Exams
February 16-20 Presidents' Day/Winter Recess
February 17Asian Lunar New Year
February 17 Ramadan begins* March 2 Purim begins*
March 4 Holi*
March 19 Navarati begins*
March 20 Staff Development Day
March 20 Eid al-Fitr* March 30-April 3Spring Recess
March 30-April 3Spring Recess
April 1 Passover begins* April 3 Good Friday*
April 5 Easter*
April 10 Orthodox Good Fridav*
April 12Orthodox Easter*
April 13 Yom Hashoah*
May 1 Vesak Day*
May 21Shavuot Begins*
May 25 Memorial Day Weekend May 26Eid al-Adha*
June 9-10, 17-18, 22-25 Regents Exams
June 19 Juneteenth
June 251/2 Day – Last Day of School for Students
June 26Regents Rating Day *Additional dates of cultural importance are included for reference bu
*Additional dates of cultural importance are included for reference bu may not indicate a school recess.
Religious and Ethnic Observances
Westhill serves children from many different religious
and ethnic backgrounds, and a goal of the District's
Strategic Priorities is to foster an affirming, welcoming, and supportive school community that promotes
belonging and elevates the unique voices of students,
families and staff. Because no Westhill student should ever have to choose between important religious
observances and academic or athletic commitments,
the District provides for student who wish to participate
in any religious observances that conflict with other obligations to make arrangements with their teachers
and coaches to do so and shall be provided an
opportunity to make up such requirements that may have been missed.
1440 Beell 11133eu.

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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

BOARD OF EDUCATION Lisa M. O'Reilly, President Andrew Starowicz, Vice President Andrew Hunter Christopher Haigney Kelly Ristoff

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.

2025-2026 BUDGET INFORMATION

Absentee Ballot applications available in the District Office

- April 21, 2025Tentative date for 2025-2026 budget adoption
- April 21, 2025Board of Education candidate petitions due in the District Office
- May 13, 2025Public Budget Hearing in the WHS Library at 7:00 pm
- May 13, 2025Deadline to request an Absentee Ballot Application be sent by mail
- May 20, 2025Deadline to return completed **Absentee Ballot Application** by 5:00 pm
- May 20, 2025Budget Vote/Board of Education Election in WHS Auditorium Foyer from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm

As stipulated by NYS Law, the following qualifications MUST be met, without exception, in order to cast a vote:

- 1. You MUST be a citizen of the United States.
- 2. You MUST be at least 18 years of age.
- 3. You MUST be a resident of the district for at least 30 days prior to May 20, 2025.