



August 2024



Hello, to my little *Cubs of Character!!!*

I hope you had a fabulous summer. It has been quite busy around here, and I cannot wait to see you. When you get here, you may notice right away that we bought you some new playground equipment. I just know that it is going to be an amazing year!

At Whitehouse School, we are proud of our longstanding traditions. One of them is our annual thematic unit. Each year, we select a book or story, and we study it as a school. We explore it in so many ways. We read, write, and sing about it. Then, we examine the theme in different subject areas, complete projects about it, and create works of art. We display our work in the hallways and then come together as a school community to watch a movie and see a play about our topic.

This year, we chose *Alice in Wonderland*. If you are not familiar with the story, you will be by the time we finish studying it. Similar to last year, I have been working with Dr. Bengels and Mr. Schubert. We are planning on hosting our own performance in the Spring, which will be brought to you by our third grade Drama & Storytelling Clubs. Also, a special thanks goes out to the H.S.A. for making the funding available for us to host Bright Star Touring Theatre, a professional troupe, that will visit WHS to perform another rendition of this classic.

The original story was called *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and was written by Lewis Carroll. It was published in 1865 in England, as a children's novel. We are going to have a phenomenal learning experience this year. In the meantime, here are a few trivia questions about *Alice in Wonderland* that might spark your memory or inspire you to want to know more:



1. In what year did Disney release *Alice in Wonderland* as a movie?
(Answer: 1951)
2. Who does Alice follow down a rabbit hole?
(Answer: White Rabbit)
3. Name two characters who Alice meets on her adventures.
(Answers: Caterpillar, Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter, March Hare, Dormouse, Mock Turtle, Gryphon, and King & Queen of Hearts)

Enjoy the remaining days of summer. Remember to be good, keep reading, and help out around the house!

I am looking forward to seeing you on September 4 at Open House. Then, the first day of school is September 5.

Love,
Dr. DeRosa

