



Whitehouse School News

May 2019

CHARACTER CORNER

May's Theme:

Loyalty

May Service Project

A Message From Your Principal...

Dear WHS Friends and Families, we have recently received CUBS of Character, we have asked whether this year's theme is relevant to our school and the answer is a resounding YES! We have decided to embrace this theme and will be using it as a guide for our SEL work this year. We are excited to see how we can all contribute to making this a successful year for our students and staff.

(CASEL, 2017) continue to embed in this work. Please continue to work with your children and use our monthly newsletter as a guide for support and please contact me should you have any questions, comments, or ideas. Amy DeRosa, Ed.D.

WE ARE CUBS OF CHARACTER!!!

The mission of Whitehouse School is to provide children with a nurturing environment where they will feel safe and accepted. Our school community encourages respect and builds independence while fostering academic and personal growth and creating a love for learning.

5 SEL Competencies*	WHS examples in action...
Self-Awareness	Regular introspective SEL journal entries
Self-Management	Mindfulness techniques such as <i>coming-back-to-calm</i> , <i>changing the channel in your mind</i> , etc.
Social Awareness	Monthly service projects focused on in-house causes, community organizations, or global efforts that are timely and linked to our curriculum
Relationship Skills	Writing weekly school-wide <i>bucket ticket</i> (notes of appreciation & love). Monthly school assembly Town Hall Meetings followed by co-mingled small group Family Conferences
Responsible Decision-Making	Providing choices and empowering students to solve problems and effect change with <i>Kelso the Frog's Conflict Resolution Wheel</i> , which is displayed in every classroom in the building

Are you kidding me?



Guidance News

Reminders



ONE KIND WORD
can change
someone's
entire day

The Golden Rule

geturquotes.net

Character Corner



Respect is earned.
Honesty is appreciated.
Trust is gained.
Loyalty is returned.



Learning & Growing...

Riding the school bus is an extension of our school day. The bus ride should be a time to relax and converse with friends. At our R-E-S-P-E-C-T assemblies, all of our boys and girls are reminded of the rules for riding the bus:

- Get on and off the bus carefully.
- Buckle your seatbelt.
- Stay seated.
- Use inside voices on the bus.
- Follow the bus rules.
- Respect the bus driver and other students.
- Use the Kelso's Choice wheel to make good bus decisions.

Each bus rider at Whitehouse School signed a bus safety contract at the beginning of the school year. These contracts were proudly displayed in the main hallway of our school. Also, each week students have an opportunity to advance their yellow school bus on a chart in the café.





Nurse

Reminders

UV rays are strongest

- During midday.
- Near the equator.
- During summer months.
- At high altitudes.

Remember that sunburns and skin damage can occur even on cloudy or overcast days. If you're unsure about the sun's intensity in your area, check the daily UV Index for your zip code on the US Environmental Protection Agency's website

Character Corner



Learning & Growing...

In the warmer weather we all love to be outside. Here are some outdoor sun safety tips from the CDC:

Stay Safe Outdoors:

- Seek shade, especially during midday hours. This includes 10 am to 4 pm, March through October, and 9 am to 3 pm, November through February.
- Umbrellas, trees, or other shelters can provide relief from the sun.
- Be extra careful around surfaces that reflect the sun's rays, like snow, sand, water, and concrete.
- Wear sun protection gear like a hat with a wide brim and sunglasses to protect your face and eyes. Sunglasses protect your eyes from UV rays and reduce the risk of cataracts and other eye problems. Wrap-around sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB rays offer the best protection by blocking UV rays from the side.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt and pants or a long skirt for additional protection when possible. If that's not practical, try wearing a T-shirt or a beach cover-up.
- Apply a thick layer of broad spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher at least 15 minutes before going outside, even on cloudy or overcast days. Reapply sunscreen at least every 2 hours and after swimming, sweating, or toweling off.
- Limit Exposure:
- Discourage Indoor Tanning and Sunbathing Indoor tanning and sunbathing often begin in the teen years and continue into adulthood. Don't wait to teach your children about the dangers of tanning. Children may be more receptive than teens, so start the conversation early, before they start sunbathing or indoor tanning. For example, you can • Help preteens and teens understand the dangers of tanning so they can make healthy choices. • Talk about avoiding tanning, especially before special events like homecoming, prom, or spring break. • Discourage tanning, even if it's just before one event like prom. UV exposure adds up over time. Every time you tan, you increase your risk of getting skin cancer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CDC'S SUN SAFETY WEBSITE.



Speech & Language Therapy

Reminders

For more information regarding speech, language, and hearing disorders, please visit the following website:

<https://www.asha.org/>

Character Corner

Loyal

(adjective) giving or showing firm and constant support or allegiance to a person or institution

Synonyms:

Faithful
true
dependable
trustworthy

Antonyms:

false
untrue

Learning & Growing...

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month!

During the month of May, my professional association: *The American Speech-Language and Hearing Association* (ASHA) - celebrates **Better Hearing and Speech Month** to raise the public's awareness of communication disorders.

Speech-Language Pathologists work to help individuals of all ages diagnosed with a variety of communication disorders in schools, hospitals, private practices, and nursing facilities. Speech, language, and hearing disorders are among the most common disorders in school-aged children, as it is estimated that approximately 20% of children nationally present with speech and language impairments.

Speech, language, and hearing all play an incredibly important role in your child's learning and academic success. Should you have any concerns regarding your child's speech and language development, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Communication
Communication is the conveying information through speech, visuals, signals, exchange of information, communication requires the ability to communicate the

Mrs. Bobal

Speech-Language Pathologist
908-534-4758



Kindergarten

Reminders

Learning & Growing...

The May flowers are blooming! Our kindergarteners are growing into first graders. They've grown so much this year!

In writing workshop, our unit of study this month will be "I Am a Writer! Celebrating My Success"! This unit gives the girls and boys a chance to choose from and practice writing in a variety of forms. The children will be able to write to share an important event in their life, to teach, to argue, to persuade, or to write like scientists. Choosing what to write sets the children up to show all that they know about that type of writing and encourage independence. This will be a time for reflection and celebration of all that they have done and all the ways they have grown as writers.

Phonemic awareness activities for the remainder of the year will focus on the vowels and their two sounds. Study of the vowels will continue into first grade. Our kindergarten writers are getting really good at including vowels in their words, using spaces between their words, and using mostly lowercase letters. They really love writing!

In math, the children will continue to create addition and subtraction story problems, visualize and show teen numbers as one ten and extra ones, and find the unknown partner when the total and one partner are known. They will count by ones and tens to 100, and compare length, height, weight, and capacity. The boys and girls will also be trying to achieve fluency adding and subtracting within 5. Look for everyday experiences to reinforce these skills with your child. These real life connections make math more real for the children.

Our final science unit of the school year is Animals 2x2. The children will be comparing and contrasting similar animals. They will study goldfish and guppies, earthworms and redworms, pill bugs, and sow bugs. These activities will teach us a lot about animals and we will also be fine tuning our observation skills. Kindergarten is a busy place!

Character Corner

The children will be learning how to be loyal to their family, friends, country and themselves..

We will be supporting the Wounded Warriors Project to spread Patriotism in honor of Memorial Day.





First Grade

Reminders

Spring Concert:
2:15pm on
May 23rd

Field Day:
June 7th
Rain Date:
June 10th

Turtleback Zoo:
June 13th
Rain Date:
June 17th

Character Corner

During the month of May, we will be focusing on Loyalty as our character trait.

Some read alouds that the children will be listening to are as follows:

Frog and Toad are Friends

The Giving Tree

Henry and Mudge: The First Book

We will also be discussing Memorial Day and how to show our Loyalty to our country.

Learning & Growing...

We hope you enjoyed the time off with your family over spring break! Throughout April, our first graders embarked on reading and writing adventures with fiction characters. They have been learning about characters by noticing relationships, dialogue, and feelings. In writing, students have been creating a series of realistic fiction stories. In their stories, they included setting and character, problem, and lastly a solution.

In math, we have practiced writing and telling time to the hour and half hour using analogue and digital clocks. In addition, students have been learning to distinguish the features of two- and three-dimensional shapes. We will now begin working on measurement.

We will be continuing our unit on plants and animals during science. This unit will focus on living organisms and their natural habitats. It has been enriching to bring our learning outdoors in our sensory gardens. We are excited for our culminating trip to the Turtleback Zoo in June!





Second Grade

Reminders

**Fairview Farm
Trip:
May 15th**

**Spring Concert:
May 23rd at
10:00 am**

**Field Day:
June 7th
Rain date June 10th**

Learning & Growing...

Our second grade classrooms are blooming with all sorts of exciting activities and learning experiences! In Reader's Workshop, we are immersed in folk tales, fables and fairy tales. We are learning about the different elements of each genre and have compared characters, settings, morals of the stories, and problems and solutions faced by the main characters. In June, we will begin our last unit and will revisit nonfiction. Readers will learn how to describe the connection between a series of scientific ideas and will participate in shared research.

Mathematicians have been learning how to tell time and interpret data with picture graphs and bar graphs. We will be moving onto triple-digit addition and subtraction next, so keep practicing math fact fluency with your child regularly.

In Writer's Workshop, we continue reading and exploring poetry. We have been studying a wide variety of poets and poems, paying close attention to the differences between poems and stories. Students have learned how to see things "through a poet's eyes" and have been engaged in identifying the repetition of sounds and patterns, figurative language, mood, and line breaks. Our final writing unit will teach students how to write lab reports and science books.

Our scientists are about to become botanists and entomologists as we begin our study of plants and insects. We are very excited to learn about how plants and insects develop and will be observing the life cycles of both. We also will be working in the garden, so if you would like to send in a pair of gardening gloves for your child, please do so.

Character Corner

Loyalty

May is Loyalty month. Please discuss with your child different ways he or she can demonstrate loyalty this month. Encourage your child to color in a puzzle piece each time he or she shows loyalty. Remember to sign and return the bucket to your child's teacher by May 26th.



Third Grade

Reminders

***May 21-HBS 4th Grade Orientation Trip**

***May 28 or 29- Eversole Hall House and Museum Trips (Rain dates May 30 or 31)**

Character Corner

Please remember to discuss and celebrate examples of Loyalty at home. Color puzzle pieces each day, and turn in your bucket at the end of the month!

Learning & Growing...

During writing, third graders have been very busy composing original pieces based on opinion. Students have learned to write sharing their thoughts and feelings on a topic while discovering the power of persuasive language. In class, the children chose a thesis statement based on an idea that they felt strongly about. This statement was then supported by coordinating reasons and details. Finally, the pieces were published in an essay format.

With the onset of the beautiful spring weather, third grade students are being reminded of the importance of caring for their environment as they become more involved in our school garden. Our Master Gardeners are assisting the children by teaching them the proper use of gardening tools while caring for our WHS garden. They are learning the responsibility of maintaining the garden beds by ridding them of those pesky weeds! Classes are also watching the vegetables grow as we anticipate the fun of our Grab-and-Go Harvest.

As the year continues to fly by, we are working to prepare the children for the transition that they will make to Holland Brook School as fourth graders. Each class has paired up with another third grade class from Three Bridges School. The students have been writing pen pal letters as a first step towards getting to know one another. This is an attempt to provide the students with a chance to connect with another Readington third grader whom they may see next year in Holland Brook. Another highlight will be when we visit Holland Brook to meet some of the staff and tour the school. These activities will help to generate excitement about the coming year and help to eliminate any uncertainties student may have about going to fourth grade!



Music

Reminders

Stage Tip:

It gets warm on the stage, so light fabrics and short sleeves will keep your student comfortable during their performance.

Character Corner



Students are learning about loyalty to our country as we learn Patriotic music and songs from the United States of America!

Learning & Growing...

Spring Concert Dates:

Kindergarten: Thursday, May 23, 9:00

1st Grade: Thursday, May 23, 2:15

2nd Grade: Thursday, May 23, 10:00

3rd Grade: Thursday, May 23, 1:15

Please have your student wear Patriotic clothes (Red, White, and Blue) for the concert!

Special Notice for Ms. McDonald's class:

Wear Baseball clothes!

(A baseball cap and Red, White, or Blue shirt would be perfect.)

**For more information,
please visit:**

[WHS Music Classroom Website.](#)

The students of Whitehouse School are creating, reading, singing, moving, and playing instruments! Kindergarten is preparing for their Proud Day concert as well as learning comparatives in music, beat keeping, and practicing using their singing voices. Among many other things, each grade level has been working on learning and practicing new rhythmic and melodic concepts. Students are also learning about composers, instruments, and musical terminology.



Art

Reminders

*Creativity is
experimenting,
growing,
taking risks,
breaking rules,
making
mistakes, &
having fun*

-Mary Lou Cook

Character Corner

Loyalty:
*We will be
learning about
loyalty in the
month of May
and how it is
very important
between a
student and a
teacher. And it's
not just a student
being loyal to
his/her teacher, it
goes both ways!*

Learning & Growing...

Spring is in the air...and in the art room! All grades have finished creating authentic miniature totem poles as part of our Balto thematic unit. Each class worked in small groups to come up with a look for their assigned animal. It was very exciting to see even our youngest artists come together and work harmoniously together to establish a look and feel for their animals. What a great way to experience Alaska and all the culture it has to offer.

Our Kindergartners just finished their covers to their portfolios. Their self portraits were drawn and then painted. The finishing touches like eyelids, eye lashes, rosy cheeks and pink lips have been added. These are so cute, and compared to their self portraits on the first day of Kindergarten, they are just masterpieces! We're also learning about Marc Chagall, an artist of modern day. He is famous for his stained glass windows.

First graders painted very dramatic looking birch trees, using a scraping technique. Ask them about it...I'm positive they would love to share their new experience. They are also elbow deep in a very creative project inspired by the book *Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses* by James Dean and Kimberly Dean. Students were challenged with painting their favorite place in the whole wide world. Next will be a mandala styled sunflower painting.

The second graders have colorfully finished their wacky looking zebras and are currently learning a little bit about Vincent Van Gogh. I have showed them how to balance their creations and then we will be painting their interpretation of Van Gogh's Sunflowers.

Some of our third graders have finished their rainforest birds and others are almost there. We are applying what we learned from our second grade zentangle lesson to a project called Crazy Hair. Wait until you see these hairdos! Hostas are also blooming in our yards and in the art room. We are creating a beautiful, more colorful version of a hosta. Use it as a placemat or just hang it up...these are so cool looking!



Physical Education

Reminders

Students should remember to wear sneakers on their physical education days!



Character Corner



LOYALTY



Learning & Growing...

Physical Education doesn't skip a beat!

The third grade students participated in our Annual Cup Stack Challenge. The children were extremely enthusiastic and competitive. Cup stacking offers a range of benefits including improving eye-hand coordination and ambidexterity. Another advantage of cup stacking includes using both sides of the brain. This years winning class was Mrs. Truempy's class. While Mrs. Majowka's class took the top spot when it came to sportsmanship. To view this year's champs and all the action visit the P.E. website.

In our physical education classes students have been busy playing our games of Gold Rush and Knockout. These games promote both teamwork and good sportsmanship. They also present the students with opportunities to work on our monthly character trait of Honesty.

This year at Whitehouse School, we will continue implementing a new program called The First Tee. This is a golf program that exposes the student to life skills and character education through the game of Golf. This program creates an environment where young students experience the lifelong sport of golf while learning basic golf motor skills and the inherent values of the game including health-enhancing habits. The First Tee Program has provided us with specially modified equipment allowing the students to learn two basic golf shots: putt, chip. Through the game of golf, students will be exposed to the values of sportsmanship, courtesy, respect, honesty, integrity and perseverance.

~Miss Kozal and Mr. Lillia



Library

Reminders

**Please ...
remember to
return your
library books!**

Mrs. Zanardi,
WHS Librarian
vzanardi@
readington.k12.nj.us
908.534.4411
ext 4143

Character Corner

What
evidence do
you find of
character
traits in the
books you
read?

Please come
share what
you find with
Mrs. Zanardi!

Learning & Growing...

GRIT! GRIT! GRIT! GRIT! GRIT!

Wow ... we found so much evidence of GRIT during the Fabulous February Reading Incentive Program!

Below is a list of the students who showed their true GRIT by reading 1,000 minutes during February...

Congratulations to ...

Kindergarten

Maelyn Gawlowski
Claire Ryan
Ava Larrea
James Maraventano
Phoebe King
Roger Sun
Abigail Tenore

Grade 1

Vincent DeAngelo
Nathan Gardella
Jonathan Stevens
Addison Wilhite
Robert Brueggeman
Maxwell Dustin
Theresa Egbert
J.R. Clarke
Nicholas Lobo Setti
Katherine
Albrecht-Smith
Alexandra Burgey
Samantha DiStefano
Brice Lindquist
Owen Medlin
Zachary Stevens

3,000 Minutes

Anne
Albrecht-Smith

2,000 Minutes

Adonis Pitts
Sara Egbert
Bernard Hoffman
Nicholas Saini

Grade 2

Madisyn Colasurdo
Colin Greda
Colin King
Kavin Pratap
Sophia Sartin
Casey Swan
Lucas Dalfonzo
Alaina Gauvin
Sarah King
Shiloh North
Addison Cancela
Natalia Hekiert
Robert Rosell
Braden Stahl
Eyja Morgan Allen
Aiden Myers

Grade 3

Allison Ciarelli
Chase Keebler
Madeline Peach
Elliott Kremer
Nathan Richards
Sahil Shah
Cara Van Lenten
Daine Vinciguerra
Lauren Beatrice
Madelyn Bruner
Jackson Cancela
Katherine Croft
Anthony DeAngelo
Shastelyn Garcia
Ascencio
Amanda Handel
Jaiden Patel
Shawn Spring
Marvin Zhu
Teegan Fitzpatrick
Olivia Hanley
Brooklyn Hess
Nadia Ryan
Leah Soucy
Sara Ciarelli
Alexander Croft
Julianna Kaecker
Sophie Peach



Computers

Reminders

Tiffany Barca
tbarca@readington.k12.nj.us
908-534-4411 ext. 133
Mondays

Wendy Reardon
wreardon@readington.k12.nj.us
908-534-4411 ext. 133
Tuesdays
Wednesdays
Fridays



Character Corner

In third grade, students created Web Warriors to showcase the five key components in Be Internet Awesome. See Picture to the right.

Smart
Alert
Strong
Kind
Brave

Learning & Growing...

When our kids are young, we do our best to help them get the most out of the Internet while protecting them from the risks and downsides of the online world.

At Whitehouse School, we believe in partnering with our students and preparing them to:

- **Think critically** and evaluate websites, email, and other content online.
- **Protect themselves** from online threats, including bullying and scams.
- **Get Smart about sharing:** what, when, how, and with whom.
- **Be kind and respectful** toward other people online, including respecting their privacy.
- **Ask for help** with tricky situations from a parent or other trusted adult.

This year, these efforts included Be Internet Awesome, a multifaceted program to teach kids the skills they need to be safe and smart online. We focus on five key components and model our lessons with age appropriate activities for each grade level.

1. **Share with Care**
2. **It's Cool to be Kind.**
3. **Don't Fall for Fake.**
4. **When in doubt, Talk it out.**
5. **Secure your secrets.**

Web Warrior

SARA



Web Warriors have the important job of being a responsible digital citizen. On my computer I am Smart, Alert, Strong, Kind, and Brave. When I am smart I keep extra sensitive information to myself. When I'm Alert I spot the signs of a potential scam. When I'm Strong I create a strong password that no one will figure out. When I am Kind I speak up against bullying and report it every time. The last one is I'm Brave. When I'm brave I stand up when I see something I am not comfortable with. That is how I'm a Web Warrior!





Spanish

Reminders

Learning & Growing...

Character
Corner

