

WESTLAKE'S MONTHLY REPORT

July 2023



Principal's Message

The Extended School Year for 2023 is going well with students enjoying learning and socializing during our theme based learning. Included this summer we had Superhero day, pajama day and crazy sock day! All students participate in karate and music and fun

Friday activities. On Superhero day, we played Superhero Bingo with our fantastic announcer, Mr. Peneno, Supervisor of Instruction who knows all about the superhero's and provided clues to students as he called each one.

On Friday, we had an ice cream sundae party with vanilla, chocolate and italian ice for all students and staff at Westlake School and our friends at Lambert's Mill Academy! This Wednesday, we will have Rizzo's Wildlife Adventure visiting our school to show all types of amphibians to show students and have them interract with them. Look out, there maybe a snake or two!!

Happy Summer! Claudine

Westlake's Information!

School Data Download

Enrollment: 56

Acceptances: 5 Intakes: 8 Referrals: 14 Disenrollment: 0 Lock Down Drill: July 26, 2023 Fire Drill: July 17, 2023

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WESTLAKE'S JULY SUMMER OF FUN HIGHLIGHTS



Superhero Day Mr. K's class displaying the POWER of POSITIVITY for the Summer Fun Friday theme, Superhero Day.



"I Scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream"

(Student JK pictured) What can be better than a cool treat on a hot summer day? How 'bout making the sundae yourself! Students got just that chance to create their own ice cream sundaes or Italian ices to their liking.



Where's the Campfire Stories

(Student TP pictured) Although no campfire, nothing screams Summertime more than "ooeeyy, gooey" homemade smores! A nice little treat that Mrs. Swisher's class enjoyed to wind down an afternoon.



Nurse IJ and her Westlake Superhero Nurse IJ shares an embrace with a masked man, before



Ms. Swisher and student Superhero's

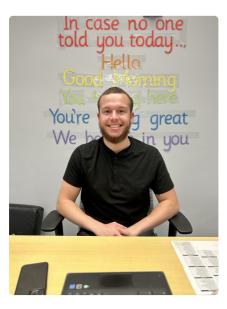
Superhero's used their powers all day long during our tribute to Superhero day!



Superhero Supervisor Mr. P is Westlake's Superhero!

springing into action to destroy all those nasty summer germs.

WESTLAKE SCHOOL'S ESY STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Logan Castro-ESY Safety and Security Monitor Spirit animal: chimpanzee

Hobbies: movies and work out

Zombie apocalypse: I would hope so

Last meal: rice and beans with breaded shrimp



Ashley Walgren-ESY Teacher Spirit animal: deer

Hobbies: collect and play video games

Would you survive a zombies apocalypse: probably not I get sick very easily

Last meal: be like Michael Scott and have a family sized chicken pot pie a coke and black cherry ice cream.



Julian Trott-ESY Teacher Assistant Spirit animal: Hedgehog

Hobbies: sports soccer basketball and volleyball

Would you survive a zombie apocalypse: Yes absolutely.

WESTLAKE OUT AND ABOUT DOING JOBS IN SCHOOL DURING OUR ESY 2023 PROGRAM





A.F. sweeping and cleaning in the building

M.K. is doing his job of cleaning windows in the school.

Happy Summer from Westlake School!

Westlake school students and staff wish all of you a happy rest of the summer and we look forward to our first day of school on September 8, 2023.



MISS DAYNA'S CLASS IS HAVING FUN DURING SOCIAL SKILLS



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Union County Educational Services Feedback Survey



Contact Us

Website: www.ucesc.org/schools/westlake_school Location: 1571 Lamberts Mill Rd, Westfield, NJ, USA Phone: 908-232-4181



Robert Peneno Robert is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



CROSSROADS MONTHLY REPORT

ESY 2023



Principal's Message

I hope everyone has been having a wonderful summer! The students and staff have been having a blast at Crossroads this Extended School Year Program. Each week there has been a new theme for the classes to focus their attention toward. This summer's weekly themes are: Community Helpers, Camping, Beach/Ocean, Superhero's, and Farm. For each week there is a craft and a cooking project associated with each theme. Students have also enjoyed spending time outside in the sun this summer. Being able to access the pools during waterplay time has been a favorite of many of the students.

With less than two weeks of the ESY program remaining we are starting to focus our attention towards the 2023-2024 school year. In the coming week we will be sending out a packet of information to each family for the upcoming school year. We ask you to please read through this information, and complete and return the selected forms that need to be filled out.

Wishing you an enjoyable rest of the summer!

Thank You,

Principal Matt

General Information Enrollment as of August 1, 2023 Actual: 50 Changes: Entered: 0 Exited: 0 Referrals: 3 Intakes Scheduled: 0 Accepted: 0

Fire Drills: 7/20/23 Emergency Drills: 7/26/23 (Lockdown)

Upcoming Dates

August 11, 2023 - Last Day of ESY September 8, 2023 - First Day of School for Students



CROSSROADS STAFF AND STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Student of the Month - Leo

Room 103 is thrilled that Leo is July's Student of the Month!! Our big guy has come a long way from the little preschooler who used to visit Miss Allison's class for groups. Leo worked his tiny tushy off this year to build some very important social, academic and life skills! This summer Leo is showing all his progress off by completing maintenance programs of all his mastered goals, answering personal information questions like his address and phone number, using hall-passes to navigate the school independently, demonstrating responsibility with his class jobs, and practicing behavioral and social emotional strategies he's learned while interacting with new staff and students! His favorite ESY events so far have been getting wet and wild with his friends during water play, and the Westfield Police giving him a personal tour of a police car - he even got to turn on the siren! All of Leo's teachers and therapists are very proud of him and his accomplishments!



Certified Staff of the Month - Allison Gebler - Teacher

1. How long have you been working at the commission?

I'm approaching 10 years at Crossroads School! I started as a paraprofessional in 2014, and began teaching in 2018. Working for the Commission has been an incredible journey!

2. What would we be surprised to find out about you?

I can eat almost anything with chopsticks, including ribs.

3. What is your dream vacation?

Iceland is at the top of my travel list! I want to see the Northern Lights in a bubble dome hotel, walk the black sand beaches, and soak in a geothermal pool.

4. What is your favorite meal?

This is an impossible question for me to answer, but my top 5 are Japanese Onigiri, seafood boil, brick oven pizza, Tostadas Guatemaltecas, and anything with pickles.

5. What is your greatest accomplishment?

I have a voicemail saved from my dad saying he was so proud I was going back to school for what I was born to do. He didn't get to see me finish, but I know he'd love the fun, engaging, and dedicated teacher I've become!



Teacher Assistant of the Month - Thomas Dorans1. How long have you been working at the commission?I've been working at the commission since last summer, July 2022

One thing you would be surprised to find out is that I'm a big time cornhole player and I have my boating license.

3. What is your dream vacation?

My dream vacation would have to be Costa Rica with my family.

4. What is your favorite meal?

This was easily the hardest question, but I have to go with a Bacon Egg and Cheese on a poppy seed bagel with OJ on a Saturday morning.

5. What is your greatest accomplishment?

Being so young I still have so much to accomplish in life, but one thing I'm very proud of is being able to work in this field with all of these bright kids in need, and playing a big role in their lives to help each kid progress and grow.

NEW SUPERVISOR OF INSTRUCTION - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES - STACEY KODACK

Hello Crossroads School Families and Youths,

I am so excited to be joining the Crossroads School staff again for the 2023 extended school year, and beyond. This is my 4th extended school year with Crossroads School and I am thrilled to be back! Previously I have also worked within the commission at Lambert's Mill Academy (LMA.)

My name is Stacey Kodack M.S., BCBA. I am excited to be joining the team as Supervisor of Instruction in the area of Behavioral Health Services. I hold Undergraduate degrees in Elementary Education and Special Education (Teacher of Students with



Disabilities) from Temple University. After graduating I went on to spend 6 years teaching in a selfcontained classroom in an out of district setting for students with autism and multiple disabilities. During this time I began attending Ball State University where I obtained my Master's in Applied Behavior Analysis. I went on to spend 5 years teaching autism and multiple disabilities classrooms for 15-21 year olds in an in-district setting. During this time I also served in the role of Structured Learning Experience (SLE) coordinator, placing students in simulated work training environments within the community. Most recently I have served as the behaviorist in an alternative school setting for students with autism, multiple disabilities, and psychiatric disorders. I am excited to bring my experience and enthusiasm to Crossroads School and the Commission as a whole.

When I am not at school, I enjoy running a fitness center that specializes in clients with disabilities, called ZR Fit and Wellness, with my husband. We enjoy outdoor adventures, hiking, going to the beach, and spending time with our family and all of our rescue animals. I also enjoy being a part of the Health, Sports, and Fitness special interest group within the BACB.

I look forward to meeting with you and your learner, meeting with your learner's teachers and other therapists, and attending sessions. I am also looking forward to getting to know your learner and family, as well as familiarizing myself with your learner's academic, social, and behavioral needs as the school year continues.

Please feel free to reach out to me any time. I look forward to hearing from and meeting with you all!

Best Regards,

Stacey Kodack M.S., BCBA skodack@ucesc.org

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHTS

Ms. Consuelo's Classroom

During the ESY program the preschoolers in 101 have been primarily focused on maintaining and enhancing important skills such as: self-help, social interaction, and communication. The children practice these skills through a variety of activities such as water play, arts and crafts, cooking, reading, and direct instruction. To celebrate the season, the students engaged in projects related to weekly themes. The first week was community helpers, and our classroom focused on firefighters. During pretend play, the children dressed up as firefighters and our brave firefighters of 101 division station "Extinguished the Fire of Our Make-Believe Magic City". In Language Arts and Literacy, the 101 crew enjoyed reading the book "We Need Firefighters", and created masterpieces of art.

The second week was camping. During this week our future nature experts in 101 explored a variety of animals and insects. During their daily "expeditions to unknown lands" they enjoyed hunting, finding, and classifying animals that belong outdoors into big and small. The curious crew enjoyed an incredible experience during science and sensory lessons, searching through mud (shaving cream) for different bugs. As part of the literacy curriculum, the children were fond of two books called "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" and "Fred and Ted Go Camping".

Our third week was not short of fun. The theme of this week was Celebrating the Ocean/Beach Week. The children enjoyed submerging into the deep waters of knowledge, discovering life under the sea, focusing their learning on "Jellyfish". During science/cooking they created a delicious edible "oceanic snack". Our books were, "Poke a Dot", "Who's in the Ocean", "It's Melting", and "Hoot Days".

For the last part of the ESY our children will be learning about "Superheroes". With this theme there will be lots of fun planned activities, songs, videos, and books to enjoy. The students practiced the alphabet and phonics sounds using teacher made superhero booklets and flash cards. This has been an exciting summer so far.









Mr. Enrique's Classroom

This summer, the students of Room 111 have been working on their written expression skills. Students wrote about various topics, such as community places or things we find in our environment. The structured writing exercises have been a great way for students to express their thoughts using their present abilities. Students either complete sentences using words and symbols or choose a word from a bank. Also, the weekly cooking and craft activities deepened their experiences with the ESY themes and supported our writing practice. All of the hands-on activities reinforced self-help, social, and communication skills as all of our students work towards greater independence.

Extended School Year is an opportunity to maintain and enrich skills learned during the school year. Students are practicing print conventions and reading based on the theme of the week. They also practiced their basic math skills, such as counting, addition, and subtraction. Some of our students worked on their pre-vocational skills in school, such as delivering breakfast or keeping our space tidy. As it is summer time, we have time reserved throughout the week for students to enjoy the beautiful weather. Students are able to play outside or have fun in the garden during water play.









THERAPY SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Dina Brigandi - Occupational Therapist

Summer means playing outside, splashing in the water, and sensory fun! During therapy sessions, we like to incorporate fun and engaging summertime activities with occupational therapy (OT) and speech-language therapy goals. This allows for our students to target therapy goals in a functional way! In preschool, our students are working on cooperative play skills and communication with classmates using sensory activities. For example, twin brothers, Angelo and Logan Bonilla have been playing together on the swing together. Not only do they have to share the swing together, one of them needs to say "go" or "stop" to direct the activity of the swing. Angelo and Logan take turns using the trampoline or jumping in the pit. They love to sing songs together, such as "Five (5) Green and Speckled Frogs". Following one (1) step directions are embedded into the song. This helps target OT and speech-language goals while they are having fun!









ESY AT CROSSROADS







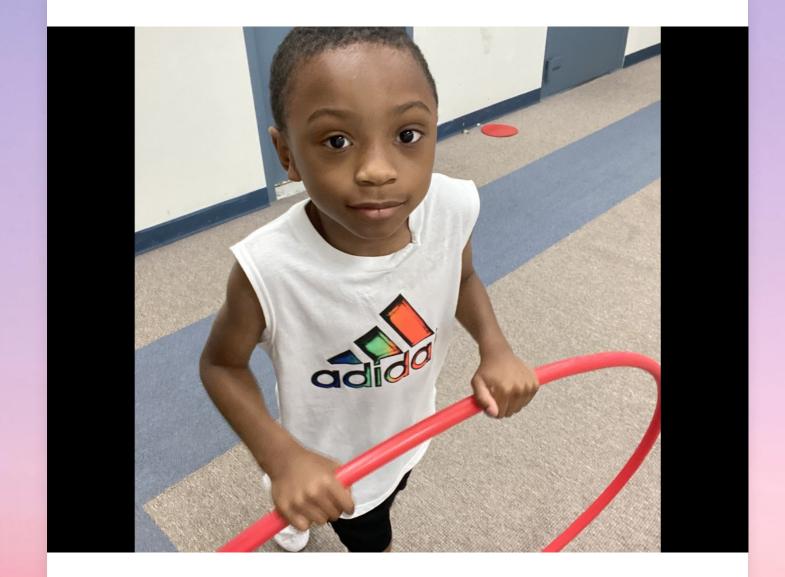




















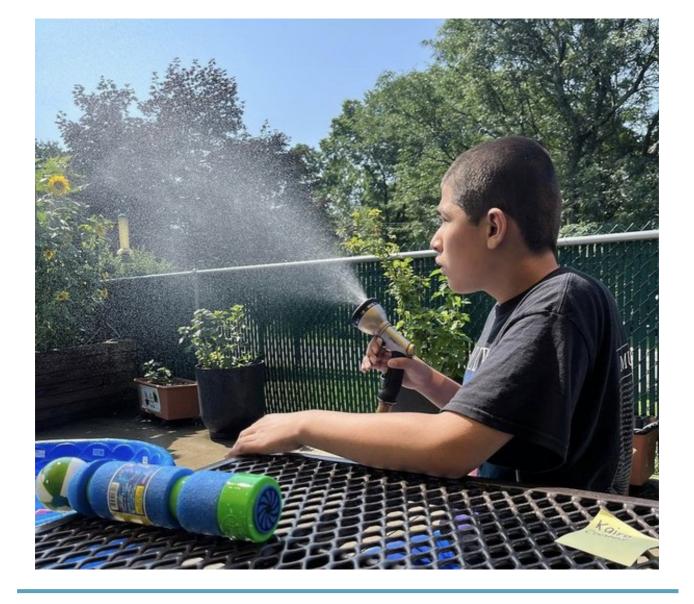
OUTSIDE WATERPLAY







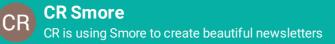




About Us

Website: https://www.ucesc.org/schools/crossroads_school Location: 45 Cardinal Drive, Westfield, NJ, USA Phone: 908-233-9317

Visit us on Instagram



The Work Readiness Academy

July 2023 Monthly Report



Director's Message

Dear WRA Families,

I hope you are all continuing to enjoy the summer break and finding ways to beat the heat! This month we are sharing an abbreviated newsletter highlighting our Summer Extended School Year program. Please be on the lookout for our "Back to School" welcome letter and parent forms packet which should be arriving at your home on or before August 10th. We cannot wait to see your children on the first day of school, Friday, September 8th!

Sincerely,

Josh Bornstein Director at the UCESC Work Readiness Academy

July 2023 Data

Enrollment as of July 29, 2023 Actual: 30 Changes: Entered: 0 Exited: 0 Referrals: 1 Intakes Scheduled: 1 Accepted: 1

July 17th - Fire Drill July 31st - Lockdown





Student Absences, Late Arrivals & Early Dismissals

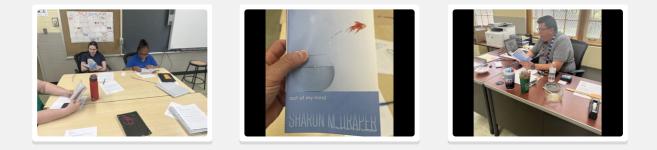
As a reminder, in the event that your child will be absent, arriving late, picked up early, please call our main number at (908) 633-2704 and speak with our secretary Maureen Wakeman. If it is before 8am, please leave a message. You can also email Maureen at <u>mwakeman@ucesc.org</u>

Summer Classroom Instruction

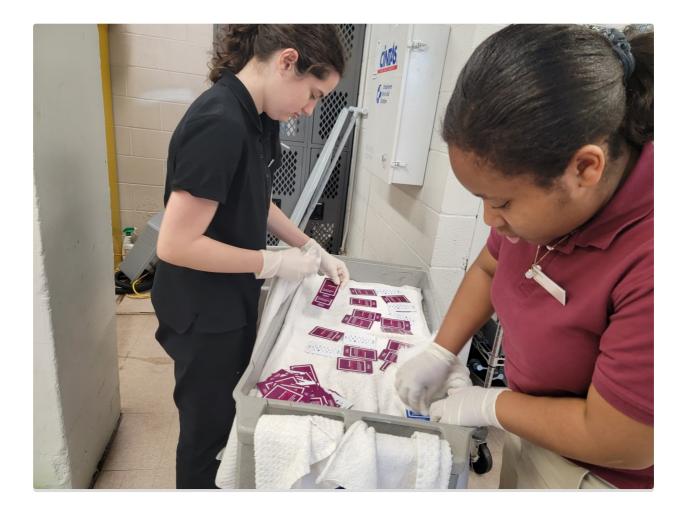
WRA students are spending 45 minutes each morning participating in daily summer enrichment instruction. During the first half of the summer, Sharlene introduced the students to Pixton, and online Comic Maker platform. Comics are a powerful tool for promoting student engagement and literacy. Sharlene guided the students to design their own comics that represented realistic and appropriate workplace conversations. This format allowed the students to process text and image together leading, which works well for many of our visual learners and results in better recall and transfer of learning.



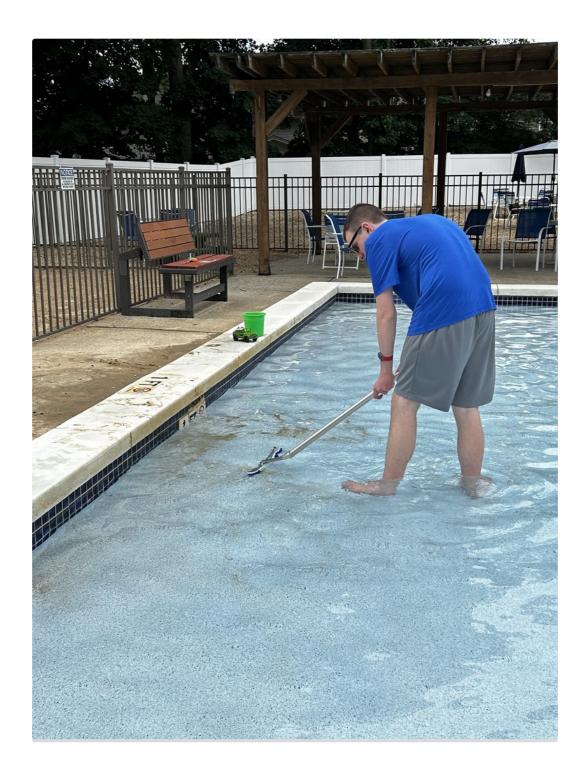
During the second half of the summer, Phil has been reading the short novel "Out of My Mind" by Sharon Draper. The book tells a moving story about a young girl with cerebral palsy and her fight to prove herself to everyone around her. This book touches upon sensitive topics and reminds us to not let our disabilities define us.

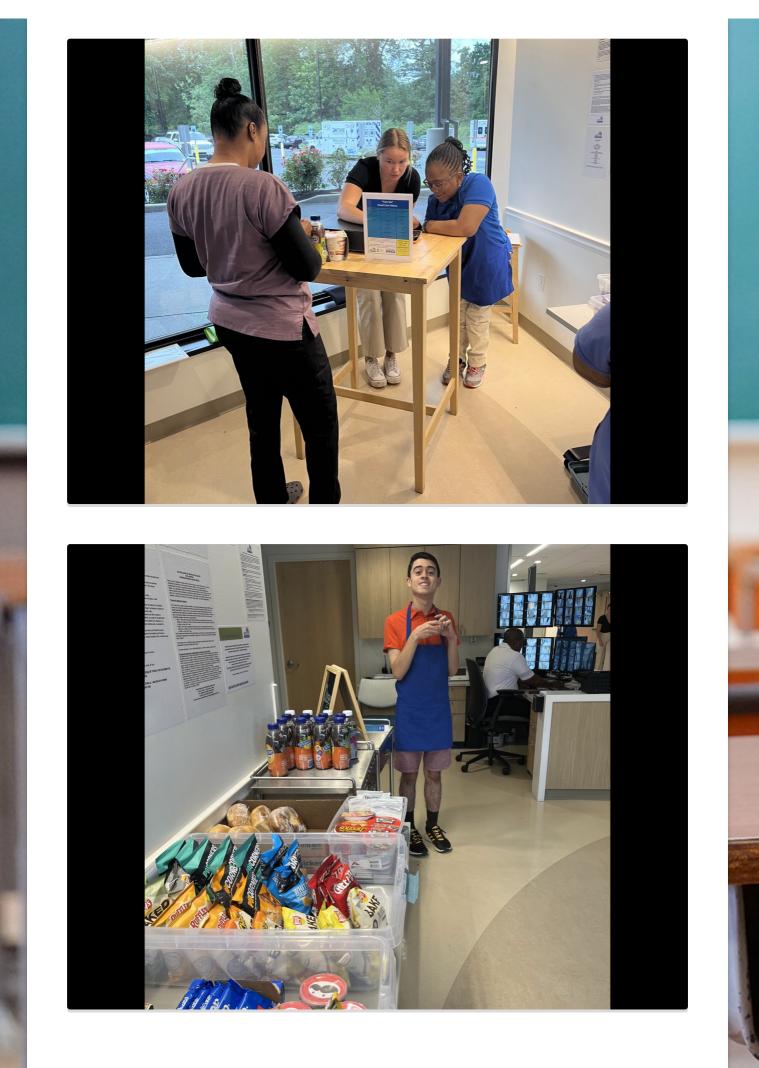


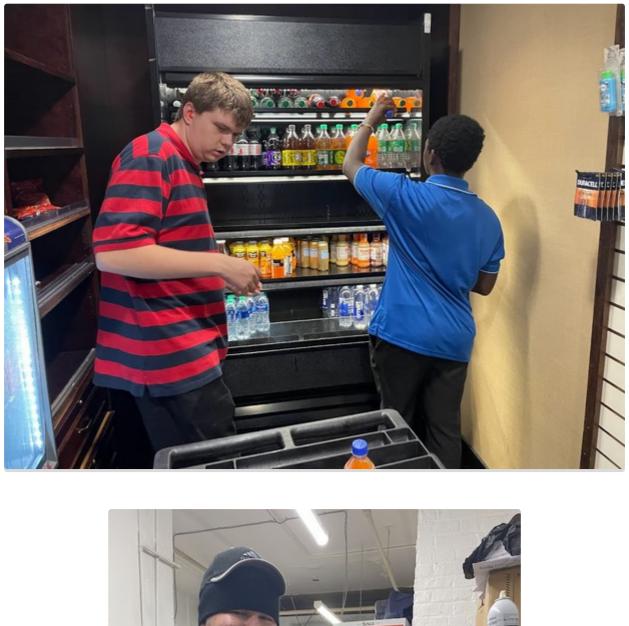
Pictures from our Summer Work-Based Learning Experiences!















WRA Chopped!

When the rain spoils a previously planned trip to Sandy Hook Beach, the WRA staff jumps into action. Students were divided into team and competed int the first ever WRA Chopped competition! Each team was provided with an ingredient list and asked to put together a breakfast dish, a lunch dish, and a dessert option to be judged. The students demonstrated excellent team work and creativity. The best part was getting to sample their concotions!





WRA Chopped Challenge 2023

Get ready to practice your creative, culinary and teamwork skills in our very own chopped challenge!

The Rules:

- Must be in a team of 3
- Must present a breakfast item, lunch and dessert to be judged
- Items presented may not be pre packaged
- Must use at least 3 ingredients from the "pantry" in each meal
- Must work together to find, create and present your dishes
- Must have fun!

How will you be judged ...

	4	3	2	1
	Professional	Specialist	Novice	Beginner
Appearance (plating)	Food item(s) arranged neatly and with flair Imagination and	Food item(s) arranged neatly Little	Food item(s) placed on plate	Little or no planning for plating food



Summer Community Trips

After each week of hard work at our Work-Based Learning Experiences, the students and staff from the Work Readiness Academy enjoy a Friday trip into the community. Pictures from some of our recent trips to Hyat Hills Mini Golf and the Menlo Park Mall are below!









Spotted in the Community!

Students and staff from the WRA were thrilled to run into Kevin Villacis (a current WRA student) who is participaing in a paid summer internship experience with the kitchen team at the Hilton Hotel at Newark Airport. Way to go, Kevin!





New WRA Supervisor

We are excited to welcome Ms. Rachel Richer as the WRA's new Supervisor of Instruction! Ms. Richer brings more than 20 years of special education teaching experience, including a long career teaching vocational skills, functional academics, and life skills to students from the Elizabeth Public Schools. She has also served as an instructional coach with the district and helped to design and develop their first 18-21 transition program featuring a multitude of internal work-based learning experiences and community-based instruction experiences. Ms. Richer also brings a wealth of knowledge about instructional and differentiation strategies to support students diagnosed with Autism and other Mild to Moderate Cognitive Impairments. She is passionate, positive, and clearly shares our program's core mission to prepare students to become independent and contributing members of society. She described this position as "the job meant for me." She was chosen from a field of four semi-finalists and two finalists. The interview team was unanimous in agreeing that Ms. Richer was the best candidate for this position.

Ms. Richer started with us on July 1st and has been involved with helping to supervise our summer Extended School Year program.

Ms. Richer can be reached at rricher@ucesc.org



About the Work Readiness Academy

The Work Readiness Academy serves students ages 18-21 with disabilities and provides a comprehensive employment training experience that incorporates both classroom-based instruction and community-based work-learning experiences. While in the training classroom, students work cooperatively with similar aged peers to learn critical skills related to employment and socialization. Students also work on career exploration and planning, including the development of a person-centered, post-secondary vision and plan with clear goals and action steps. Program staff remain on-site during the internships to provide and fade support and assistance as needed. Students also participate in field trips focused on career discovery, independent living skills, recreation and independent travel training.

For more information or to make a student referral, please email Josh Bornstein at jbornstein@ucesc.org

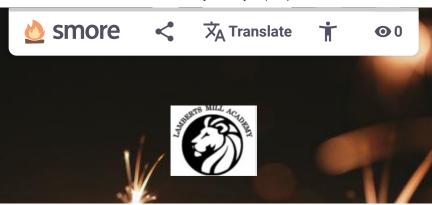


Click here to visit the WRA on Facebook!

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LMA July Monthly Report | Smore Newsletters



LMA JULY MONTHLY REPORT

What's new, at The Mill...

"A little bit of summer is what the whole year is all about." - John Mayer

Administrators' Message

A message from LMA Adminstration

Greetings,

I hope this newsletter finds you well relaxed, as most are enjoying time off from school! The month of July has started off big at LMA as we rolled out ESY 2023. Students continue to receive academic based activities that allow all students to be more 'hands on' with their learning. Additionally, all students are continuing their daily routines with academics and related services to maintain skills. As you read through this newsletter you will see all the wonderful activities, and trips LMA has been completing and exploring.



While LMA ESY has been running smoothly with teachers and staff creating engaging lessons on a daily basis; the LMA Administrative team has been making great progress in adjusting and improving different LMA systems for the upcoming school year. By continuing to refine processes and systems in place at LMA, we will evolve with LMA students' needs to create that safe,

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e weekend right

Mr. Leibfried & Mr. Lopreiato

comfortable learnin

with Friday BBQ lur

Monthly Nata

- 1. Enrollment 14 (ESY)
- 2. Acceptances 3
- 3. New Students 1
- 4. Intakes 6
- 5. Referrals 2
- 6. Disenrollment 0
- 7. Fire Drill July 17, 2023
- 8. Other Drill July 21, 2023 EM Lockdown Drill (Internal Threat)

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Upcoming Events

August 3 - Jersey Lanes Bowling Trip August 11 - Last Day of ESY September 8 - First Day of School



LMA Student of the Month - July 2023

Amir W.

While ESY at LMA looks a lot different, and smaller than the regular school year; the LMA staff still would like to acknowledge and give credit to an exemplar student during the month of July. Amir W. was voted Student of the Month for ESY July 2023. He was voted student of the month by staff for his excellence in class, dedication with helping his peers, and consistent effort attending school almost daily since the program started on July 5. We are proud to have Amir our Student of the Month, and we hope he can continue to be a motivational student to the LMA community.



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Staff Spotlige 🔌 smore

Ms. Miller - Teacher

LMA is pleased to welcome back Ms. Miller to the ESY Roster as teacher for this year's program. Ms. Miller is a well-respected staff member within the Commission. Starting her career with UCESC as a paraprofessional Westlake for four years gave her great experience working with special needs students, and learning the important values of being a team player to provide a wonderful educational experience to the students. In 2020 she had the honor to come work at LMA as the Social Studies Teacher, allowing her to



creatively teach high school students, while keeping her foundational skills learned at Westlake. Ms. Miller worked at LMA for 1 school year, before graciously helping the Commission out by filling a need at Hillcrest Academy North who required a Social Studies Teacher. Working at HAN not only does she teach Social Studies, but also has been an active member of ScIP, Yearbook Coordinator and Social Media Liaison. Ms. Miller truly knows the core mission of the UCESC, and is the definition of a team player, always helping out where she can. We are happy to have her back in the LMA classroom for ESY, and hope to see her for many more years to come!

Classroom Spotlights



Mrs. Van Clief's Math Class

In Mathematics, students have been exposed to Geometry and Measurement. They reviewed area and perimeter which allowed them to complete and create many hands-on



Ms. Miller's Science Class

The Science classes have been focusing on the ESY Theme of Water! Students have studied the Water Cycle and will be learning about hurricanes and tsunamis. Students have also



Mr. Bell promoting hands on learning

Mr. Bell's classes had the unique opportunity to get hands on learning by working with different pieces of wood, and learning the process of sanding, painting, and putting a

activities in order to the skill. The hands activities included measurement of everyday objects, creating interior floor plans, 3-D art activities, and measuring our bed gardens. Students also identified everyday shapes in our world. We also did formulas for squares, rectangles, and triangles. We will also be working on Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Financial Literacy for the rest of the summer.

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documentary that focuses on how people and sharks can coexist. On Fridays, students have been learning about different topics that are currently of interest in the Science community. So far students have read articles and watched videos about a man who lived in an underwater hotel for 100 days and a water frog that has a special survival skill. Students are looking forward to starting water related experiments in the second half of ESY!

mation on for • lay at their home. This proved to be a great way for students to creatively relieve stress, while making something positive!

LMA ESY Field Trips

Enjoying time at YESTERcades in Westfield

LMA Students started the ESY program by visiting YESTERcades in downtown Westfield. Students had the opportunity to relieve stress, and enjoy themselves by playing different video games, and arcade games that have been popular through different time periods. Finally, students showed off their finesse by getting the opportunity to play skee-ball, and billiards.



The second trip of the LMA ESY Program was to the expansive, Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange. Students and staff explored multiple different viewing and petting stations, while learning about different animals. Learning about different animals, their native environment, and different facts about them proved to be educational and entertaining!



Visiting the Cra 👌 SMORE

LMA students beat the heat wave by chilling out at the Cranford Theatre in downtown Cranford. Students viewed the movie, *Barbie*, and we're able to discuss it in class, and group therapy sessions to express their thoughts on it.



School in the Community

- 1. Weekly Field Trips in the Community
- 2. Weekly BBQs to promote social skills with students.

About Us

Contact Information:

Phone: (908)-233-7581 *Address:* 1571 Lamberts Mill Road, Westfield, NJ, 07090 *Website:* <u>https://ucesc.org/schools/lamberts_mill_academy</u> *Instagram:* <u>https://www.instagram.com/ucesc_lma/?hl=en</u>

Lamberts Mill Academy is a school within the Union County Educational Services Commission. We are an out of district public school for students with psychiatric disabilities. We continue to partner with RWJ Trinitas Regional Medical Center to provide clinical services for our students. Our school community prides itself on our relationships with all stakeholders: students, staff, parents, families and community partnerships. Being a public school, we adhere to all NJDOE assessment and curriculum mandates. Our professional learning community strives to increase student achievement and improve classroom instruction to provide students with the most effective educational, social and emotional learning environment possible.

LMA Smore LMA is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



Communicate quickly and effectively with interactive newsletters.

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Create a newsletter

