



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Monthly Report - Westlake - Students, Families and Staff



Principal's Message: Welcoming Our Stars Back to School!

Dear Westlake Families,

I hope this message finds you well and filled with anticipation for the upcoming school year. As we prepare to welcome our exceptional students back to Westlake, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to each and every one of you.

At Westlake, we believe in the unique potential of every student. Our program is designed to provide a warm, welcome and supportive environment where all students can thrive

academically, socially, and emotionally by reaching their full potential.

Over the summer, we are working on our classrooms and facilities that have been thoughtfully prepared to provide a secure and comfortable learning environment for your child. We will also maintain our strong collaboration with educational professionals to ensure that your child's academic, socialization and overall health and well-being are always a top priority.

This year, we are excited to introduce new programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing the educational journey of our students. From sensory-friendly spaces to individualized work-based learning plans, we are dedicated to fostering a sense of belonging and accomplishment for every child.

Open and transparent communication is a cornerstone of our approach. We encourage you to stay connected with our team, attend parent support groups, and actively engage in your child's educational journey. Your insights and feedback are invaluable in helping us provide the best possible experience for our students.

Please join our (WPO) Westlake Parent Organization in September. We are looking for additional parents to support our Parent Organization in order to continue in school and outside activities for all students and families to attend. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please reach out to me at 908-232-4181 x6000.

We look forward to the beginning of the school year. The first day of school is on Friday, September 8, 2023. Together, we will continue to create a positive and enriching environment where all students can shine.

Warm regards,

Claudine Tantillo
Westlake School Principal

Westlake's Information!

School Data Download:

Enrollment: 56

Acceptances: 0

Intakes: 0

Referrals: 1

Disenrollment: 0

Lock Down Drill: August 2, 2023

Fire Drill: August 4, 2023



Link to our School Calendar: https://cdns5-ss9.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_107177/File/Calendars%20-%20Revised/23-24%20District%20Calendar.pdf

WESTLAKE'S AUGUST SUMMER OF FUN HIGHLIGHTS

Mrs. Swisher's class enjoyed many learning activities and socializing with their friends. Weekly bingo was the big hit of the summer!



Mrs. Robinson, students and teacher assistants were all full of school spirit on the last day of the ESY program. Students were happy and love working with their teachers.



Students working hard in Ms. Finver's class as a lesson was being taught using the smart board.



First DAY OF School

First Day of School!

We are excited to see students on Friday,
September 8, 2023 for the first day of school!
(2023-2024)



Welcome Families

Back to School Night will be held on Thursday,
September 28, 2023 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.
Please come visit and meet your child's teacher
for the 2023-2024 school year!

**PARENTS – PLEASE JOIN OUR WESTLAKE PARENT
ORGANIZATION**

Parents,

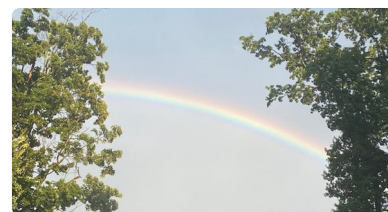
We need your help! If you are interested in helping run the Westlake Parent Organization (WPO), please contact us at 908-232-4181 x6000. The WPO runs a number of events that benefit your child in and out of school. With your support, you can continue to provide social opportunities for the students, funding for special projects and opportunities that help families to be educated in resources that are available to you. (ex. guardianship, DDD presentations). Please visit the following link for more information and please sign up with a \$10 donation per family.

https://www.ucesc.org/schools/westlake_school/w_p_o_-_westlake_parent_organization



Happy Summer from Westlake School!

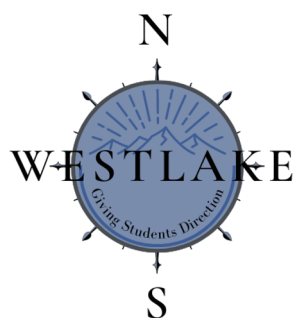
Westlake school students and staff wish all of you a happy rest of the summer!



Visit us on Instagram!

Visit us on Facebook!

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](tel:908-232-4181)



Robert Peneno





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LMA AUGUST MONTHLY REPORT

Staying cool, at The Mill...

"The tans will fade but the memories will last forever." - *Unknown*

Administrators' Message

A message from LMA Administration

Greetings,

We hope this Newsletter finds you all well rested, and ready for the upcoming school year! The LMA team has been working hard on improving upon the LMA student experience for the 2023-2024 school year, while closing out another successful Extended School Year program with some familiar student faces, and welcoming some new students to the LMA student community. Some of the many improvements to the LMA school experience include: the addition of a full-time Music teacher, providing a music elective to all students, the continuation of a joint collaboration between LMA and Rutgers University's New Jersey Positive Behavioral Support in Schools (PBSIS), and the creation of a new, rotating bell schedule, allowing LMA to be more effective with our academic instruction, engagement and therapeutic interventions. We are excited for the first day of school, September 8, and the opportunity to welcome back students to our state of the art facility where learning and therapy work together in unison!



Mr. Leibfried & Mr. Lopreiato



Monthly Data

1. Enrollment - 14 (ESY)
2. Acceptances - 3
3. New Students - 2
4. Intakes - 6
5. Referrals - 2
6. Disenrollment - 0
7. Fire Drill - 8/2
8. Other Drill - Emergency Managment (Bomb Threat) 8/4

Upcoming Events

September 8 - First Day of School for Students
September 21 - Back to School Night (6-7pm)



LMA Student of the Month - August 2023

Gabe B.

The LMA staff have voted Gabriel B. as the August ESY Student of the Month. Gabe truly is the ideal LMA student, starting with The Mill in May of 2019, and attending every ESY program including this one. He is always looking to help the LMA faculty and his peers while attending school on a regular basis. Gabe will be sure to put a smile on your face, always looking to tell jokes, and lighten the mood. He is our model LMA student, and working on his second year of Post Graduate program at LMA. We are proud to call him our Student of the Month for August.



Staff Spotlight

Mrs. Van Clief



Mrs. Van Clief is being promoted to Mathematics Teacher for good reasons. She started with LMA last September, and served as our Social Studies teacher for the past school year. Prior to joining us at LMA, she has worked at Westlake school, and has served a number of years providing educational experiences for students in Elizabeth public schools. In addition to providing engaging lessons in the classroom, she is always looking to provide students at LMA with additional, hands on experience outside of the classroom. Mrs. Van Clief took initiative, and lead the students of LMA this past ESY in cleaning out the Greenhouse, organizing and setting it up, along with beautifying the LMA garden. In addition to working outside with the students; she also had multiple successful lessons in which she connected mathematics lessons to real world applications such as cooking and baking in the ADL room, once again providing students the opportunity to connect how skills learned in the classroom prove relevant and important to their own daily life's. Mrs. Van Clief will be transitioning as the LMA Mathematics Teacher this September, and I couldn't think of a better person to do it with all her hands on, and unique learning opportunities!



Classroom Spotlights



Mrs. Van Clief's Mathematics Classes Bakes Cookies

During the month of August students focused on Math in the Real world. Students practiced word problems with money and volume. Since our theme for the summer program is water, students applied the formula for volume in order to



Ms. Miller's ELA closes out ESY with 'Holes'

ELA students continued reading the novel, *Holes*, by Louis Sachar in the second half of ESY. Students took turns



Science Classes get 'Hands On'

The Science student spent the second half of ESY participating in water related science experiments. Students

fill up a tank of water
also practiced using



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ns in a Glass" to
precipitation works.

calculations for buying pretend
items that would be sold in a
concession stand.

In Measurement, students
continued working with
measurement and applied that
information to cooking.

Students made cookies using
several ingredients and
measured using measuring
cups. They needed to learn
how to plan cookies for about
30 people and then have to
convert this recipe in half to
make a 15 desired amount.
Students also reviewed
measurements of fractions
that are used in tools,
buildings, crafts and cooking.
In algebra and pre algebra
courses reviewed and created
anchor charts to display
formulas. They also reviewed
two terms in each list or
pattern, simplifying each
expression and evaluating each
expression.

engaged in class discussion.

Students answered WH
questions about characters,
themes, and plot points
throughout the novel. The story
is focused on Stanley Yelnats
IV and events that lead him to
Camp Green Lake, a juvenile
detention facility that believes
that making bad boys dig holes
all day in the hot sun will turn
them into good boys. Students
followed along as Stanley
realizes that the Warden is
having the boys look for
something out in the dried up
lake that has been there for
over 100 years. Students made
predictions about what would
happen next in the story and
were able to compare and
contrast the novel and the
movie adaptation. The
students really enjoyed the
novel and were able to use
their reading comprehension
and storytelling skills.

Using water, shaving cream,
and food coloring, students
were able to understand how
precipitation occurs when
clouds cannot hold any more
water. Students also studied
water density through the
"Floating Egg Experiment"
Students put an egg into
freshwater, watched it sink,
then added salt to the water
and mixed until the egg floated.
A few students were able to
carefully add fresh water on
top of the salt water and get
the egg to float in the middle of
the cup between the salt and
freshwater! We engaged in a
class discussion about water
density and how the egg was
able to float in the salt water
because the particles of salt
made the water denser. The
final experiment and further
discussion on density was
"Creating a Lava Lamp."
Students added various
measurements of water,
vegetable oil, and food coloring
to an empty bottle. Once the
water and oil had separated
and the food coloring was
floating in the water, students
added a fizzy tablet to the
bottle and watched as the
colorful water shot up into the
oil, mimicking a lava lamp.
Students enjoyed the hands-on
learning experiences!

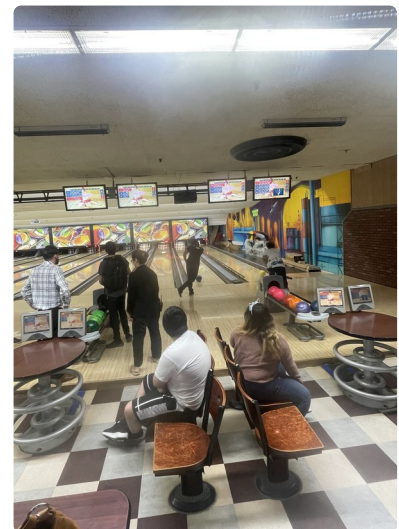
Arts & Music

In addition to academic courses this summer students created various art projects with regards to nature. Students painted rocks that are found in rivers as well as painting wood as canvas to create signs. Students have the option to take them or place them in our LMA garden. Students also created wooden signs that they can place in a garden. Students explored texture and sculpture in order to create abstract art. Many students enjoyed Tye Dye Day and created T-shirts. They even explored working with various mediums to create sand art and watercolor paints to continue our water theme. Several students enjoyed participating in music. They improvised songs and also collaborated lyrics. Rehearsed piano pieces by Frederic Chopin, Sergei Rachmaninoff and Billy Joel. They also were singing and playing guitar along to the Eagles and Led Zeppelin.



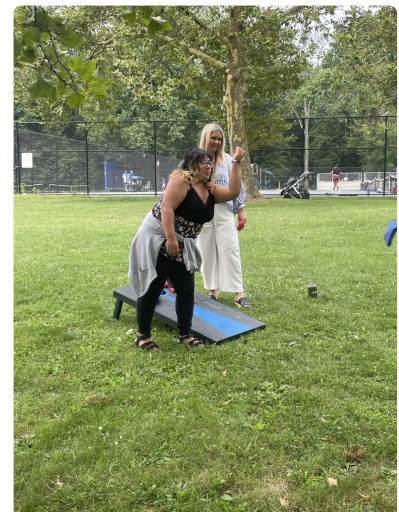
LMA visits Jersey Lanes Bowling Alley

One of the last field trips LMA embarked on this ESY was a visit to Jersey Lanes Bowling Alley. Students cooperatively 'teamed up' with staff and bowled a couple competitive games. Mathematics was reinforced as staff explained the way their scores was calculated, and all students had the experience to positively, socially interact with one another out in the community.



End of ESY Tamaques Park Field Day

LMA students and staff ended the ESY 2023 program with a Field Day at Tamaques Park in Westfield, NJ. Students and staff participated in a range of different physical games including football, baseball, and corn hole. Students participated in the community, and we're able to maintain appropriate social skills amongst each other.



School in the Community

1. Weekly Field Trips in the Community

2. Weekly BBQs t



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About Us

Contact Information:

Phone: (908)-233-7581

Address: 1571 Lamberts Mill Road, Westfield, NJ, 07090

Website: https://ucesc.org/schools/lamberts_mill_academy

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/ucesc_lma/?hl=en

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

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