

# Wildwood Elementary Gifted & Talented and Enrichment Programs

Achievements and Recognition Spring 2023



### **Field Trips**

- Math Marathon in October 2022 (4th grade students)
- **STEAM Adventures** in December 2022 (3rd grade students)
- NJCGTP Spelling Bee in January 2023 (3rd 5th grade qualifying students)
- Learning Carnival in March 2023 (5th grade students)



### **NJCGTP Spelling Bee**

- Each competing school can select up to twelve 3rd-5th graders to represent their school in the competition.
- Based on their spelling performance within their G&T small groups, we had six 5th graders, three 4th graders, and three 3rd graders compete in the NJCGTP Spelling Bee
- Our students attended practice sessions to build confidence, enhance camaraderie, and embrace calm to prepare for the bee.



### **NJCGTP Spelling Bee**

<u>5th Grade</u>: Erica Shen, Jason Mei, Gabby Roth, Brendan Roth, Russell Swenson, and Vani Kaushal <u>4th Grade</u>: Nathaniel Wong, Jack Chesin, and Rishaan Anantula <u>3rd Grade</u>: Arnav Gajera, Daniel Shishkin, and Emma Halford

- Out of 7 participating schools and **nearly 75 students**, **all twelve** of our **Wildwood students finished within the top 30 semi-finalists**.
- Two of our **4th graders (Nathaniel Wong and Jack Chesin) finished in the top 10** and **three of our 5th graders finished within the top 5**, earning trophies for:

1st place - Erica Shen 3rd place - Brendan Roth 5th place - Gabby Roth

Congratulations to all our spectacular spellers on a job well done!







### **NJCGTP Nature Scavenger Hunt**

- Our students did an AMAZING job finding the required items, researching topics, exploring the outdoors, sharing knowledge, and creating their slideshow presentations to showcase their findings.
- There were some challenging items in the NJCGTP Scavenger Hunt this year and students accepted the challenge with ease.
- Each grade level was able to successfully find and present the items in a slideshow they made uniquely their own through slide designs, font styles, transitions, graphics, and animations.



### **NJCGTP Nature Scavenger Hunt**

• Out of 20 participating schools and hundreds of students, here are Wildwood's results:

**1st Place: 3rd Grade Team** (Daniel Shishkin, Anika Bapat, Emma Halford, Hailey Fallon, Tyler Bossio, Arnav, Gajera, Landon Lee, Akshay Thomas, and Julia Ruan)

**2nd Place: 5th Grade Team** (Matthew Barbarisi, Erica Shen, Daniel Sbar, Gabby Roth, Brendan Roth, Zach Stuss, Russell Swenson, Raina Bosmiya, Trevor McIntyre, Vani Kaushal, and Jesse Schinder)

**3rd Place: 4th Grade Team** (Kiran Amin, Nathaniel Wong, Jack Chesin, Noah Bossio, Nivedita Santosh, Rishaan Anantula, Ivy Jia, Helena Mathis, Peter Diaz, and Livie La Fiura)

- All three of our grade level entries placed within the top four entries in the competition!
- Our 3rd Grade Team received a geode kit as their prize, which we will breaking open geodes together as part of their "rock star" celebration tomorrow.

### **NJCGTP Nature Scavenger Hunt**

Grade 3 Team

1st Place





### NJCGTP Learning Carnival

- Our 5th grade G&T students participated in the "Learning Carnival" hosted by the New Jersey Consortium of Gifted and Talented Programs (NJCGTP).
- The Learning Carnival is a wonderful experience for students to broaden their interests while taking part in numerous challenging, hands-on workshops.
- Students ranked their level of interest in the offered workshops and were assigned to workshops within their top 3-5 choices.
- Students attended three 45-minute sessions
- Workshop topics included: dance, percussion and sound stories, Harry Potter/Hogwarts-themed wands and spells, advertising, examining microinvertebrates, business branding, exploring animal skulls, learning about and creating geodesic domes, and math mania with math games and challenges.



### NJCGTP Learning Carnival

- The students had an incredible time learning about various topics in hands-on learning activities.
- The program facilitators were equally impressed by their skills, as well as their behavior and engagement in each workshop.











### **NJCGTP Learning Carnival**



### **NJCGTP Engineering Challenge**

- This is a virtual STEM/STEAM competition for 3rd through 5th graders, which means all of our student teams were competing against each other and students from NJCGTP-member districts in both Morris and Bergen counties of New Jersey.
- This year's challenge tasked students with developing a school mascot aligned with a specific virtue or virtues.
- Students had to research and reflect on Aristotle's nine virtues to determine which virtue or virtues they felt were most important and why.
- Aristotle's nine virtues include: courage, generosity, prudence, patience, friendliness, truthfulness, self-control, justice, and compassion.
- Students were partnered based on their selection and responses.
- With their partner, they created and built a mascot to fit the build requirements (minimum of 50% recycled materials and height, depth, and width between 12-36 inches) and explained how the mascot they created displays their chosen virtue(s) in a video submission.

### **NJCGTP Engineering Challenge**

- This competition had hundreds of students participate and all of our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teams received very positive feedback regarding their submissions.
- However, one of our 3rd grade teams earned the special honor as one of the two winning teams in the 3rd-5th grade category!

Congratulations to Emma Halford and Hailey Fallon for their incredible virtuous mascot submission!

- Their submission even included moving parts using a simple machine to enable their dove's wings to move; moveable parts using a simple machine was a requirement for 6th-8th grade submissions and these young engineers included it as third graders!
- The virtue their dove mascot displayed was courage and they did a phenomenal job with their video submission.







### NJCGTP Poster Design Challenge

- Another spring competition our 3rd and 4th grade students participated in was a poster design contest from New Jersey Consortium for GIfted and Talented Programs (NJCGTP) with the topic "Reading is..."
- In the 3rd-5th grade category, one of our 3rd graders placed as one of the winners (all the other winners were fifth graders from other schools).
- It is quite impressive that her talent earned her a place amongst students two grade levels higher than her in the most competitive category, too!

### Congratulations to Julia Ruan for her winning reading poster!



NJCGTP Poster Design Contest "Reading Is..." Winner





### NJCGTP Poster Design Challenge

• Each poster submission for the poster design challenge included an entry form completed by the student designer explaining their poster. This is what Julia wrote about her poster:

The message of my poster is that reading is magical and adventurous. My message is trying to persuade readers to keep reading and anyone who doesn't like reading to give it a try because it can take you to fantastic and magical places! My poster has a rainbow with types of books and a medieval castle with a pumpkin carriage. It also has a leprechaun and fairy. I chose these images because my favorite genre is fantasy. I love the magic and adventure that books in this genre can provide.



### **STEAM Machines Competition**

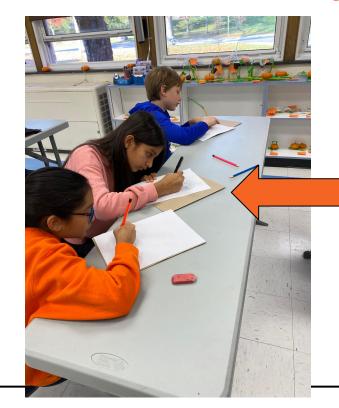
- Our 5th grade G&T students built Rube Goldberg-inspired designs for the NJCGTP STEAM Machines Competition.
- The competition is open to 5th and 6th grade students.
- All teams and machines were evaluated on three categories by a panel of judges.
- Students must invent a machine that will perform a simple task (popping a balloon) and all machines must be built by the students without parent involvement; inventions must have multiple transfers of energy.
- This activity proved to be both fun and frustrating for our fifth graders, but they persevered and supported each other through the process of building and recording their efforts towards success.

Congratulations to Raina Bosmiya

for earning the Patience and Perseverance Award!



### **STEAM Machines Competition**



This is Raina. She wouldn't let me take her photo by herself, so I had to use a classroom "action shot."



### **Robotics Recognition**

- Jason Mei, Oliver Schey and Ryan Lambe had an outstanding performance in VEX IQ Robotics Competition this year.
- **Team 5193-C placed 1st in the Finalist round**. This clinched their qualification for the VEX IQ ELEMENTARY Slapshot NJ State Championship.
- Jason, Ryan and Oliver went back to work making improvements to their robot and practicing their driving skills. That hard work paid off.
- At the state championship, 5193-C placed **2nd in the Teamwork Challenge** and won the **Judges Award**. This qualified them for VEX IQ World Championship competition in Dallas, Texas.
- They are the first Wildwood team to qualify for Worlds!
- They placed 48th in their Worlds Division and can be proud of their showing. **Congratulations team!**
- Thank you to the club advisors Mrs. Baier and Mr. Knowles in partnership with Bethany Dewalt for running an amazing Robotics experience for our Wildwood students!



- Over fifty 5th grade students met weekly since February to learn about the many facets of entrepreneurial success.
  - Weekly workshop topics included: product development, pros and cons of partnerships, pricing, expenses, financing, business ethics, business plans, advertising, sales, focus groups, and marketplace preparedness.
- Mountain Lakes High School entrepreneurial students met with our 5th grade entrepreneurial students to offer valuable insight and advice related to their business ideas (April 25th)
- The dialogue and engagement between the high school students and elementary students was very productive and helpful; our Wildwood students benefitted greatly from this experience. Many thanks to the high school students who kindly volunteered their time and offered thoughtful advice to our students!



- Our 5th grade entrepreneurs developed business plans for a wide variety of products and applied their sales and marketing skills to benefit the lucky customers who attended the TREP\$ Marketplace on Thursday, May 18th in the Wildwood Gymnasium.
- Our young entrepreneurs sold an incredibly diverse variety of products which represented their **unique skills**, **interests**, **and talents**.
- Congratulations to all our 5th grade entrepreneurs and continued success in all your future business endeavors!

A special shoutout to our **1st business to sell out at the Marketplace: LAX** Attack

Business owners: Hudson Scura, Ryan Oliver, and Trevor McIntyre These students developed a lacrosse stick holder for bikes.







