

## BES LEARNING CENTER STUDENTS LAUNCH DOG TREAT BUSINESS



Students in Danielle Cangelosi's Learning Center room at Bethlehem Elementary School launched the BES Barkery, a homemade dog treat business they created as a class. The 10 Learning Center students did their part in preparing and bagging their homemade peanut butter and pumpkin dog treats, and making flyers for the launch during Halloween Bingo at school. They sold out of the treats in 90 minutes.

The Barkery business was an idea the students had as a group, Cangelosi said. "They created a business proposal, found a recipe they wanted, decided on the costs, and even designated that the proceeds will go to a local animal shelter," Cangelosi said.

Students wrote a letter and presented their business plan for the treats in a Shark Tank-style pitch session to BES Principal Wendy Yatsenick who was thrilled with the concept. "This is incredible, hands-on experiential learning for these kids," Yatsenick said. "They are so excited."

Cangelosi said the new business has become a positive way to incorporate areas like writing and math into their lesson plans. "We have students who normally don't like writing now designing and making whole page flyers for this," Cangelosi said. "This is a very positive experience for them all."

Students will share the responsibilities in the BES Barkery business. In addition to baking the treats, students' tasks will include taking orders, delivering to staff members, collecting money, making change, and helping to man the sales tables at the upcoming BES events.



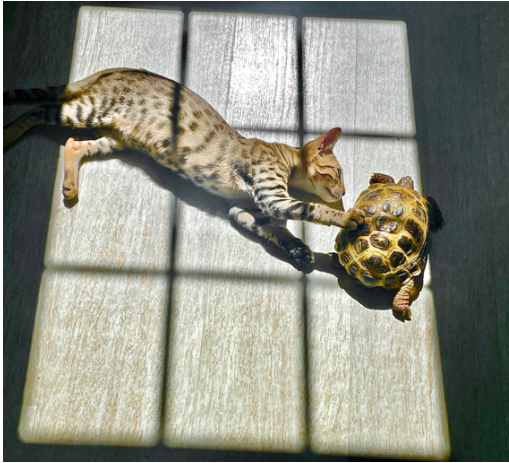


# NHS STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHERS IN ASAP! EXHIBIT

Congratulations to the eight Nonnewaug High School student artists who will have their work on display at the 13th Annual ASAP! Celebration of Young Photographers on November 12.

The ASAP! exhibit will be held at Spring Hill Vineyards in New Preston from 2 – 4 p.m. This award recognizes photographers whose pieces brilliantly embody the 2023 theme of “Curiosity.”

Nonnewaug’s winners are: **KARLI BRANDT**, 10th grade --The Flashes From Heaven, **AUTUMN BUONAUTO**, 10th grade --Curiously Playful, **RUARI DUFFY**, 12th grade --Curious of What?, **KIERA JACOBI**, 11th grade --Looking Out, **ADDISON NEILSON**, 10th grade --Took Flight, **AVA PARKS**, 11th grade --Listening Behind The Wall, **CLAIRE ROGERS**, 9th grade --A Curious Glance, **LILA ROGERS**, 9th grade --A Sturdy Lock.



Each year, the show is a unique exhibit of images by talented young photographers from across our region of Connecticut. The winning group of 60 photographs was selected from 383 pieces of submitted work from 52 schools. The pieces are based on the artists' interpretation and consideration of the theme, composition and technical qualities of the image, visual and emotional impact of the image, and originality. In addition, the top four photographs will be revealed, and a middle school and high school photographer will receive the 2023 Dylan’s Wings Photography Award presented by Ian Hockley, Executive Director of [Dylan’s Wings of Change](#).





# WOODBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL

## PBIS PROGRAM AT WMS



This month, Woodbury Middle School implemented Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) as a way to help foster a learning environment where all students seek to consistently demonstrate the Warrior Way components – Respect, Responsibility, and Relationships.

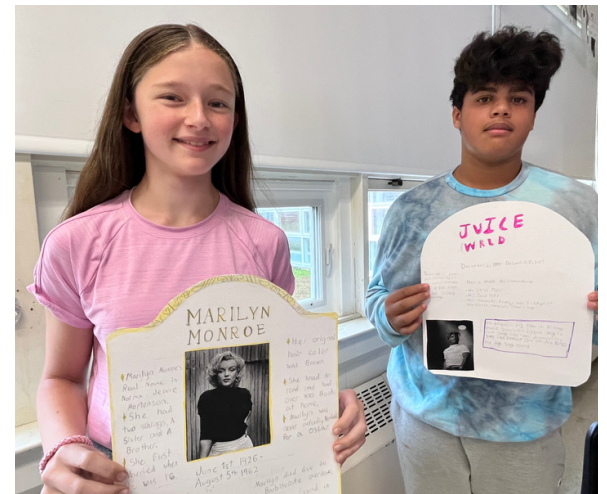
The PBIS framework has been shown to enhance quality of life for students at school and provide opportunities for equitable outcomes for all and is a wonderful extension of the Warrior Way. WMS is using a web based LiveSchool program where teachers and staff can share feedback with students and parents and increase the communication between school and home while reinforcing positive behavior in school. Through this program, students earn points for how well they follow the Warrior Way and will be able to cash in their points for rewards in the form of experiences, activities, and privileges.

Points will be awarded to students individually as well as by grade level throughout the year. As an example, the seventh graders earned the first grade-level House Points prize and were awarded a special ice cream treat during the October WMS Spirit Rally.

## 8TH GRADE CELEBRITY TOMBSTONE PROJECT

As part of their unit on Accessing Information in Health, eighth graders researched the death of a celebrity related to drugs or alcohol for the "Celebrity Tombstone" project. Students designed a tombstone that included personal or professional facts, major professional contributions, a piece of the celebrity's work, and the specific circumstances behind their untimely death. Teacher Jillian Chicano said she brought this project to WMS an effective way for students to learn the realities of drug and alcohol abuse.

"I chose to assign this project to 8th grade because when the students think about celebrities, they think of their success, money, and fame," Chicano said. "This project shines a light on how even though these celebrities may seem like they have everything, something like drugs can take it all away. I think this resonates with the students that drugs are dangerous and have very negative consequences."





# HISPANIC HERITAGE EVENT LINKS NHS WORLD LANGUAGE & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS



La mochila. Los cocos. Los perros.

Students at Mitchell and Bethlehem Elementary Schools welcomed learning these new Spanish words and more from guest readers from Nonnewaug High School for a special Hispanic Heritage Month activity in October.

NHS students in the AP Spanish and ECE Spanish classes visited their younger peers in Kindergarten through third grade to read a story in Spanish. The high school students talked about Spanish-speaking countries and introduced the elementary students to a few Spanish vocabulary words they would later hear in the story "Cuando se van al Jardín."

"It was really a fun experience being a bit of a teacher for the day," said NHS senior Megan Keating. "I think this type of activity is important to promote the love of learning another language to the younger students."

Junior Dean Montero, who read to a second grade class at Mitchell said he was amazed by how many Spanish words the students already knew.

"The second graders were so energetic and engaging for this activity," Montero said. "The students already know some Spanish words so we should definitely come back to the elementary schools to do more activities like this."





# AGRISCIENCE UPDATES

## STUDENTS SPREAD KINDNESS WITH FLOWERS

Greenhouse Plant Production and Processing classes participated in the **Petal It Forward** campaign on October 19. Students dressed in bright orange **Petal It Forward** tee shirts went to several area businesses including Dottie's Diner and Aylas' Bagels & Coffee to hand two flowers or bouquets to an unsuspecting stranger, urging them to keep one and share the other with someone else. They also surprised faculty in Nonnewaug High School with this kind gesture.

The students handed out 50 bouquets and close to 300 carnations with the intent of practicing random acts of kindness and reminding people that flowers make people happy and the idea of someone handing them out "just because" is even more special.

Petal It Forward was organized by the Society of American Florists eight years ago and those participating pick one day during the month of October to hold their event. The Agriscience students look forward to participating in this wonderful good-will offering each year and have participated since its inception.



## AGRISCIENCE RECRUITMENT DAY FOR SENDING SCHOOLS



Representatives from local school districts attended a special recruitment event on October 5 for the Agriscience Program at Nonnewaug High School. Principals and counselors from the 13 sending districts whose students can opt to attend the Agriscience Program were invited to an information session, tour, and luncheon.

Attendees were given tours of the barn, aquaculture, greenhouse, mechanics, and agricultural production areas in the Agriscience Program by Nonnewaug student leaders in the FFA program, who spoke about the positive and life-changing experiences they have had as students here.



Visitors also toured areas of Nonnewaug High School and attended breakout sessions with NHS school counselors to learn how the traditional academic and agriscience pathways for students combine for the whole experience at Nonnewaug.

The event culminated with a special luncheon prepared and served in the culinary classroom by students in the Advanced Culinary Class at Nonnewaug High School.



## SCENE AROUND THE DISTRICT



The 8th grade Rocketry unit focuses on aerospace engineering. **Woodbury Middle School** students built a model rocket and considered the forces on a rocket, Newton's Laws, and other principles and challenges of actual space vehicle launch. During their design phase, they learn about aerospace engineering and then launched their rocket with a two-stage solid fuel engine.



Members of the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department held a wonderful Fire Safety event for kindergarten, first and second graders at **Mitchell Elementary School**. Several volunteer fire fighters talked with students about fire safety topics like stop, drop, and roll, smoke detectors, and the importance of setting up a family meeting place for emergencies.



**Nonnewaug High School** students in the AP Environmental Science classes headed to Bridgeport earlier in the month for a boat excursion on the Long Island Sound for a hands-on look at the marine environment.



The **Event Club/Athletes' Council** Bake Sale during Nonnewaug's Homecoming and Pink Out raised \$1,600 for The Cancer Couch, a Connecticut-based nonprofit foundation funding research on metastatic breast cancer. Cancer Couch will match Nonnewaug's donation.



## SCENE AROUND THE DISTRICT

“Fright Watch” series author Lorien Lawrence stopped by **Woodbury Middle School** this month. Students heard about her books, her love of all-things-spooky, where she gets her ideas and inspirations, the publishing process and more. Lawrence answered some questions and had lunch with students and LMC specialist Aimee Shuhart and 6th Grade Team Leader Caroline South. Lawrence is a popular middle-grade horror genre author. She has written three books in the “Fright Watch” series and has one stand-alone book based on Connecticut ghost hunters set to be published in 2025.



Second grade scientists at **Bethlehem Elementary School** had a Mystery Science Lesson on matter and properties. Their experiment was to determine the best material for an oven mitt - aluminum, cloth, or styrofoam. Students wrapped their hands in socks, sheets of aluminum foil, and styrofoam cups to see if they could feel the temperature of a cold and a warm water bottle through the material. Mystery Science is part of the new K-5 science curriculum that emphasizes hands-on and inquiry-based learning investigating real-world phenomena.

As part of their commitment to kindness, **Mitchell Elementary School** held the 1st annual Kindness Walk in October. Students walked several laps around the school fields with colorful banners adorned with creative kindness slogans they made in class. The PTO-sponsored walk-a-thon was filled with friendship, kindness, and fun and special guests from the Nonnewaug High School Robotics Club Team Beta. The event raised more than \$4,000 that the PTO plans to use for playground enhancements like the brand new Sensory Walk for students.



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