

THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

A Note from Dr. G

Volume 3 Issue 21



Superintendent's Corner

On Monday night, 63 juniors and seniors were inducted into Westlake High School's chapter of the National Honor Society in a ceremony hosted for the 22nd - and final time by retiring NHS Advisor Anthony Paduano. Please join me in thanking him and wishing him well! It was a pleasure to join the inductees and their families, along with Principal Keith Schenker, Assistant Principal Daniel Brady, and Dr. Adam Bronstein to celebrate this milestone in our students' educational journeys. The evening was made even more memorable with a performance by the Westlake Concert Band under the direction of Carlo Capano.

Chris D'Ippolito's Semester I Creative Writing class is home to several published authors! Alyssa Occhiogrossi, Ashley Pena, Christian Farina, Christopher Chae, Emma DeLouise, Evalyne Shim, Giuliana Malaj, Haley Davies, Joseph Infantino, Regan Suhay, and Sean Samoyedny each had a "mini-saga," a story told in up to 100 words, appear in the Young Writers' "Hunted - Chronicles of the Chase." At Hawthorne, classes celebrated Groundhog Day today. Deb Kurlander's students saw their shadows in the courtyard and Maui the guinea pig (Jill Pirrotta's class pet) saw his, too. Looks like we will have six more weeks of winter, Wildcats!

Noticing the Good

Are you smarter than a 5th grader? Last night at CES parents and guests tested their skills against our 5th grade scholars. The Celebration of Learning featured classroom-based activities which showcased the interdisciplinary exploration of the perennial Columbus favorite: "Esperanza Rising." Students educated parents on topics of study including: the life cycle, figurative language, geography, historical context, and symbolism and then tested them on what they had learned. Each classroom approached the event in a unique way, ranging from individual poster boards to interactive presentations to read-alouds and small group performances. Gina Carmody's class even delighted families with a song while she played the guitar. Be sure to visit our social media for more pictures and videos. Congratulations to all our 5th graders and their families on another fantastic Celebration of Learning.



The Week Ahead

2/5 Class of 2025 Scheduling Begins

2/7 WHS Italian Honor Society Induction 2:30 pm, WMS PTA Mtg 7 pm, Foundation Mtg 7:30 pm, BOE Work Session 7:30 pm

2/8 CES 4th Grade Recital 9 am

2/9 CES 4th Grade Colonial Fair

In Awe of the Paw - Aimee Braun Travel Study Grant

This year's Aimee Chu Hung Braun Travel/Study Grant was awarded to senior Melania Petriccione. The \$1,000 award, presented each year at the NHS induction ceremony by Doctors Norma and Carl Braun, honors their daughter, a WHS grad who died in 1984 at the age of 20 after a long illness. From Girl Scouts to Science Research to Varsity Swim Team, Melanie exemplifies the characteristics of this prestigious award which recognizes students who "give of themselves to others."

