

# THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

## A Note from Dr. G

Volume 4 Issue 29



## Superintendent's Corner

Westlake's talented musicians shined at the recent Six Flags Music In The Parks competition, with Blenders earning 1st Place (Superior Rating), Band taking 2nd Place (Superior Rating), and Chorus receiving 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Excellent Rating). Thank you directors Emily Denler and Ulysses Torres for ensuring Westlake's music program has the opportunity to shine on a larger stage!

Our Hawthorne Wildcats have been super busy all week. First and second grades hosted Celebrations of Learning and Kindergarteners delighted families with Earth Day-inspired vocal performances this morning. There are a lot of pictures and videos on our social media! Hawthorne's Library Media Specialist Carolyn McCollough again this year coordinated a week-long "One Book One School" celebration. This school-wide event included activities in all the Encore classes and a virtual visit from Stephanie V. W. Lucianovic, author of this year's selection "Touch the Sky" which is about the perseverance and grit needed to learn how to pump a swing.

The Class of 2025 students have begun their Senior Experiences and the district office is excited to have Maura Spruck interning in the Superintendent's office! Maura, who is our varsity lacrosse goalie and committed to play at Manhatthanville next year, had her 300th career save this week!

WHS Guidance coordinated a Career Cafe for juniors spotlighting professions in Engineering yesterday. They heard from a panel of local engineers ranging from chemical engineers to civil engineers. Thank you Dr. J. Patrick Abulencia, Jonathan Caceres, Carolina Alvarez, John Budes, Erica Swansen, Jeremy Reiss, and David Smyth for joining our students for a lunch-time chat!

## Noticing the Good

Four of our Westlake Science Research students just won major awards at the 2025 Tri-County Science & Engineering Fair, where 166 high school students from Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland counties presented their original research to over 160 judges from across the country! Our amazing juniors and their achievements under the guidance of Science Research teacher Lawrence McIntyre:

Christina Rodrigues - 1st Place in Biology for her research on HDAC6 inhibition at Burke Neurological Institute

Giana Marchese - 3rd Place in Biology for her research on Epstein-Barr Virus at New York Medical College

Isabelle Chacko - 3rd Place in Medicine and Medical Science & Technology for her antibody purification research at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals (also selected as an alternate for the NY State Science Congress!)

Keira Borello - 3rd Place in Environment for her research on biocontrols of the invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgid at Mianus River Gorge

We could not be more proud of these talented students and their dedication to solving real-world problems through rigorous research!

## The Week Ahead

*APs at WHS, State Testing at WMS and CES, Incoming Kindergarten Screenings at HES. See printed or website calendar for details.*

**5/5 - WHS PTA General Mtg 7 PM, MTPEF Mtg 7 PM**

**5/6 - WAC Mtg 7 PM, Elem PTA Mtg 7:30 PM**

**5/7 - WMS PTA Mtg 7 PM, BOE Work Session (Budget Hearing) 7:30 PM**

**5/8 - National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony**

**BETSY GROAT WELLNESS DAY**

**5K RUN/KIDS FUN RUN & PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

**SUNDAY MAY 18**  
(RAINDATE MAY 25)

**WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL**  
FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE WAC BETSY GROAT DEBARKER FUND

**5K RACE**  
9:00 AM START  
\$20  
REGISTRATION 8:30

**KIDS FUN RUN**  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

**PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**  
11 AM START  
\$30

REGISTER AT  
FBOS.BETTERWORLD.ORG

PICKLEBALL REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 12!

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT CFRAWLEY@MTPEF.ORG

## In Awe of the Paw - ESAG Winners!

Westlake students received multiple honors at the second annual ESAG awards for our production of "You Can't Take It With You," including Gabriel McCabe and Alyssa Occhigrossi for Best Actors in a Comedy, Gianna Occhigrossi and Henry Sliss for Best Supporting Actors in a Comedy, and recognition for Best Comedy Production. The award ceremony is May 4th, at Iona College and Gabriel and Alyssa will perform monologues as part of the recognition.

