

THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

A Note from Dr. G

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Superintendent's Corner

The WHS Social Studies Department had an exciting week filled with meaningful learning experiences. Twelve Westlake students, accompanied by Model UN advisor Mr. Anthony Marinaccio, are currently participating in the EF Academy Model United Nations Conference. They are engaging in debates, negotiations, and collaborative problem-solving with students from EF Academy Thornwood and their sister school in Oxford. This three-day event strengthens skills in diplomacy, public speaking, and global awareness. In Sarah Johnson's AP Government and Politics class, students had the rare opportunity to learn about *Tinker v. Des Moines* directly from Mary Beth Tinker. This lesson deepens students' understanding of their First Amendment rights and how the "Tinker Test" applies to more recent cases, such as *Mahanoy Area School District v. B.L.* A thoughtful Q&A helped students connect constitutional principles to real situations. Middle school students also enjoyed an inspiring literacy experience when Library Media Specialist Lenore Rotanelli welcomed author and storyteller David Neilsen to the Whearty Theater. The visit was made possible through a grant from the Mount Pleasant Education Foundation. At Columbus, students celebrated World Kindness Day by wearing purple kindness shirts, performing simple acts of kindness, and recording their good deeds on the cafeteria Kindness Board. Thank you to School Counselor Mrs. Cotrone for leading this uplifting celebration. Finally, the Westlake Players are preparing to open "It's a Wonderful Life" next week in the Whearty Theatre. Performances run November 21-23, with a special Senior Citizen Luncheon on November 23. Tickets are available at <https://cur8.com/22038/project/135027>

Noticing the Good

This year, the Mount Pleasant Central School District launched a new recognition program called Wildcats to Watch. The program is designed to honor students who exemplify the qualities in our Mount Pleasant Portrait of a Learner, including collaboration, critical thinking, communication, resilience, citizenship, creativity, and strong character. Students are nominated for excellence in areas such as academics, the arts, athletics, character, citizenship, and innovation, and each school's principal selects one honoree who truly stands out.

This month, we proudly recognize Aidan McNamara from Hawthorne, Ella Quin from Columbus, Francesca Sama from WMS, and Chloe McKeon from WHS. These students modeled leadership, kindness, and a strong commitment to learning.

We look forward to celebrating them at next week's Board of Education meeting for the many ways they inspire our school community.



The Week Ahead

- 11/16 - Turkey Trot Registration starts at 9:30
- 11/17 - Coffee & Conversation with Dr. G 6 PM
- 11/18 - HES/CES Conferences 11:15 Dismissal
- 11/19 - HES Picture Retakes, BOE Meeting 7:30 PM
- 11/20 - HES Family Math Night 6:30 PM
- 11/21 - CES 3rd Grade Thanksgiving Feast, WHS Drama 8 PM (also 11/22 8 PM, 11/23 Senior Citizen Luncheon 12 PM 1 PM)



In Awe of the Paw – Wildcat Football!

Last weekend Westlake took down the Pearl River Pirates 33-28 in a tough game at home. Tomorrow the Wildcats are headed to the Class B Championship! Westlake will battle Sleepy Hollow at 3 PM at Mahopac. You can also watch live (subscription required): <https://sportsengineplay.com/Local-Live/NY-Section-1/2025-Fall-NY-Section-1-Championships-Football>

