

# THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

A Note from Dr. G

Volume 5 Issue 14



## Superintendent's Corner

The days before Thanksgiving break always bring extra energy to our schools, and this shortened week was no exception. From classrooms to hallways, students and staff embraced the season with activities that connected learning, creativity, and community.

At Hawthorne, our youngest artists celebrated the season with kindergarten fall-leaf paintings and tissue-paper trees, first-grade watercolor turkeys inspired by a holiday read-aloud, and second-grade Macy's-style balloon designs plus creative "turkeys in disguise." Check out lots more photos on social media!

Seventh graders at WMS really know how to lean into the Thanksgiving spirit, and this week showed it in several classrooms. In math, students wrapped up their simplifying expressions unit by solving problems that led them to the right turkey for a festive headband, then proudly named their creations, thanks to Ms. Catucci and Ms. Dwyer. In FACS with Ms. Steinberg, seventh graders cooked a variety of holiday dishes and shared a Thanksgiving feast. In Bryan Korzen's class, students took on the Solo Cup Challenge in the Westlake Hero Training Facility, using only strings to build and restack cup floats to "save" a simulated parade. From problem-solving to teamwork to cooking, it was a fun and meaningful week of learning with plenty of seasonal flair.

At WHS, the sophomore class added to the excitement with a spirited fundraiser featuring a "pie in the face" for the teacher who raised the most money. Congratulations and thank you to Mr. McIntyre for being a great sport and supporting the class of 2028 in raising over \$200!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, Wildcats!

## Noticing the Good

In the lead-up to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, our second and third graders put their own creative spin on the tradition by engineering larger-than-life balloons for a "homegrown" hallway parade. The project began with *Balloons Over Broadway* by Melissa Sweet, the story of Tony Sarg—the imaginative puppeteer whose childhood love of making things move helped shape the parade we know today. Inspired by Sarg's ingenuity, students practiced design thinking, collaboration, and perseverance as they turned ideas into festive balloon creations that truly capture the spirit of the season.



Winter Athletics Schedules are up! Visit social media and the athletics page.

WESTLAKE Varsity Girls Basketball Schedule 2025	
Irvington Dec. 4 • 7pm • Irvington HS	Rye Neck Jan. 16 • 4:30pm • Westlake HS
John Jay Cross River Dec. 8 • 4:30pm • John Jay HS	Vulhalla Jan. 23 • 5pm • TBD
Yonkers Dec. 10 • 4:30pm • Yonkers Montessori Academy	Croton Harmon Jan. 26 • 5pm • Croton Harmon HS
Somers Dec. 12 • 4:30pm • Somers HS	Pleasantville Jan. 28 • 4:30pm • Westlake HS
Croton Harmon Dec. 18 • 5pm • Westlake HS	Blind Brook Jan. 30 • 5pm • Blind Brook HS
Pleasantville Dec. 22 • 4:30pm • Pleasantville HS	Ardley Jan. 30 • 4:30pm • Westlake HS
Somers Jan. 7 • 5pm • Westlake HS	Tappan Zee Feb. 6 • 4:30pm • Tappan Zee HS
Bronxville Jan. 10 • 5pm • Bronxville HS	Hendrick Hudson Feb. 11 • 4:30pm • Hendrick Hudson HS
John Jay Cross River Jan. 12 • 4:30pm • Westlake HS	
Hendrick Hudson Jan. 15 • 4:30pm • Westlake HS	

## The Week Ahead *Happy Thanksgiving*

12/1 - WHS PTA Mtg 7 pm, MTPEF Mtg 7 pm

12/2 - WHS College Night for Jrs 7 pm, Elem PTA Mtg 7 pm, WAC Mtg 7 pm

12/3 - HES/CES Trimester 1 Ends, WMS PTA Mtg 7 pm, BOE Work Session 7:30 pm

12/4 - WMS 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Winter Concert 7 pm

12/5 - WMS/WHS 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Midpoint

## In Awe of the Paw - WHS Podcast

This month, I had the pleasure of joining the Westlake WILDCAsT, Westlake High School's student-led podcast. The WILDCAsT was created and is produced by WHS students Milla Uzovich and Marlena Balic, and it highlights student voice, creativity, and thoughtful conversation. I hope you'll take a few minutes to tune in and support this impressive initiative by watching the latest episode:

<https://youtu.be/ixDjk864qXc>

