

THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

A Note from Dr. G

Volume 5 Issue 30



Superintendent's Corner

Noticing the Good

Westlake's chapter of Mu Alpha Theta, the National Mathematics Honor Society, held its annual induction ceremony this week, welcoming 23 new members. To earn membership, students must maintain an overall GPA of 85% or higher and a math GPA of 90% or higher. Congratulations to the 2026 inductees: Marlena, Makayla, Chloe, Alejandro, Gavin, Zoe, Jessica, Lauren, Sophie, Jason, Genevieve, Matthew, Yunning, Jake, Nathaniel, Yash, Isabella, Maria, Marc, Bethany, Milla, Jozsef, and Oliver.

WHS PE teacher Tina Nicodemo gave Westlake seniors a full-circle send-off this week, surprising them with the Parachute for their final Project Adventure class. This throwback activity was the same one they experienced in kindergarten. With Senior Experiences starting Monday, the timing was perfect!

2nd graders were treated to a visit from writer and illustrator Verderico Manganiello, father of student Luna, who shared his creative journey, showcased his published work, and led students through a drawing prompt that had imaginations running wild.

Six 5th graders received the Southeastern Zone Physical Education Award, selected from students across Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, and Dutchess counties: Elle, Ellie, Jolie, Brian, Jack, and Matt.

7th graders wrapped up a Shark Tank-style project that took them through every stage of the Design Thinking Process, from identifying a real problem to building a prototype and delivering a pitch. The entrepreneurial spirit in that room was something to see.

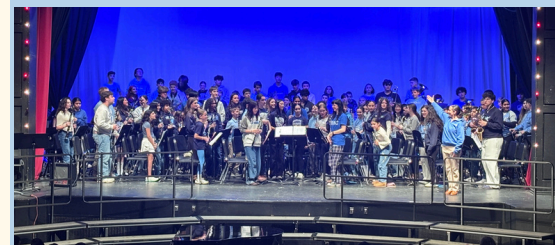
342 students filled Whearty Theater Thursday night for our Third Annual K-12 Pops Concert, and the Wildcats delivered. Vocal and instrumental groups from across the district performed everything from "Do Re Mi" and "Hard Knock Life" to "Thriller," "ABBA on Broadway," and Laufey's "From the Start" before all vocal groups united for "Lovely Day" and all instrumentalists closed with "The Avengers." WHS student Brady Fitzgerald emceed the evening, with Owen Samoyedny on lights and sound. None of it happens without our seven music teachers – John Hahn, Daniel Enoch, Austin Alianiello, Benjamin Appel, Erin Sica, Emily Denler, and Ulysses Torres – and the ongoing support of AMP. Catch all the videos on our social media pages.

Bravo, Wildcats!

Today, Columbus celebrated the ribbon-cutting and dedication of Cunzio Corner, a new library space funded by the PTA in honor of retired principal Mike Cunzio. Mr. Hanlon, Ms. Finno and the CES Student Council offered heartfelt remarks. A wonderful tribute to a wonderful educator.

The Week Ahead

- 4/13 - WHS Experience Begins, WHS PTA Meeting 7 PM, MTPEF Meeting 7 PM
- 4/14 - HES/CES Conferences 11:15 Dismissal, Elem PTA Meeting 7 PM
- 4/15 - WMS/WHS 3rd Quarter Report Cards, BOE Work Session (CBAC Reporting) 7:30 PM
- 4/16 - WHS Spring Concert



In Awe of the Paw – Math Star!

Congratulations to 3rd grader Valerie, a National winner in the Continental Mathematics League's Euclidean Division and the first Columbus student ever to earn this distinction. Valerie achieved a perfect score across all six problems in each of the three meets, competing against students from schools across the country. Founded over 35 years ago, the Continental Mathematics League motivates students to become better problem-solvers through national-level participation and recognition.

