

MAY 2022

WESTERN HILLS ACADEMY

A Word From Our Director

Dear Western Hills Families,

May is here and we are down to the final weeks of the school year. It amazes me how quickly the year has gone by. Our last month of school will be a busy one just like all the others. I'd like to take this time to say **"Thank you"** for having faith in us in educating your children. I can assure you they are well prepared for the next step in their school careers. We, the staff, are grateful for your presence and the never-ending support that you give us.

We kick off May with the celebration of **"Teacher Appreciation Week", May 2-6**. During this week we will be recognizing and thanking our teachers for all the hard work and dedication they show us every single day. Parents, I ask that you join us in celebrating your child's teacher.

If you haven't already registered for the **2022-23 school year**, please come by the office to register. Pre-registration is necessary so that we can order books and other materials for the coming school year. This also helps in determining how many sections of each grade we will have. Next year **school will start on August 22**.

I'd like to thank everyone for supporting our **Scholastic Book Fair**. Our students enjoyed visiting the fair in the library space and most came daily. A big shout out and "Thank You!!" to our mom volunteers, Elissa Espalin, Denise Lerma, Cerrissa Lillebo, and Paula Escapite. Without your help the fair would not have happened.

Finally, it is with much pride and love that we recognize and send off with best wishes **our 5th grade class. Corban Billstone, Joseph Rivera, Gary Klein, Roberta Pacheco and Angela Carrillo** are all finishing their WHA careers and moving on to middle school. We will miss them all, but we know they will go out and continue to make us proud. WHA wishes them the best for continued success in everything they do. God bless them and keep them safe.

Parents, please remember that the **last day of school will be Friday, June 3**. As always, our goal is to continue improving our school for the success of our students, so I welcome you to come by and share any suggestions, comments or concerns.

Best wishes for a safe and restful summer and parents encourage your children to read, read, read. God bless us all. See you in August!

Sincerely,
Patricia Aguirre
Director

Early Learning Center

Nursery

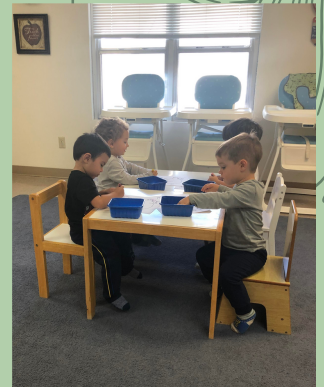
Ms. Lorena Vazquez

Hello Parents,

The year is passing by fast; we are already in May! During the first week, we will be working on the Mother's Day project. Throughout the month, our classroom learning activities will focus on practicing our numbers (1-5), colors- green, blue, red, and we will also be coloring flowers, lady bugs, butterflies, bees, and caterpillars.

Best,

Lorena Vazquez



Terrific 2 Year Olds

Mrs. Marisela

Hope everyone had a great Easter Holiday. This month we will be coloring flowers, butterflies, and bugs. We will be working with the circle shape, the number 3, colors yellow, blue, red, and purple. For Earth Day, the children enjoyed being outdoors and looking for bugs. Thank you Mrs. Jaramillo for the children's bug kits they loved them. We are almost at the end of the school year and the children have grown so much. We all had a fun year. Thank you parents for all your support throughout the year with all the holiday parties. But most of all for the opportunity to care for, guide and instruct your children. A big Thank You for sharing your children with me. Have a safe and wonderful summer. A HAPPY Mother's Day to all moms!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marisela

Early Learning Center

Awesome 2-3 Year Olds

Mrs. Carmen Lerma

It's May and all the flowers are blooming. Wow I can't believe it is almost the end of our school year. This year the children were eager to learn from me and I learned many things from them. This month the children will learn all about Mothers Day, flowers, bugs, and water animals. During the month of May, we will continue to review numbers 1-10, letters of the alphabet, shapes and colors.

This school year has been a great one. I loved having each and every one of your children. The children blossomed into beautiful flowers, and just like flowers they are all different in many ways. Thank you each and every one of you for sharing your children with me this school year. Have a safe and wonderful summer.

My best,

Mrs. Carmen Lerma



3-4 Year Olds

Mrs. Davie & Mrs. Ortiz

May is here, this school year has passed by so quickly. It has been a pleasure being your child's teacher and watching them grow and develop.

During the month of May, our students will continue to review Letters, colors, numbers, and shapes.

Happy Mothers Day to all our beautiful classroom moms. I wish you all a great summer.

Best,

Mrs. Davie, Mrs.Ortiz

Pre-Kinder

Mrs. Mendoza, Ms. Aguilar, Mrs. Mercado

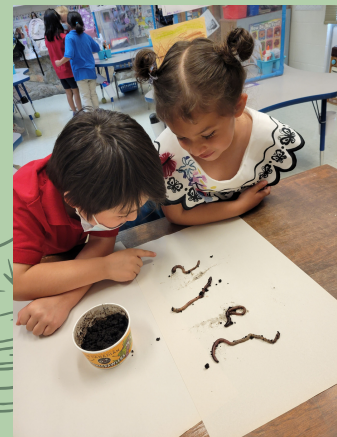
Dear Pre-K Families,

It has been a great month full of exploration! We created a worm garden, planted flower seeds, and explored with magnets. As we continue with Theme 9 "A Place to Dream", we will focus on art, storytelling, music, and movement. As well as reviewing numbers, shapes, letters, sounds and blending sounds. We will be introducing sight words come, down, play, and said.

The student's presentation of certificates is scheduled for Thursday May 26th. As always, we just want to thank you for all your support and your participation in completing your child's ASQ:3 Questionnaire.

Blessings,

Mrs. Mendoza, Ms. Aguilar & Mrs. Mercado



Kinder

Mrs. Cardona

Dear Parents,

During the month of May we will be reviewing everything we have learned so far. Reading and writing and also our handwriting. I am very excited to announce that the students' graduation will be held on Thursday May 26th at 10 a.m.

Kindly,

Laura Cardona

1st & 2nd Grade

Mrs. Lora Ramirez

Dear parents,

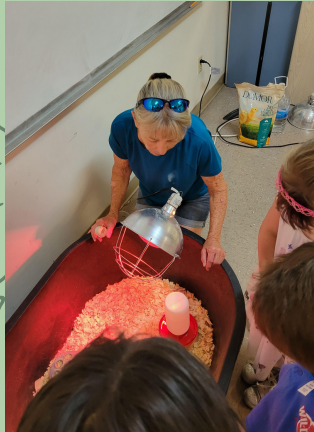
April has been a very busy month as usual. We will end by celebrating "Día de los Niños", (Children's Day).

All of our chicks have hatched, and we were very lucky to have the opportunity to observe the process since the beginning. I would like to thank London's and CJ's mom for providing the eggs. The students also presented their Recycling Projects to the 3-5th graders. They did great!

I'm hoping for May to be as exciting as April was. Thank you for your support and patience. Happy Mother's Day in advance!

Kindly,

Mrs. L Ramirez



3rd Grade

Mrs. Mora & Mrs. Billstone

Dear parents,

We are still just as busy as bees in 3rd grade. Our Easter celebrations were a blessing, and Earth Day was also full of learning activities. Thank you for sending all of the materials that helped make these celebrations a success.

May will bring many more learning opportunities and growth for the students. We will be learning all about bees, pollution, division, Memorial Day, and writing about everything! Please keep your eyes open as more announcements will be sent home throughout the month.

As always, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mora and Mrs. Billstone



4th & 5th Grade

Ms. Stegmiller

The month of May is quickly approaching. The following are some highlights of what the class worked on in April as well as some activities your child will be working on in May. In ELA, the students have created writing pieces using onomatopoeias, idioms, tongue twisters, and alliteration. Using these words or phrases in their writing gives them a sensory effect that they can use to create a vivid imagery. They have also been working on opinion statements. This encourages them to share a point of view that includes detailed supportive reasons for their opinions. Next month, the students will be having a debate on a real-world topic or issue. In reading, the students are engrossed in the novel "Wonder". They have not only been writing daily reflections on concerns that arise in this novel but also have been fact storming by comparing/contrasting, sequencing events, and analyzing the characters. Next month, we might be able to squeeze in a couple of short stories. You can't have enough of good literature. In math, the students are working on GCF, area, volume, angles, converting fractions, multiplying decimals, and average. During math time I try to strive and demonstrate to the students that math can be useful, exciting, engaging, and fun. Next month, we will be working on economics and finances in the form of formulas, models, understanding interest, tax, savings and graphs. The students will be creating a financial goals poster. In science, the students have been working on earth's atmosphere, air masses and fronts, greenhouse effects, climates, and the water cycles. In lab, they created "clouds", edible earth rounds, and weather instruments. Alongside these great activities the students were overjoyed to be a part of hatching chicks. They documented and observed daily the process and development and were so excited when they were able to witness the chicks hatch from their eggs. What a true blessing and a great way to learn about the life cycle of an organism. Next month, the students will be working on astronomy. We will be studying everything in the universe and beyond Earth's atmosphere. The students will be creating a model of the solar system. In social studies, the students are learning about the Presidency of Abraham Lincoln, Emancipation Proclamation, and the Civil War. We discuss how the Civil War paved the way for Americans to live, learn and move about in ways that had seemed all but inconceivable just a few years earlier. In fine arts, the students are "meeting the artists", they are creating pieces using the artists techniques. We have begun learning about Diego Rivera and his mural the "Allegory of California" and Jackson Pollock's abstract piece an "Autumn Rhythm." The students created a large mural to represent El Paso, Texas. It includes Mount Cristo Rey, the Star on the mountain, Rio Grande, the Tramway, El Paso Zoo, and the Franklin Mountains. The mural incorporated all the student's creativity and uniqueness. Next month, we will continue to learn about other famous artists and their contribution to the world of art. Finally, the students prepared an amazing Easter brunch. They made pancakes made from scratch, scrambled eggs, and sausages. What great chefs, the food was delicious. I would like to wish all the mothers/grandmothers a very Happy Mother's Day. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's school year.

Ms. Stegmiller

