

◆ OCTOBER 2023 ◆

# WESTERN HILLS ACADEMY

## A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Thank you to our parents and their partnerships in education with Western Hills Academy. We appreciate all that you do and your engagement in the growth of our child both in academics and in their social-emotional well being.

We have had great day-to-day classroom interactions and events this past month. Your feedback with your teachers and with myself have allowed for great opportunities for learning and pivotal changes when necessary.

We continue to strive for excellence and reach towards our achievement goals. We received a passing inspection by our Texas Department of Health and Human Services inspector as well as, our state gas leak and fire inspections. Yay!! And up next, are the teacher evaluations and their continual process of learning through professional development. I am midway to completing the accreditation process for our elementary and middle school with a submission date of March 1st.

Western Hills Academy is continually moving and upgrading to keep our relevance in serving the community with the high quality education our students deserve. We are part of the EPISD Private Non-profit Network of schools providing equitable services for students that live in that district. Next year, we will include the same partnership with CISD in order to provide our students that live in the Canutillo district with equitable Title services as well.

In the meantime, let us enjoy what this month's events will provide!

- Student Picture Days October 17th (ELC & Siblings) and October 18th (Elementary)
- Decorated Pumpkin Auction October 16th - October 26th
- UMC Church Bazaar October 21st
- Red Ribbon Week - Drug Free America October 23rd-27th Dress-up Days (see flyer)
- Parent-Teacher Elementary School Fall Conferences October 25th - Dismissal at 11:30 am
- Trunk or Treat October 27th 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- November 9th Veteran's Day Program in the Gym (more details to come)
- November 10th NO SCHOOL in honor of Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Luncheon November 15th 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL November 20th - 24th

Many Blessings,  
*C. Sanchez, Ed.S*



# ◆ EARLY LEARNING CENTER ◆

12-17 MONTH OLDS

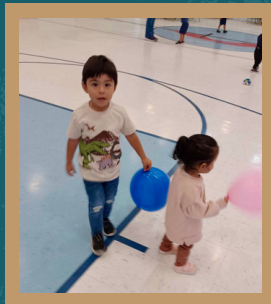
MS. LORENA & MRS. AMPARO

Dear Parents,

In October, we are going to work with fall colors and draw pumpkins, ghosts, and owls. We will celebrate Halloween on Tuesday 31.

My best,

Mrs. Lorena



# ◆ EARLY LEARNING CENTER ◆

18-23 MONTH OLDS

MRS. MARISELA & MISS VALERIA

Happy fall, in the month of October we have been working on the letters (d,e) and as the month continues we will add the letter (f). We continue practicing our body signals that pertain to our Zoo-Phonics and we have implemented the alphabet sign language. Throughout this month we will cover the numbers (4,5,6) and the triangle shape. For Science and Social Studies we have been working on 911, fire safety, ghosts, dissecting a pumpkin, and the color changing of the leaves, and for the following weeks of October, we will be working on candy corn (triangle shape), pumpkins, nocturnal animals (Owls, Bats, Moths, etc), forest, slime and Mummies. We have continued to implement Master Artists such as (Amadeus Mozart, Jackson Pollock, and Mozart). We have learned to familiarize ourselves with our routine but will continue to improve our daily routine.

Birthday wishes to Bobby E. ( October 4th), Ryleigh M. ( October 20th), and Ax G. (October 21st). We will be sending out information regarding our Halloween party.

Best Regards,  
Mrs. Marisela & Miss Valeria



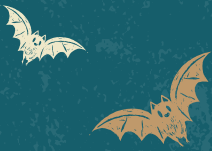
# ◆ EARLY LEARNING CENTER ◆

24-35 MONTH OLD | MISS VERONICA

Hello Parents!

With the month of October comes lots of Halloween-themed activities. We learned all about pumpkins and even dissected one with our friends! We have continued to work on our numbers 0, 1, 2, and 3 and will continue working on these, as well as introducing the numbers 4 and 5. In the class, we have been working on our cutting skills as well as working on other fine motor skills. This month's master artist is Jackson Pollock, and our master artist is Mozart. We will be working on an art project pertaining to Pollock and exploring the music of Mozart. We have been working on our daily classroom routine, getting to know all of our friends, and learning each other's names.

Best Regards,  
Miss Veronica



# ◆ EARLY LEARNING CENTER ◆

24-35 MONTH OLD | MRS. CUEVAS

Hello, I am excited for a new month full of learning and activities  
Happy Spooky Season!

This month, we learned about Fire Safety, Autumn, Pumpkins, Nocturnal Animals, and Halloween. We learned our numbers 4, 5, & 6. We learned our letters D, E, F with zoophonics (Deede the Deer, Ellie the Elephant, Francy the Fish). We learned our shape of the month: triangle, by creating a candy corn and filling it in with the corresponding colors (Orange, White, Yellow). We listened to our composer of the month: Mozart. For Art, We recreated our own Jackson Pollock splatter paint (Using different colors). For science, we dissected a pumpkin and learned about the various parts of a pumpkin (Seeds, Skins, Pulp, Stem).

Upcoming Classroom Events

Oct 20 Decorate our own Treat bags

Oct 27 Create Spooky Slime

Oct 31 Classroom Halloween party



# ◆ EARLY LEARNING CENTER ◆

36-47 MONTH OLDS | MRS. DAVIE

The themes for October will be cats, fall, pumpkins, and Halloween!. The theme room centers will be coordinated to these themes. Our Halloween party will be on Tuesday the 31st.

We will be working on:

Fire safety

Nocturnal creatures\

Red ribbon week

Halloween

Letters; D, E, F

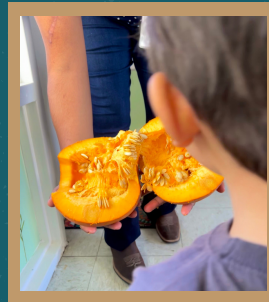
Numbers; 4, 5, 6

Color: black

Shape: triangle

Master artist: Jackson Pollock

Master composer: Mozart



36-47 MONTH OLDS | MRS. ORTIZ

I hope your children have been enjoying school as much as I do.

I enjoy watching your children learn and grow.

As we enter the month of November, children will learn the letters H, I, and J. We will also talk about fall, the pilgrims, Thanksgiving, and what we are thankful for.

I want to give a big shout-out to my room mom Mrs. April Rystad (Mackenzie's Mom) for her amazing work decorating the pumpkins for the silent auction.

I wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving with friends and family

Sincerely

Mrs.Ortiz

# ◆ PRE-KINDERGARTEN ◆

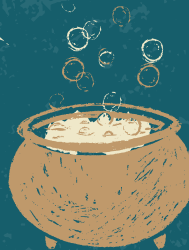
PRE-K 1 | MRS. MENDOZA

Pre-K Families,

In theme 2, "I Take Care of Myself," we focused on safety, health, hygiene, vowels a, e, i, o, & u, and letter recognition. We will continue with letters Tt and Ll along with blends; some students might find this a little more challenging. In Theme 3, we will learn all about neighborhoods, families, homes, manners, and feelings. Sight words covered have been the, I, and see. We will introduce a & is. Please review these sight words with your child. Our field trip to La Union Corn Maze was a great success. Thank you to all who were able to attend. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. Please review folders for important information, your child's work, and sight words.

I look forward to meeting with you at parent-teacher conferences to discuss your child's progress and goals as we proceed into the next grading period. I am truly thankful for all your support.

Blessings,  
Mrs. Mendoza



# ◆ PRE-KINDERGARTEN ◆

PRE-K 2 | MRS. BARNES

Hello Parents!

September FLEW by! It has been such a wonderful experience getting to know more and more about each and every one of your little ones! October has started as a busy month for us as we finished up adding in all of our vowels, learning new sight words, and having adventures as a class! We took our height and weight this month and cannot wait to see how each of our friends grows through the year!

As October continues, we will add in more letters of the alphabet with our class puppet Amber Lamb and new sight words and numbers with Button Bear. The last part of October will be filled with fun and activities, and I cannot wait to see what everyone dresses as during Red Ribbon Week and see y'all at the Fall Festival! Thank you for your continued trust and the opportunity to be your little one's teacher!

Mrs Barnes



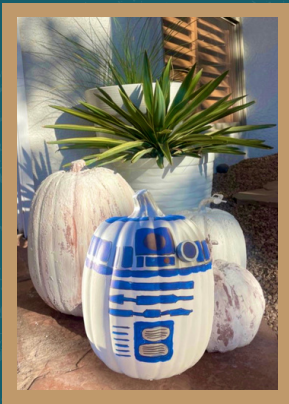


# ◆ KINDERGARTEN ◆

KINDER 1 | MRS. CARDONA

October is here!! Kindergarten 1 has been very busy. We have been learning T, L, B, N, M, and H letter blends and continue to practice our short vowels. In math, we have been counting from 1-100 and working on number recognition from 1-20. I want to thank our room mother, Mrs. Stringfield, for decorating our classroom pumpkin; it's beautiful! We will be auctioning it at our annual Trunk or Treat. Parents, as always, I want to thank you for your continued help and support!

Kindly,  
Mrs. Cardona



# ◆ KINDERGARTEN ◆

KINDER 2 | MRS. MERCADO

Hello Wild Cats families!!

We are having a fantastic October so far! Please be sure to look at your child's red folders for upcoming events. We had an amazing day at the Corn Maze field trip! It was fun all around! Our students enjoyed a day full of fun and outdoor activities!!

We are getting ready for our annual Trunk or treat! So please, if you haven't participated in this yet, this is an excellent opportunity to be part of this great event! Ask for more details in the office.

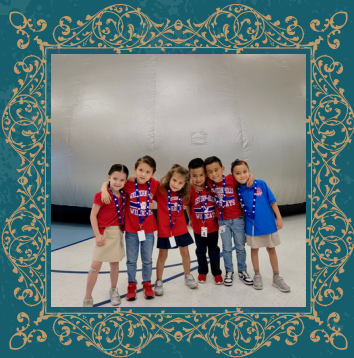
Kids have been doing lots of arts and crafts this month, and they really enjoyed it. A special thanks to our room mom, Mrs. Otero, for her help with this!

Sight words and handwriting practice will continue every day. Thank you so much for your support at home!

Have a great day!

Blessings,

Mrs. Mercado K2



# ◆ 1ST GRADE ◆

## 1ST GRADE | MRS. RAMIREZ

Hello parents:

September was a busy and exciting month. The students were so excited about the planetarium. This month, the students will be having fun with the Trunk or Treat event, and we will be having parent-teacher conferences.

Also, there will be a small celebration for Halloween in the classroom. The students have been working hard, learning new concepts daily, and having fun. Thank you for all your support.

Kindly,

Mrs. Laura Ramirez



# ◆ 2ND GRADE ◆

2ND GRADE | MRS. SOTELO

Reading, Writing, and Science Experiments? Second grade is full of surprises this October. Students have created some amazing storybooks, read some stories that are out of this world, and participated in an outrageous science experiment. This month we will also express our creativity as we study the artworks of Jackson Pollock. Master composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart will help students unwind and relax as we learn more about his life and awesome music. Students are eager to finish the month strong, we will have to wait and see what unexpected surprises our second-grade class has in store for us.

Best regards,  
Mrs. Sotelo



# ◆ 3RD & 4TH GRADE ◆

3RD & 4TH GRADE | MS. HUYNH

Let the fun begin!!!

October is shaping up to be very busy!! We began the month with the Corn Maze field trip and we will be wrapping up the month with Trunk or Treat and a Halloween party!

We celebrated three birthdays this month as well! Olivia, Adam and Luke are one year wiser this month.

This month our Master Artist is Jackson Pollock and our Master Composer is Mozart. I will be requesting a few items to really immerse the class into the world of Pollock!! (Basically just an oversized white t-shirt )

Enjoy the pictures I've managed to capture of the kids! Suffice to say that they are all adjusting to the amount of pictures I try to take of them

Ms. Monica Huynh

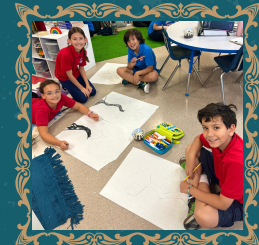


# ◆ 5TH & 6TH GRADE ◆

## 5TH & 6TH GRADE | MR. ARELLANO

Last month 5th and 6th graders completed their periodic element projects and presented them in class. This month we have started a project based on master artist Jackson Pollock and abstract expressionism as well as a book report on the novel Holes that we have just begun reading.

Best Regards,  
Mr. Arellano



# ◆ EXTRACURRICULARS ◆

## SPANISH | MRS. TRAPANI

PRE-K and KINDER's monthly theme is : "El Abecedario".

Kids are learning the sound of each spanish consonant and vowel.

Our materials and sources are videos, worksheets and the workbook.



With students grades 1st-6th we are working on:

- the days of the weeks
- the months and seasons
- greetings and introductions
- polite words



Using different materials accordingly with their grade level.



## CHESS CLUB | MRS. TRAPANI

Chess Club is every Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for grades 3rd and up. Kids already learned basic rules and are now practicing how to play.

Best,  
Mrs. Trapani



# ◆ EXTRACURRICULARS ◆

## BASKETBALL | MRS. CUEVAS

Welcome Wildcats! 2023-2024 Basketball team

I want to introduce our basketball team that has been working hard every Monday and Wednesday from 3:00-4:00 in the gym.

David Espalin  
Matias Pacheco  
Berkleigh Billstone  
Jericho Ozanich  
Adam Flores  
Eden Atkins  
Victoria Reyes  
Leeahni DeGeorge



These students have learned these past months about teamwork, dedication and discipline on the court. We are still learning the rules of basketball and everyday these students give their best on the court and off.

We are always welcoming new students that want to be part of the team and encourage any 4th, 5th, and 6th grade to come join and learn a new skill.

Go Wildcats!  
Coach Cuevas

