End-of-Year Push: Striving for Excellence as the School Year Wraps Up

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

As the end of the school year approaches, we find ourselves in the final stretch of what has been an eventful and rewarding academic journey. With approximately five weeks left, it's time for our students to gear up and strive for excellence in every aspect of their studies.

This is the time when every assignment, every project, and every test matters. It's crucial for students to give their best effort and complete each task to the best of their ability. Whether it's homework, classwork, or preparing for final exams, now is the moment to put in that extra effort to achieve success.

For students, this period can feel intense, but it's also an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge gained throughout the year. Embracing challenges and pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones will not only help them academically, but also foster a sense of accomplishment and resilience.

Beyond academics, the end of the school year offers a plethora of activities and events that enrich the student experience. From exciting field trips to outdoor classes on beautiful days, there are plenty of opportunities for students to engage with their learning environment in different ways. Moreover, we have chorus and band concerts where students can showcase their musical talents and hard work. These events not only celebrate the students' dedication, but also bring the community together in appreciation of their accomplishments.

One of the highlights of the end of the school year is the 8th-grade awards ceremony. We recognize and celebrate the achievements of our students across all subject areas. This ceremony is a testament to the hard work, perseverance, and dedication that our students have shown throughout the year. It's a moment of pride for both students and parents alike.

As we approach the end of the year, let's continue to encourage and support our students in their academic endeavors. Let's remind them of the importance of finishing strong, and the satisfaction that comes from knowing they gave it their all.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. Together, we can make these last weeks of the school year both successful and memorable.

Best regards,

Scott Benton
Mr. Scott Benton, Principal





# **JANUARY WILSON WINNERS**

Each month, two students from grades 6-8 are nominated by their teachers as Wilson Winners. Students may be nominated for any number of reasons, and this spring, all 54 students will attend a field trip to celebrate their achievements. Congratulations to the Wilson Winners for January 2024!

## Sixth Graders:

Angelo Cusatis was nominated by Miss Wilson and Mrs. Forsyth. Miss Wilson nominated AJ for his willingness to always do the right thing. AJ is an outstanding leader and a student with awesome character and work ethic. He completes each and every assignment with maximum effort and always follows directions. He participates in class each and every day. He is always a fantastic friend to all of his classmates. AJ was chosen by Mrs. Forsyth as a Wilson Winner for his outstanding work ethic, being polite, and overall very courteous of her and his classmates. He is always prepared and is a great contributor to class discussions. He has a positive attitude, and he is a pleasure to have in class.

Jaydyn Meyers-Cote was nominated by Mr. Benton and Mrs. Andres. Mr. Benton nominated Jaydyn for exemplifying the epitome of a stellar student, and radiating warmth and respect towards both his peers and faculty. Jaydyn's recent performance in the middle school musical showcased not only his academic prowess, but also his willingness to embrace new challenges with gusto.

# Sixth Graders Cont'd:

Keep shining brightly, Jaydyn, for your endeavors are truly commendable and deserving of praise! Mrs. Andres nominated Jayden for going above and beyond musically and showing maturity and creativity in all of his musical endeavors.

Bree Hollenbeck was nominated by Mr. Benton. Bree shines brightly as a beacon of kindness and respect within the middle school. With her gentle demeanor and quiet leadership, she effortlessly uplifts her classmates and staff members. Always ready to lend a helping hand, Bree's thoughtful actions and warm smile brighten the day of those around her. Congratulations, Bree, on embodying the true essence of a compassionate and wonderful student. Keep spreading your positivity and light!

## **Seventh Graders:**

**Bryson Frerichs** was nominated by Mr. Baker for always being a hard worker in class with a positive attitude. He is polite and always willing to help when needed. Bryson is the perfect role model for all students on what it takes to be a great student athlete.

*Trinity Kaminski* was nominated by Mr. Baker. Trinity brings a lot of positive energy to art class. She is funny and always polite. Trinity always does fantastic work no matter the task at hand, as her work is consistently superior! Great job!





# **JANUARY WILSON WINNERS CONTINUED:**

# **Eighth Graders:**

Yeardley George was nominated by Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Friedrich and Mrs. Aloisio. Mrs. Palmer nominated Yeardley for her work ethic and her kindness towards other classmates. Mrs. Harvey nominated her because she is always willing to lend a hand when someone is in need, whether it be a peer or even a teacher. Her willingness to go above and beyond at a moment's notice is highly appreciated and very much so recognized. Thank you for all your help when I needed vou! Mr. Friedrich also nominated Yeardlev because she is a fantastic student both in and out of the classroom. often asking questions and going the extra yard to complete her work. Yeardley is a dedicated and goal oriented student, who is quick to help her classmates. In addition, Yeardley has a great personality who brings a great perspective to the classroom, and truly makes it an honor to be her teacher. It is without question that Yeardley will be successful in whatever she decides to do! Keep up the great work Yeardley! Mrs. Aloisio also chose Yeardley. She is a conscientious student who comes to the English classroom prepared to give optimal effort. She sets high standards for herself and exceeds them. Additionally, she is loyal and considerate of her peers. This work ethic and thoughtfulness presents Yeardley as a role model to her peers.

# Eighth Graders Cont'd:

Andrea Faery was nominated by Mr. Baker and Mrs. Harvey. Mr. Baker nominated Andrea because she is a very mature and responsible student. She is super creative and always polite. Andrea is a pleasure to teach in art. Mrs. Harvey nominated her because she is always willing to lend a hand when someone is in need whether it be a peer or even a teacher. Her willingness to go above and beyond at a moment's notice is highly appreciated and very much so recognized. Thank you for all your help when I needed you!

Once again, a big congratulations to these seven students on being such great role models and representing Wilson Middle School.





# **FEBRUARY WILSON WINNERS**

# Sixth Graders:

*Madison Mason* was nominated by Mrs. Forsyth because she is the most polite young lady to everyone that she comes in contact with. Madison puts forth outstanding effort in all of her school work. She is a great role model and a pleasure to teach. Keep up the great work, Madison!

Robert Pennell II was nominated by Miss Wilson. Not only does Robby do a great job on all of his own work, but he constantly goes above and beyond to help others. When he is finished with his assignments, he offers to assist others, while demonstrating kindness and patience. With Robby's help, classmates have gained a deeper understanding of content.

Brooklyn Jones was nominated by Mr. Benton. Brooklyn's dedication to her academic pursuits and her outstanding character make her a shining example within our school community. Her commitment to her studies not only reflects her personal drive for excellence, but also serves as an inspiration to her peers. Brooklyn is known for her compassionate nature. She consistently exhibits kindness and empathy towards her classmates and staff members, treating everyone with courtesy and respect. Moreover, Brooklyn possesses a wonderful sense of humor and a naturally good-natured personality. Her positivity and lighthearted approach to life brighten the days of those around her and contribute to a supportive and uplifting school environment. Congratulations, Brooklyn!

## Seventh Graders:

Angelina Dagustine was nominated by Mr. Sippel. It has been a pleasure having Angelina in class this year. She has a great attitude and work ethic. Angelina is always willing to do whatever is asked of her and is an active participant in class discussions. She is always striving to do her best! Well done!

**Brynn Lepsch** was nominated by Mr. Moberg. Brynn brings a positive attitude to class each and every day. She excels in the classroom and in her extra curricular activities, showing great dedication as a student-athlete. She is a pleasure to have in class and a role model to all of her peers. Fantastic work, Brynn!

# **Eighth Graders:**

Madden Harris was nominated by Mrs. Palmer and Mr. Friedrich. Mrs. Palmer nominated Madden for being a polite young man who is a hard worker and kind. Mr. Friedrich nominated Madden because he has shown exceptional growth as a student over the last couple of months! He is consistently proactive in class, is quick to get to work, and stays focused on the tasks or assignment at hand. Madden is also willing to lend a helping hand to his peers, from lending a writing utensil, to helping his classmates answer questions, he is there to help and guide his classmates. He has done a fantastic job and it is great to see that his teachers want to recognize him for that! Fantastic work Madden, the sky's the limit!

Liam Josker was nominated by Ms. Mahar and Miss Henzel. Ms. Mahar nominated Liam because he has been a very motivated and responsible member of the Anchor News. He has put a lot of time and effort into learning the editing software, and always asks if there is anything he can do to help. He is also an exceptionally kind person, and a role model for his peers. Miss Henzel nominated Liam because he always works his hardest both in academics and extracurriculars and is willing to lend a hand to others. He is a reliable member of the stage crew who always makes the most of his time and is constantly looking for the next thing he can assist with. Liam sets a great example for the other crew members every day.





# **MARCH WILSON WINNERS**

# Sixth Graders:

Chaeli Hoffman was nominated by Mr. Benton. Chaeli has been selected as a Wilson Winner for her unwavering positivity and compassionate demeanor. Chaeli consistently demonstrates respect and kindness towards both staff and her peers, creating a welcoming and supportive environment. Her ability to maintain a positive outlook and treat everyone with courtesy distinguishes her as a role model within our school community.

Sandra Albrecht was nominated by Mrs. Wass. Sandra displays an extreme level of caring and kindness to others every single day. She is always offering to help others while putting her own needs aside. Every morning she walks her friend to her classroom making sure she gets there safe and sound. It is an absolute pleasure to have Sandi in the classroom. She is an excellent role model for others.

*Kara Pippard* was nominated by Mrs. Forsyth. Kara is recognized for her outstanding work ethic and pleasant demeanor. Kara comes to class every day prepared and ready to learn. She is pleasant to all who are around her.

# **Seventh Graders Continued:**

*Teddy Andrews* was nominated by Ms. Mahar. Teddy has shown an impressive amount of responsibility and growth during this school year. He is a dedicated, conscientious student who serves as a role model for his peers. The Anchor News has been successful because of his motivation and commitment. Well done Teddy!

*Grace Wills* was nominated by Mrs. Salvatore. Grace is a model student. She is kind, responsible, hardworking and always willing to help her classmates. Grace is looked at as one of the go to students in the grade level when it comes to being a leader and someone to count on to do a fantastic job.

# Eighth Graders:

*Natalie Shackelford* was nominated by Mr. Baker for being a hard working student who always brings a smile and positive energy to class. Natalie's positivity can be seen throughout the school day, which positively impacts her classmates and teachers. She is a pure joy to teach and count on! Great work!

Shiann Mason was nominated by Mr. Alderman, Mrs. Aloisio and Mr. Friedrich, Mr. Alderman nominated Shiann because she is a hard worker, a nice kid and contributes a lot to the class. Mrs. Aloisio nominated Shiann because she is a goal driven student, going above and beyond expectations. She is responsible and proactive. A beautiful smile can be seen, always! She is a role model to her peers.. Mr. Friedrich nominated Shiann because Shiann has been the perfect role model for her classmates and peers all year. Shiann is proactive in asking questions, making sure her work is completed in a timely manner, and asking for help. Shiann can also be seen with a smile on, saying good morning to her teachers, or even asking how their day has been. Shiann is the perfect example of what we look for in a Wilson Winner!



# WILLY WONKA, JR. CAST

Wil	ly Wonka/Candy Man.	Jude Cyphert
Cha	rlie Bucket	Logan Cruz
Gra	ndpa Joe	Caspian Gustafson
Gra	ndma Georgina	Natalie Shackelford
		Mason Jeffords
		Yeardley George
Mrs	Bucket	Lyllian Cramer
		Amora Randolph
		Jaydyn Meyers-Cote
		Makenna Estep
		Zaira Nulla
		Lexus Hailey
		Maria Taravella
Mr.	Salt	Haleigh Kopp
		Kennedy Andrews
		Sophie Everest
		Makaila Akers
		Lucy Metro
00	MPA-LOOMPA 1	Grace Wills
00	MPA-LOOMPA 2	Noah Roman
		Madison Horn
00	MPA-LOOMPA 4	Luna Helferty

OOMPA LOOMPAS: Ella-Rose Boyce, Macaela Boyer, Ava Brackney, Dean Clark, Armeenae Dishunts, Rylee Faucett, Charlotte Fay, Jennifer Fouby, Kailyn Gentile, Quinlan George, Joseph Greene, Juliana Jeffords, Kinsley Kopp, Jaydan Meyers-Cote, Alexander Perry, Amora Randolph, Reese Reynolds, Madelyn Serafini, Meadow Snyder, Addison Thrush, Chloe Weaver, Reese Woolson, Harper Zimmerman

<u>KIDS</u>: Amora Randolph, Kaitlyn Gustafson, Jaydan Meyers-Cote

<u>GERMAN DANCERS</u>: Ella-Rose Boyce, Luna Helferty, Madison Horn, Noah Roman, Madelyn Serafini, Chloe Weaver, Grace Wills

<u>SQUIRRELS</u>: Lyllian Cramer, Yeardley George, Kaitlyn Gustafson, Natalie Shackelford

# WILLY WONKA, JR STAGE CREW

STAGE MANAGERS: Carter Kopp, Colleen Cliffe,

Cassie Ranney

BACKSTAGE CREW: Grace Faery, Mariela Dirig,

Elliot Woolson

**SPOT OPERATORS**: Aliah Hallatt, Onna Warren

<u>LIGHT BOARD</u>: James Snyder

SOUND: Will Howard, Cora Everest, Brooklyn Nye

<u>PAINTERS</u>: Olivia Brodfuehrer, Lyllian Cramer, Mariela Dirig, Anthony Enzinna, Sophie Everest, Grace Faery, Yeardley George, Jackson Gormley, Aliah Hallatt, Marley Halona, Liam Josker, Carter Kopp, Madison Mason, Brooklyn Nashwinter, Zaira Nulla, Brooklyn Nye, Cassie Ranney, Onna Warren, Elliot Woolson **DIRECTOR/MUSIC DIRECTOR:** 

Claudia Andres

**STUDENT DIRECTOR**: Haleigh Kopp

**SCENIC DESIGN**: Michael Kopp

PROPS: Jenn Kopp

ADMINISTRATIVE: Amanda Parker

**CHOREOGRAPHY**: Alison Hogan,

Kamila Marschner

**STAGE MANAGER**: Catherine Henzel

**SOUND**: Will Howard

**MAKE-UP CREW ADVISOR:** 

Jaime Lepsch



























In preparation of learning about the Holocaust and reading The Diary of Anne Frank play, our 8th grade students attended the play I Never Saw Another Butterfly at the Starry Night Theatre in North Tonawanda on Wednesday, March 6, 2023. The powerful, one-act drama told the story of how children and their very special teacher kept hope alive during the horrors of the Holocaust by engaging in the arts and relying on each other. The show was based on a true story featuring poems and artwork inspired by authentic work created in the Terezin concentration camp. Upon returning to school, our students enjoyed lunch and some time together. The afternoon consisted of meeting Mrs. Evie Weinstein, a second generation daughter of a Holocaust survivor. Through the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, Mrs. Weinstein educates students all over Western New York of her own story from the Holocaust. In the end, her message to our students was to have "tolerance of others" and "do not be a bystander". If we could do this, then maybe history won't repeat itself. This was Mrs. Weinstein's first time here at Wilson and we look forward to welcoming her again so she can continue spreading her message of hope.

# A HOLOCAUST DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

# 6th GRADE VOLUME PROJECT

Students in Miss Wilson's math class became fish tank engineers in order to demonstrate their knowledge of volume and surface area. Rather than take a test at the end of their unit, the students engaged in this project-based learning activity. They were able to choose a "customer" who then filled out an order form to provide the students with a guideline for their fish tanks. The students were then tasked with making a 3-D model of a fish tank that fulfilled their customer's order. Students had to take several factors into account including volume, surface area, and overall theme. Students were allowed to choose materials for their project. The project also included a short writing piece, explaining how the customer's needs were met, and an oral presentation.

The 6th-graders did an outstanding job on such an in-depth project! There were many tanks that had personalized themes such as Buffalo Bills, SpongeBob, and even a kitchen-themed tank! Students were very creative in their designs and particular with their measurements. Some students even had to learn how to make a scale model in order to meet the volume their customer requested!















# CROSS CURRICULAR CORNHOLE BOARDS

Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Harvey and Mr. Baker teamed up on an impressive cross-curricular project this year that yielded fantastic results! During their woodworking class with Mr. Harvey, 7th and 8th grade classes constructed miniature cornhole boards that were about 12" long. They used the tablesaw, bandsaws and the drill press to cut the wood parts. They then assembled their board with the pneumatic nailer and finished the project by sanding off any rough edges in preparation for painting in art class.

Next, students sewed together miniature 2" bean bags in Mrs. Harvey's class, to use with the boards. They picked their own fabric, sewed their bags together and then filled the bags with rice. In Mr. Baker's art class, students designed thematic artwork to paint on their boards. Some themes included Americana, nature, whimsical characters, and abstract ideas.

The end results were functional, miniature cornhole boards painted with colorful designs. Many of the boards were featured in the Annual Student Art Show which will be on display in the Library Media Center throughout the month of May. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Harvey and Mr. Baker for teaming up to create such a fun and creative project that allowed their students to combine the skills they learned in each of their classes to create a useful and entertaining final product.

















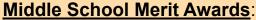
# 30th ANNUAL SYLVIA McCUAIG **ART SHOW**

Mr. Baker's 7th and 8th grade students participated in the 30th Annual Sylvia McCuaig Art Show during the month of May. Judges selected various pieces to win cash prizes!

Winners included:

# **Middle School Best in Show:**

Mason Jeffords



Natalie Shackelford Jesse Rae Maggi Trinity Kaminski & Emily Bell Madison Horn Lily Gurski, Natalie Shackelford and Kelly Centeno Trinity Kaminski

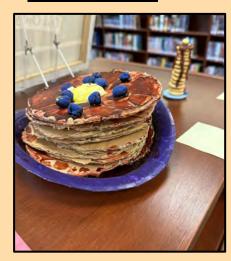
# Middle School Principal's Award:

Hailey Hendricks

# Superintendent's Award:

Mr. Baker's 10th Period Class

















# **YOUNG WRITERS SHOWCASE**

The first ever Young Writers Showcase was held in the Library Media Center on April 18th at 6PM. Almost 50 pieces were on display from students in grades 6-12, including 15 pieces from middle school students. Most of the entries were essays, short stories and poems, but many of the seventh grade entries were also podcast scripts, written by groups of 3-4 students.

The following middle school students had work on display:

Sixth graders: Alexandria Mattice and Ella Rose Boyce Seventh graders: Elliot Woolson, Kayla Connor, Aaron Hoose, James Snyder, Rachim Montes, Hailey Hendricks, Trinity Kaminski, Callie Stevenson, Lynsee Yoder, Lucy Metro, Alonna Rumsey, Jaxon Herb, Calvin Lawson, Morgan Boyer, Havannah Day, Riley Kolan, Mikaila Akers, Cora Everest, Zaira Nulla, Teddy Andrews, Peyton Deming, Onna Warren and Travis Green Eighth graders: Jude Cyphert and Lexus Hailey

Jude Cyphert performed a reading of his short story entitled, "Those Sunken Eyes". Kudos to all the students who submitted work for display, and thank you to all the families who attended to show their support. Thanks to English teachers *Mrs. Erin Forsyth*, *Ms. Catie Henzel* and *Mrs. Karen Aloisio* along with school librarian *Ms. Maureen Mahar* for organizing the show and providing snacks during the reception. Special thanks to the *Educational Study Council*, for approving a grant that was used to purchase display materials. The plan is for the Showcase to become an annual event so middle schoolers are welcome to start thinking about ideas for next year!









# MRS. WASS'S IDITAROD RACE

Every year, Mrs. Wass's 6th grade reading class participates in the last great race, otherwise known as The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. The students learned the history of the race, which began as a race to get a much needed vaccine to the village of Nome in order to end the diphtheria epidemic. Students also learned about the rules and regulations of the race, as well as statistics, and general information about raising and training sled dogs. Students chose a musher to research and follow throughout the race. The students found that the Iditarod is a very adventurous and dangerous race. There were 3 mushers that were attacked by a moose! Archer Serianni was the winner in the classroom, with his musher Jeff Deeter coming in 4th place with a time of 9 days 11 hours 52 minutes and 35 seconds. Aubrey Josker, with musher Jeff Reid, won the Red Lantern. The Red Lantern award is given to the last place finisher, and represents perseverance. The whole class had a great time learning about the race and following their mushers!





# SCHOOL LUNCH

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD



DANIELLE BROWN, PATTY TAGG, KAREN WAINMAN, AUDREY WOODWORTH AND JENNIFER LYSIAK

. . . . . . . . .

With sincere thanks from your WCS family for all that you do for us!

# MRS. FORSYTH'S ART RAFFLE

As part of an incentive program for her students, Mrs. Forsyth organized a raffle held in the LMC that took place on Thursday, March 14, 2024. The students earned tickets for good behavior, completing work on time, and kind acts. They earned enough tickets to use for the raffle that included thirty-two paintings and art related prizes. The idea to have the raffle originated when Mrs. Forsyth's son *Max*, who is currently working on his BFA in painting and illustration at Daemen University, decided that he wanted to donate some of his original paintings to a good home rather than sitting in his art studio in his basement. The students were very excited to use their well earned tickets in hopes to win an original piece of art. In addition, Max visited the middle school on the day of the raffle to draw the winners' names and to talk to them about art. He even received a few requests to draw some pictures for them on site. The raffle was a huge success and a fun experience for all involved.















# 8th GRADE GETTYSBURG/WASHINGTON DC TRIP

On April 24th, 8th grade students and chaperones adventured to Gettysburg, PA for the first stop of their three day trip. After a full day visiting historic Gettysburg, exploring the Civil War Battlefield site, and a private tour of the grounds, students went to their final destination near Washington DC.

During their second day, students and chaperones had a day filled with a guided tour of Washington DC's sites including; the White House, Capitol, Supreme Court, Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, World War II Memorial, Korean War Memorial, FDR Memorial, MLK Jr. Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, and more. Students and chaperones walked over 10 miles taking in every moment possible of our historic United States capital.

On the final day, they toured the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, (Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center) where they viewed many historical space and aircraft exhibits.

The first 8th Grade Washington DC Trip was a smashing success and the teachers are thrilled to announce they are already planning our second trip in April 2025. A presentation for incoming 8th grade students and parents will be given in September to prepare for the next Washington DC trip. Stay tuned!











WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT 374 LAKE STREET WILSON, NY 14172

# Comfort Closet

# Location

MS/HS Guidance Office

# What is it?

The comfort closet offers
FREE male and female
hygiene products for
students, families and staff
that are in need.
No questions asked.

Any questions or donations refer to Mrs. Taylor, MSW





# What's in it?

- Full size Deodorant
- Body Wash/ Bars of Soap
- Full size Shampoo/
   Conditioner
- Brushes

- Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Mouthwash, Floss
- Shaving cream
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Feminine Products

# UNDERWATER MURAL BY MRS MEYERS'S CLASS



Mrs. Meyers's star students created an underwater mural in Mr. Baker's art class. The students worked hard on the drawings and perfected it with acrylic paint. With the help of Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Jordan the students added some real sea glass and seashells to create this mixed media artwork. We are so proud of how great they worked together to create this masterpiece.











Mr. Baker's Art Classes showed the teachers just how much they mean to them during Teacher Appreciation week!! The sidewalks around the Middle School were filled with words of praise and thanks!

# TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

