



THE WARRIOR WITNESS

January 2024

HOMECOMING 2024

KING & Queen



Nathanael De Pena and Natalie Rogers



MS/HS

We've Got Spirit, Yes We Do!
We've Got Spirit, How 'Bout You?



ELEMENTARY



Celebrate Literacy Week



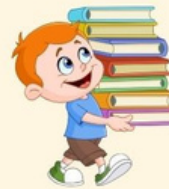
January 23- January 26

We are excited to participate in Celebrate Literacy week at the end of this month. We have fun activities planned for our students throughout the week to help encourage their love for reading! The details are listed below.



Tuesday: D.E.A.R. Time (Drop Everything And Read) students K-2 will partner with students 3-5 to spend time reading together outside under the pavilion.

Wednesday: Vocab with Mrs. V
Mrs. V will read in the classrooms.
Wear a shirt with a positive message.



Thursday: Dress like a newspaper
Dress in black and white.

Friday: Book Character Day and Parade:
Students come to school dressed as a storybook character. (Bring a book with the character if you have one). Students will go on parade outside around the soccer field at 8:30 AM.

Parents, please come line up around the field and cheer on our characters!

We hope this week will help our students see that reading is FUN! Thank you for your participation and support!
Mrs. V.



*Blue jeans may be worn Tuesday-Thursday.

ELEMENTARY

Congratulations to our Elementary Christmas Art award winners!

3rd grade snow globes:

1st Keelee Bringle

2nd Iarah Veras

3rd Jason Mulcahy

4th Liam Widener

4th grade Nutcrackers:

1st Destiny Letang

2nd Manika Salomon

3rd Jeremiah Phillips

4th Marina Del Ray Denton

5th Emily Cianfaglione

6th Delimel Alvarado

7th Mya Brocco

HM. Roodjaney Dorce

5th grade Christmas Cards:

1st. Alayna Baker

2nd Norah Minter

3rd Mia Larregui

A special thank you to Mrs. S and all of her hard work with our students!



MS/HS

Freshman competes in national chess tournament

-- By Raija Fiskum
WHCS Sophomore



Anon Fiskum has been an active WHCS Chess Club member since its inception in 2022, and he is now taking his love for the game outside school walls to tournament halls!

Not only has he competed as an independent in the largest Scholastic Chess Tournament in the country with Polk Scholastic, but over Christmas break he competed in the National K-12 Grade Championships in Orlando, sponsored by the US Chess Federation.

The National K-12 Grade Championships Chess Tournament was comprised of seven rounds, with each round lasting up to three hours - that's a lot of concentration! Anon played all seven rounds, and while he had some hard losses, he also had some amazing wins and looks forward to future competition. GO WARRIORS!



Does WHCS make a difference?

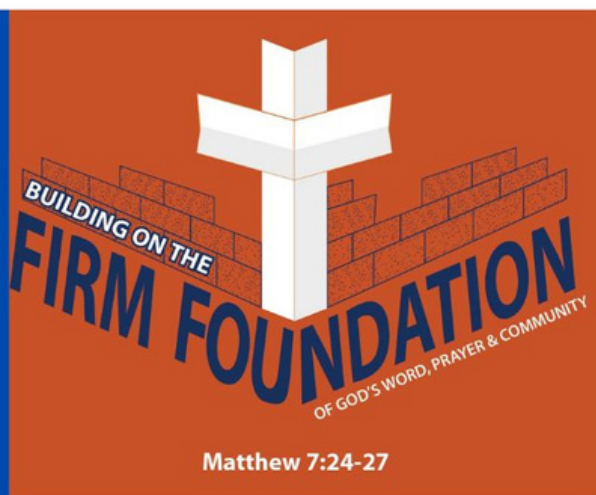


We say...YES

HEAR WHAT SOME OF OUR 9TH GRADE STUDENTS RECENTLY ANSWERED WHEN ASKED TO SHARE ABOUT THE TRUTH OF JESUS



Jesus makes a difference in my life everyday. He's guided me through life. He shows grace to me every time I mess up. When I go through things I know He will be with me.



"Experiencing struggles at a young age is hard to understand..."

I was given nice parents, a nice family & have gotten to know many amazing people...

Having Jesus' Truth in my life has really changed a lot."



He's brought light & peace. I now have a purpose & a never ending hope of a better future.



"The Truth of Jesus has made a difference in my life because I know He is always there for me with open arms whenever I fall back."

**ALWAYS OUR GOAL:
EQUIPPING STUDENTS
CHANGING LIVES
IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY**

"It has helped me to start doing devotions & reading my Bible & setting aside time for Him."

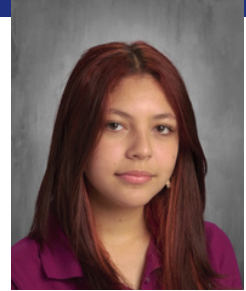
"He changed my perspective on how I view everything..."



"It's helped me find my true worth."



Warrior archer hopes to keep hitting the bullseye



Milerys O'Farrill, a sophomore at WHCS, is on the Warrior's archery team. She has been a student at Winter Haven Christian for the past 5 years and has participated in archery on and off since 7th grade. Her favorite part of archery is its relaxing quality.

"It's just fun," she says, "focusing on the target being able to tune everything out and getting better" by making small adjustments to see great improvements. The precision element of archery makes careful mental and physical preparation necessary to ensure the greatest accuracy with each shot.

When asked what helps her successfully hone in on the target, she said, "I try not to think too much about what is going on around me." She discussed the mental checklist that she maintains, which she makes sure to "check things off" so that every detail lines up just right to ensure the best shot possible. A good stance and a steady grip on the bow, among other things, are some items that she takes care to confirm before finally releasing the arrow. Also taking a breath while aiming has helped improve her focus.

What does Milerys want to accomplish going forward in this year's season? "Just to stay in the reds and yellows," she says, or in other words to stay as close as possible to hitting the bullseye. With her careful methodology and preparation, this is a goal well within reach for her and we all look forward to seeing her continued progress and success in this sport that she enjoys.

--By Gabrielle Hensel
WHCS Freshman

WARRIOR SPORTS



OUR FIRST EVER **BASKETBALL/CHEER** **FAMILY NIGHTS!**



Our athletes will be recognized and their families will join them on the court at the start of the game. Cheerleaders and their families will be honored during halftime. All will receive a special treat! See the schedule below. **Congrats to our middle school boys and families who were honored Jan. 11.**

Jan. 23

Varsity Girls

Families arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 26

JV Boys

Families arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 26

Varsity Boys

Families arrive at 7 p.m.

Jan. 26

Cheer Squad

Families arrive at 7:30 p.m.

Boy's Varsity:

1/19 @ CCA
1/25 vs. Crossroads Christian
1/30 vs. MBLA
2/1 vs. Florida College Academy
2/6 @ Ridge Christian Academy
2/9 vs. Florida College Academy

Boy's JV:

1/19 @ CCA
1/23 vs. JV opponent
1/25 vs. Crossroads Christian
1/26 vs. CCA
2/1 vs. Florida College Academy
2/6 @ Ridge Christian Academy
2/9 vs. Florida College Academy

Boy's Middle School:

1/19@ TBA
1/26 vs. TBA
1/30 vs. TBA
2/8 @ TBA
2/10 vs. TBA
Girl's Varsity:
1/25 @ RGSA
1/30 vs. MBLA
2/1 vs. Florida College Academy
2/2 vs. Bell Creek Academy
2/5 vs. FISHS
2/9 vs. Florida College Academy

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Joseph Ellis: His Christian Walk at Moody Aviation

By: Annelise Kisby
WHCS Sophomore

Joseph Ellis, a recent graduate from Winter Haven Christian, is learning to become a missionary pilot at Moody Aviation of Moody Bible Institute. He defined a missionary pilot as someone who flies airplanes or helicopters into remote areas to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the people in that community.

Being a missionary pilot was not even, in Ellis's words, "on the table" until his senior year of high school. There are many reasons why he did not always see himself following this path, whether it be the over \$100,000 tuition, the distance of Moody Aviation from his home in Florida, the expense of a private pilot's license, or just how he was not known as a risk taker. But, through his joy of aviation and the encouragement and prayers of fellow Christians, he felt called to be a missionary pilot.

Ellis shared a few tips for those also wanting to be a pilot. "If you believe that God has given you the love for flying and the desire to be a pilot, pray for a door to open. However, don't wait for a door to open; check and see if it is unlocked. How foolish is it for a farmer to pray for a healthy crop if he hasn't planted any seed in the ground? Christians must do their part and rely on God in the unknown." He also described the importance of self-confidence and work ethic and that one could still be a pilot despite a fear of heights.

His key motivator in his studies and work for the Lord is the death of Christ. His explanation was, "What was Jesus' call, but to save humanity from eternal damnation and to reconcile God and man? Jesus has reconciled me to God, and I want to serve God for the rest of my days because of this great sacrifice that I do not deserve."

REMINDERS

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Equipping Students,
Changing Lives,
Impacting the Community



Dates to Remember:

- Jan. 18 - Open House for new families
- Jan. 19 - Preschool to Crayola Experience
- Jan. 19-26 - Youth Fair
- Jan. 22 - No School Parent Teacher Conferences
- Jan. 22 - Junior Guidance Conferences
- Jan. 23-26 - Elementary Literacy Week
- Feb. 1 - Senior Pictures due to Mr. Klein
- Feb. 2 - Early Release
- Feb. 12 - Creative Arts Academy to State Fair
- Feb. 16 - Early Release
- Feb. 19 - No School President's Day
- Feb. 21 - Construction Academy to Cemex
- Feb. 23 - MS Bowling Night
- Feb. 27 - MS/HS Educational Field Trips

Follow our social media pages!

Facebook: Winter Haven Christian School

Instagram: @whcswarriors