



DID I TELL YOU...

Wyoming Valley Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School ~ 476 Third Street, Mountain Top, PA 18707
570-868-5958

Important Dates

Feb. 12-16 Church History Week
Feb. 16 12N Dismissal
Feb. 19 No School Presidents' Day
Feb. 22 12N Dismissal OEM—Teachers
Feb. 24 Church services at Berwick, Slocum, Drums
Mar. 2-3 Music Fest
Mar. 10 Church services at Wyoming Valley, Beaumont
Mar. 16 End 3rd Quarter
Mar. 23 12N Dismissal
Mar. 26-30 No School Spring Break

Registration

2018-2019

Going on NOW! Register early and take advantage of discounts.

School Evaluation

Wyoming Valley SDA Elementary School underwent a formal evaluation this fall which culminated in an on site visit by evaluators on January 29 and 30. The evaluation process is a very professional and intensive process which takes a careful look at all aspects of school life, academics, operations, safety and facility. The goal of the evaluation process is to identify strengths and weaknesses in the school program and to assist the local school board and administration in planning and setting goals for future improvement.

The Visiting Committee has recommended a six year term of approval, which is the maximum allowed, with interim visits during years two and four. They commended the strong local leadership team for working together to put the school on a solid positive course. The school has an outstanding academic program, is taking decisive action to correct cash flow concerns, is creating a safe and nurturing learning climate, is making positive connections and partnerships with community entities, is working to up-grade the facility and plan for the future.

The Visiting Committee spent about an hour interviewing our students and was very impressed with the excitement and pride that the students have in their school and the positive relationships they have with the teacher and pastor. The committee commented several times on the positive attitude of the children, their sense of personal investment in the educational process, their desire to learn and to do their best, and the overall sense of pride, safety and security that they felt in their school.

Special thanks is extended to all who have helped in the evaluation process. It is the dedication and cooperative efforts of our constituents and friends that make excellence in our school possible.

School Choice Week

What a privilege it is to live in the United States of America where we can freely establish and attend Seventh-day Adventist Schools. Ellen White counseled Seventh-day Adventists to found a school for their children at the time they establish a church. She spoke clearly and strongly about the need for our children to be educated in our schools. She stated that parents alone cannot counteract the influence government schools have on the children. Today, more than ever, the negative influence of government (public) schools, including public cyber-school, is pulling our children away from their faith. Studies done across denominations and within our own denomination report that about 88% of children raised in a Christian home who have attended public schools leave their faith by their first year in college. The opposite is true for students who attend church schools, about 85% of them remain in the church and become leaders for Christ. Choose Seventh-day Adventist Education for our children!

Excellence in Education ~ Preparing for Service

School Spirit Week

by Eli-Michelle Rodriguez Guzman , Jamir Hinds, Ethan Pinto-Alexander, and Noah Baksa

At WVSDAE School we had fun celebrating *School Spirit Week*. *Spirit Week* was a whole week full of fun and surprises. One of our favorite events was "Bubble Gum Sculpting". We formed teams. Each team was given a big bag of bubble gum. Then the teacher told us

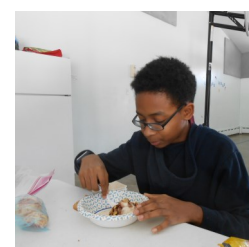


the sculpting topic and set the time limit. When she said "Go," we chewed a LOT of bubble gum, put on rubber gloves, and sculpted the gum. This year we had to make something that we could find on a farm or in the forest. My

team made a sculpture of a tree named "The Wise One". Another team named their sculpture "Poopy". The last team made a sculpture of a frog named "Sundee". We laughed and had a great time.



We also made home-made vanilla ice cream and peanut butter and chocolate chip cookies. Our ice cream was awesome! We ate it with our cookies and topped it with chocolate syrup and nuts. It was really cold and melted fast!



On one day we wore our clothes backwards. Jamir even wore his shoes backwards! Sierra had the craziest hair on "crazy hair day".



Our lifesaver race was really funny! The pastor even joined us for the fun. We had to pass a lifesaver from one straw to the next without using our hands. It was tricky. Eric and Neaj were the all time champions at this game!



We also had a day when we could bring in our favorite table games and play them at recess.

The teacher took us on a surprise swimming trip to the YMCA! Our trip was postponed for a week because of a snow day, but it was a great day.



We work and study hard in our classes, but we also have lots of fun! It is good to have Christian friends and to know that God wants us to learn and do our best, but He also created us to laugh and have fun.

Do Our Students Measure Up Academically?

Each fall our students take the *Iowa Test of Basic Skills* to measure academic growth and determine their performance as it relates to the nationally normed population of students in the public and private sectors. We are excited to report that our students are showing significant academic growth. Most of our students have made an average of two to three years academic growth since the 2016-2017 test was given. A number of our students are performing well above the national average and all are showing marked growth.

Students are held to a high standard of accountability in the classroom. The teacher uses the results of the ITBS as well as formative and summative assessments to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of individual students. All students receive individualized instructional programs in math and language arts to teach to the individual student's strengths and weaknesses. It is our goal to strive for excellence in all areas of our lives and use our talents and abilities to glorify God.



Baking Bread: Fundraiser or Just Fun?!

By Sierra Baksa and Eli-Michelle Rodriguez-Guzman

Wow, we baked nearly 60 loaves of artisan bread in our last bread fundraiser and about 40 loaves in our first bread fundraiser. We baked bread for a whole week each time. We all baked it, took orders, prepared bags and delivered it to our customers.

We had to wear bandanas to cover our hair. We all looked really funny. We scrub our hands and arms, and really cleaned our work space.

Each loaf was made separately. The ingredients were measured into a large bowl and then we stirred all the ingredients together. Our arms got really tired, but we kept at it. After the bread raised, we had to pat it down and fold it. We did that twice, then we put the bread in the refrigerator. Next, we filled the bread with the ingredients that our customers orders. The last step was to bake it. The bread was beautiful and smelled so good when we took it out of the oven.

We over-baked one loaf, but it did not go to waste. We ate it all! It was so good.

We have learned a lot. We can all make bread now. We love baking and helping our school raise money.

Altogether, we have earned over \$550.00 making bread. Thank you to everyone who bought our bread. We hope you enjoyed eating it as much as we enjoyed making it.

Coming Soon to Local Churches

Students will be presenting Sabbath Services at our local churches soon. Check the schedule on page one of this Newsletter. Invite your friends to come to our service. We are glad and excited to be visiting in all the churches.

Pastor'S Corner

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve the Wyoming Valley Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School as Pastor, and on the School Board. I refer to our school as our "Noble Little School" because of the effort put forth to build our children's lives spiritually and academically, while managing to keeping the lights, heat, and water bills paid. G-d has favored our Noble Little School with an enthusiastic educator in Principal Baker as well as those who give of their time and means through Home & School, and Leadership on the School Board. I would add my thanks to the Constituent Churches for the financial support that has been a buffer over the years. Thanks kindly, Your support is not in vain.

May I share also that we are not second rate in matters of academics, as you will read. Our children have made the grade.

My humble request is for constant positive attitude toward our school because it is not the building. It is, and always will be, the precious children who gather safely within its walls to be groomed, and allowed to strive and thrive as individuals, prepared to serve the larger world community with integrity and honor as unto G-d.

Grace and peace be with you all; Pastor M. Moses Andrade.



SPLASH ! A great morning at Hazelton YMCA pool...



Weekly Bible Study and Worship

By Students

Bible study and worship are highlights of our week. Our teacher makes learning about God, creation, and the Bible truths part of all of our classes. Prophecies become clearer as we study history. God's love and guidance become clearer as we learn how He has cared for his people through the centuries. We appreciate God's order and attention to detail as we study our science and math lessons.



Pastor meets with us twice each week for morning worship and once for Baptismal studies. Christ really is the center of all that we do.

Currently, we are completing a study of early Seventh-day Adventist history. It is really interesting to learn how and why our denomination was established, and to learn about the early church pioneers.



Wow! This is more difficult than it looks! But, our cranes are flying!!



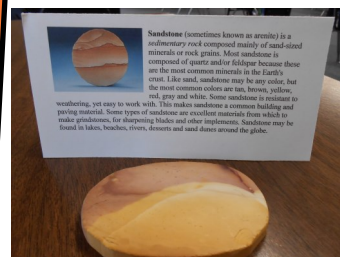
Science: Rocks & Minerals



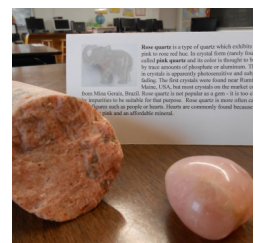
Amethyst is a violet variety of quartz often used in jewelry. The name comes from the Ancient Greek "amethystos" and "metastasis" ("transformation"), a reference to belief that the stone prevented its owner from drunkenness. On exposure to heat, amethyst gives various colors and much of the citrine, cat's paw, or yellow quartz of great economic value. Amethyst was used as a gemstone by the ancient Egyptians. European soldiers wore amethyst amulets as protection in battle. Beads of amethyst were found in Anglo-Saxon graves in England. Amethyst is the traditional birthstone for February.



Agate is a microcrystalline variety of quartz (silica), chiefly chalcedony, characterized by its fineness of grain and brightness of color. Chalcedony agate may be found in various kinds of rock, they are characteristically associated with volcanic rocks. Chalcedony agate is used to make ornaments such as pins, brooches, paper knives, buttons, and so on. Because of its hardness and ability to take a high polish, agate is used to make buttons and pendants to which chemicals are added. The high polish possible with agate has been used for ornaments for ladies' hairpins and buttons.



Sandstone (sometimes known as arenite) is a sedimentary rock composed mainly of sand-sized minerals or rock grains. Most sandstone is composed of quartz and/or feldspar because these are the most common minerals in the Earth's crust. Like sand, sandstone may be any color, but the most common colors are tan, brown, yellow, red, and gray and white. Some sandstone is resistant to weathering, yet easy to work with. This makes sandstone a common building and paving material. Some types of sandstone are excellent materials from which to make grindstones, for sharpening blades and other implements. Sandstone may be found in lakes, beaches, rivers, deserts and sand dunes around the globe.



Rose quartz is a type of quartz which exhibits pink to rose red hue. Beyond some shades the color pink quartz and its color is thought to be the result of inclusions of microscopic inclusions of iron impurities. Rose quartz is a variety of quartz which is found in many places. It is found in many places and is used for jewelry and for decorative purposes. Rose quartz is a variety of quartz which is found in many places. It is found in many places and is used for jewelry and for decorative purposes.