

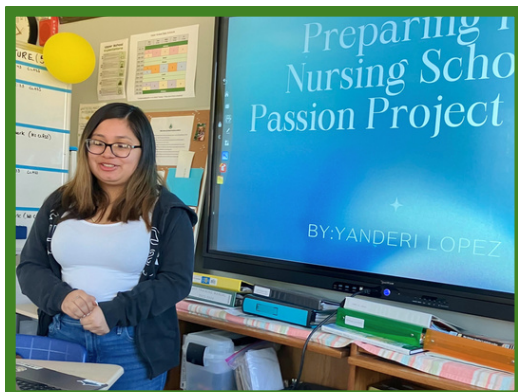
# MARCH UPDATE

## UPPER SCHOOL



### MARCH HIGHLIGHTS FOR WWS FAMILIES

## STUDENTS IN ACTION



## PASSION PROJECTS

All seniors complete passion projects during the second half of the year in Senior Seminar. Check out some exciting projects!

**Bree Outwater** (*top*) - Designing and building a storybook walk for elementary students. This will also serve as her community service project to become an Eagle Scout.

**Yanderi Lopez** (*far left*) - Creating an independent study plan for the second half of the school year and the summer to work towards earning her nursing credentials.

**Andrew Levesque** (*adjacent*) - Designing and constructing a labyrinth in front of the school building for student use.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

Students stamped their passports as they visited Japan, Morocco, the Philippines, Portugal, Brazil and Dubai. At each “country”, students listened to a presentation about the country and then participated in an activity or game celebrated in that country.



## US HISTORY I PROJECTS

Students in Mr. Zadrozny’s US History I class are working on an amendment project. Their task is to select a current section of the student handbook and propose an amendment to administration. So far, the cell phone policy and dress code have been the most popular policies selected for the amendment project.



After the break, students in Mr. Ark’s US History I class will use the Lewis and Clark expedition as inspiration as they find trail-less sections of the campus, map the area, create journals about the mapping of the campus, and document, identify, sketch, and take clippings of the different fauna that they encounter. Students will take drone footage to make this project a reality.

# PROGRAM & POLICY

## >>> PORTFOLIOS

Your child digitally shares their work portfolio with you during advisory (morning or flex) each month. By compiling work throughout their time at WWS, students are able to identify areas of growth and areas of challenge. Additionally, these work samples support our Mastery Transcript process.

You can expect the next round of portfolio work to be shared with you on Friday, April 5th. Be on the lookout for a shared folder in your inbox from your child and reach out to their advisor directly if you do not receive it.

## >>> SCHEDULING

We are already working hard to create the best student programming and corresponding schedules for next school year. Senior parents received emails about math course selection as we will be offering both Personal Finance and Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry next school year. Students will select electives in May and parents will be informed of the offerings as well as the elective selection due dates.

## >>> SUMMER TUTORING

Parents who submitted summer tutoring requests will receive more information by April 15th. Parents will receive their child's assigned tutor and then work directly with the tutor to build a schedule that works for both parties.

## ➤➤➤ CAREER & COLLEGE COUNSELING

There has been quite a bit of talk lately about colleges bringing back the SAT as a requirement for admissions. Notably, schools like Brown, Dartmouth, and Harvard have said they will be bringing back the SAT/ACT for admissions.

The reason for this change in policy is, primarily, due to recent studies which have found that the SAT and ACT can identify students who could be successful in college, but may not have other evidence to suggest they would be successful. There have also been a few studies which suggest that the SAT is more predictive of college success than previously thought. There are some questions as to the validity of some of these studies, but they nevertheless raise some important questions.

By and large, our students here at Windham Woods are not well served by standardized tests, as I am sure many in our community are aware. However, one of the values that Windham Woods holds dear is that we serve the individual needs of our students, and that is our responsibility to stay up to date with advances and new information as it becomes available.

Therefore, given the shift in the winds of standardized testing, we are looking into offering the PSAT here at Windham Woods next year. There are some logistical hurdles that we need to clear first, but offering the PSAT should at least allow us to identify students who might be well-served by taking the SAT or ACT.

There will continue to be many colleges--and nearly all of the student-focused schools that would serve our students best--that do not require the SAT or ACT, and it remains true that the vast majority of our students would not benefit from taking them.

Look for more updates on the status of our PSAT exploration in future newsletters and/or emails!



## ➤➤➤ DRIVER'S EDUCATION

We have reached out to numerous local driving schools in an attempt to offer a driver's ed program at WWS for next school year but have not yet found a school willing to partner. It seems that driver's education is a booming business! If you happen to have any connections in the world of driver's education, please let us know. In the meantime, [driving-tests.org](http://driving-tests.org) has been a valuable resource as it provides the manuals by state in audio format and has numerous practice tests and accompanying videos. If you are a NH resident, your child will soon have free access using their Windham public library card. If you are a MA resident, the test is a little different than the NH test. The website subscription costs \$75 for 30 days and may be a helpful tool.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



April 1 - 5 - Literacy Week with book fair

- April 3 - Library Presentation
- April 5 - [Recycled Percussion](#)



April 8 - Pancake Breakfast during morning break for upper school



April 9 - 12

- Washington, DC Trip for registered students
- Art Heist Week for students staying on campus - Permission slip [here](#).



April 22-25 NO LUNCH available through Cravings



May 10 - Junior/Senior Prom - Boat cruise & Lock In - Permission slip [here](#).



June 2 - Red Sox Game - Family Event



June 7 - Upper School Graduation at 4:00 pm



## GRADUATION

Graduation will be held outdoors weather pending on June 7th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

Senior Parents will receive traditional paper invites to the graduation ceremony. Seniors do not have a guest limit, but must RSVP with a head count - directions will be included on the invite.

Upper school students are invited to stay after school on Friday, June 7th for the ceremony. Upper school students are encouraged to dress in appropriate graduation attire for the ceremony.



## BOOK FAIR VOLUNTEERS

**WE ARE IN NEED OF PARENT VOLUNTEERS TO RUN OUR BOOK FAIR.**

**USE [THIS LINK](#) TO VOLUNTEER!**

*"YOU SHOULD BE FAR MORE CONCERNED WITH YOUR CURRENT TRAJECTORY THAN WITH YOUR CURRENT RESULTS."*

**JAMES CLEAR, [ATOMIC HABITS](#)**