NOVEMBER UPDATE

UPPER SCHOOL



NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS FOR WWS FAMILIES

STUDENTS IN ACTION



>>> REAL WORLD DAY

Upper schoolers participated in our first Real World Day on November 21st. Students traveled in groups and explored numerous topics, including financial literacy, emotional intelligence, and problem solving. The picture to the right shows Lauren Torres, the upper school Dean of Students, leading an "emoji story" activity in her effective communication session, which focused on how people can interpret the exact same message in a different manner.





>>> PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Students in Environmental Science have about been learning sustainability. Referencing the United Nations' 17 goals for sustainable development, students proposed a redesign to an area on campus to WWS administration. The top design came from Sadie Miller and will be implemented this spring by the students taking environmental science.



STUDENT LOUNGE <<<

Students in Senior Seminar finished the budgeting and ordering process and are now putting together the furniture for the lounge during morning break/flex time. Check out the built in that was constructed entirely by WWS students (image to the left).

The senior's next task is to determine the usage guidelines of this new space and roll them out to the rest of the study body. We love seeing our upperclassmen lead!



PROGRAM & POLICY

>>> SNOW DAY PLAN

In the event of snow, upper school students will have 2 true snow days with no academic expectations. If we reach snow day number 3, students will be provided with a remote work plan and teacher office hours. Students will receive credit for attending school on these days only if they complete the assigned work. As always, teachers will differentiate work and expectations to meet the needs of all learners.

>>> ELECTIVES - SEMESTER 2

Semester 2 electives begin January 22nd, but the sign up process will occur before the winter break. See below for important dates related to the rollout of electives.

Date	Task
December 4	Elective assembly for studentsOfferings emailed to parents
December 11	Sign up form sent out to students
December 14	Sign up form closes
January 22	New electives begin

PROGRAM & POLICY

>>> PROGRESS REPORTS

First trimester progress reports will be emailed home no later than December 14th. We have revamped progress reports this year in order to fully align to our Mastery Transcript process. Parents will be provided with a class overview, individual standards based feedback, and additional comments next to the standards. The lengthy narrative has been removed in favor of standard specific feedback. If you would like more anecdotal feedback about your child, conferences are the most appropriate venue for that information.



>>> ECO INTEGRATION

The advisory program at the upper school actively incorporates ECO into the daily structure. Students regularly connect with their "school families", practice self advocacy, and get academically organized. This month, Danielle Lambert, our incredible school counselor, will be meeting with advisories to discuss "how not to be a friend." Throughout their lives, we spend so much time teaching children how to make friends but very little time showing them how to interact with people who are not in their circle of friends. Danielle's workshop will highlight tips and tricks for interacting people who are not considered a preferred peer.

ECO TIP

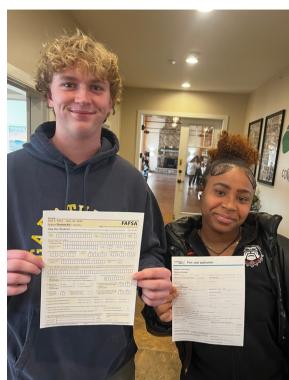
Students will be discussing the following in advisory: "If you don't want it said about you, don't say it about someone else. If you don't want it written about you, don't write it about someone else. If you don't want it posted about you, don't post it about someone else."

Please discuss this with them at home!

>>> CAREER & COLLEGE COUNSELING

This month we have had all of our seniors intending to apply to college send off applications! Many will hear back before our December break! Also this month, we will begin meeting with 11th grade students to get their initial thoughts about life after Windham Woods, which will be followed by meetings with families shortly thereafter.

Looking ahead, we should be hearing about the official release of the FAFSA form in the middle of December. Colleges are aware of the chaos this late release of the FAFSA will likely cause, but hopefully the form is more user friendly and allows families to receive more of the financial aid they need.



Fingers crossed all around!

>>> UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Ski Club** Upper school ski club will take place on Thursdays after school beginning January 3rd. Space is still available. Please email Mrs. Guthro (lguthro@windhawoods.org) for more information.
- History Field Trip December 11th
 - Students taking US History I and Government & Political Science will be heading into Boston to participate in a <u>Revolution is Brewing</u>. Students not in these classes will have regularly assigned classes and seniors will be on their own trip as they finalize the student lounge.
- Talent show (School wide Event) December 7th at 5:30 pm
 - o Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at the door
- Midterms December 18th and 19th

"MY CONTENTION IS THAT CREATIVITY NOW IS AS IMPORTANT IN EDUCATION AS LITERACY, AND WE SHOULD TREAT IT WITH THE SAME STATUS."