



Embrace the World Event Coming Soon



Our annual celebration of cultures, languages, and diversity, *Embrace the World*, will be held February 23 from 6:00-8:00pm. Bring your whole family to this free event to see your kids' classmates and community members representing countries and cultures from all over the globe to right here in Michigan. Children will receive passports and travel from area to area learning about different places and traditions and getting their passports stamped. There will also be a musical performance by a multi-grade choir with Mrs. Pike at 7:30pm.



We still need volunteers! We would welcome more table hosts, but also need helpers to assist with set-up, hand out passports, and help with logistics. Please go to the WSA website and click on "I Want to Volunteer" to see the SignUp Genius link for remaining needs. You can also contact event chair Joy Campbell via the WSA email.

Plan Ahead for Science Fair

Our kid-driven Science Fair is coming on March 29. We had a great STEM Festival in the fall with outside labs and guests, and now it's our Wolves' turn. There's plenty of time for your child to plan a poster presentation! See the Whitehills Science Club website for great ideas on how to get started: <http://whitehillsscienceclub.weebly.com/>. Watch on the WSA website, Facebook, and in eblasts for information on how your child can sign up to do a poster.



PawPalooza a Great Success!

Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the PawPalooza, and to our donors, organizers, volunteers, and bidders. The time capsule opening was such a special opportunity, and the silent auction raised close to \$4,000!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Popcorn Friday
Friday, February 3

Grab a Grownup Folk Dance
(registration required)
Monday, February 6
6:30-8:00pm

WSA Meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 7:00pm
Location: Whitehills Library

Box Tops Winter II Deadline
Friday, February 10

Marco's Pizza Night
Thursday, February 16
Location: Your house!

Science Club
Friday, February 17
3:35-5:30pm
Location: Art Room

Presidents' Day—No School
Monday, February 20

Embrace the World
Thursday, February 23
6:00-8:00pm
Location: Whitehills Gym



Art Nights at
Menchie's
February 7,
21, and 28!

See our Wolves' art on the
walls and get free froyo!

CONNECT WITH US

Email
whitehillsparents@gmail.com

Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/whitehillsparents>

Web
<http://whitehillsparents.org>

Board
President: Joy Campbell
Vice President: Jen Gorchow
Treasurer: Jeff Hicks
Secretary: Elizabeth Ivkovich

Meetings
At 7:00pm, second Tuesday of
each month in the library

WOLF PACK WRITERS

Proudly featuring the work of Whitehills students



Getting Schooled on Ms. Beasley

by Rock Kuiper

How many Whitehills students get to interview their teacher? I recently had the opportunity to interview my fifth grade teacher, Ms. Beasley (pictured with her parents). Ms. Beasley is native to Lansing and was born at Ingham Medical. She did not stay in the area, however, and has taught around the world. Some places she has taught are: Harlem, Abu Dhabi and Al-Fetah (United Arab Emirates), and now Whitehills Elementary. Ms. Beasley has liked every school and each one is her favorite for different reasons.



Out of the classroom, Ms. Beasley stays current learning about new musical artists and watching Hulu and Netflix. She also enjoys different foods. Her top favorites are Asian, Middle Eastern, Caribbean, and Italian. If Ms. Beasley was not a teacher she would be an actor. She also has many talents in addition to teaching. Ms. Beasley excels at talking and getting to know people and drawing.

I got to learn a lot about Ms. Beasley that I don't get to while concentrating on school work. I hope all the students get to know their teachers more before we go onto the next grade...or school!

Embracing our Heritage

By Elizabeth and Carolina Gisholt

We live in a Mexican-American family. Our dad's family is from Mexico and our mom's ancestors were some of the European settlers that came to America. Since our dad is from Mexico and our mom is from America, we speak Spanish and English. We also learn to read and write in Spanish. We celebrate Mexican traditions like Day of the Dead (photo below of a Mexican girl dressed up for this holiday). Day of the Dead, on November 1, is the day where we remember those who have left us.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Rock Kuiper is a fifth grader in Ms. Beasley's class. He enjoys playing basketball, hanging with friends at recess, and reading. His favorite food is pizza and he was born on Labor Day.

Sisters **Elizabeth and Carolina Gisholt** co-wrote their article. Elizabeth is a fourth grader in Ms. Foley's class. She enjoys spending time with friends. Carolina is in Mrs. Clyma's first grade class. She loves making art.



Learn more about the diverse families and cool traditions of some of your schoolmates at Embrace the World!



We call Christmas Eve *Nochebuena* and Christmas *Navidad*. On New Year's Eve we do these really fun Mexican traditions, eating twelve grapes as good luck for each month of the New Year, like wearing gold to represent good luck with money, dragging suitcases around to represent travel, and sweeping the front steps and banging pots and pans to scare away the evil spirits.

Living in a Mexican-American family you learn more Spanish than you would think. If you're like us you maybe learn how to write a little bit of Spanish. Would you like living in a part-Mexican family? We do!

Have an idea for an article? Contact us at whitehillsparents@gmail.com.