

# What's UP at Woodrow

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**Woodrow Wilson Middle School  
Edison, NJ**

## Spotlight On...Battle of the Classes

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“We are the champions...” As the lyrics to this popular song resonated throughout the gym, the victorious 8th grade BOTC team reveled in their glory! After weeks of intense preparation, the 8th grade Battle of the Classes team took home top honors.

On March 9, 2017, students from all grades faced off against each other and a teacher team to compete in a series of silly competitions. From hopping around on inflatable ponies to racing around on scooters, everyone who participated had a blast, all while earning points for their team. The event began with the banner competition, in which each team had



Click [here](#) for more photos.



the opportunity to show off their team pride and overall school spirit. From there, the teams competed in goofy games, including Hungry, Hungry Hippos, Fish Fling and “Hop” Potato. But perhaps the most anticipated event (by team members and audience members alike) was the dance competition. Although every team did a fantastic job movin’ and groovin’, the teacher team came away with top points. All in all, this year’s BOTC was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who participated!

## 8th Grade Students of the Month



The following 8th grade students of the month were honored at a breakfast on Thursday, March 23, 2017:

Sujay Athrey, Ajay Anand, Kevin Rivera, Sathvik Ganesh, Justin Wang, Christopher Wojciechowski, Krish Patel, Avery Dent, Meghana Akella, Parshva Mehta, Haricharan Mandapati, Sanya Lopes, Ayman Rouf, Krishna Anil, Michelle Huang, Ananya Goel, Kavish Purani, Vasundhara Kulkarni

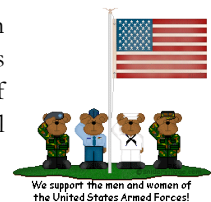
## 7th Grade Shamrocks for Soldiers

Community service is alive and well at WWMS. As part of their community service project, seventh grade students worked together in order to create Saint Patrick's Day cards that were delivered to a veteran's retirement home. Coordinating efforts with the activity director, the seventh grade teachers arranged to have the shamrocks distributed to the veterans during their daily recreation time.

The community service project began with a brief multimedia presentation that required students to reflect upon the importance of honoring those who have served our nation. During the assembly, students learned about the hardships and challenges that our brave men and women often endure during military service.

Upon learning that their shamrocks would be distributed to veterans, students eagerly began designing and decorating cards. Seventh grade teachers watched proudly as many students took it upon themselves to create additional greeting cards for the veterans. As a result of their efforts, seventh grade students were able to send over 350 shamrocks to the retirement home!

In addition to providing recognition for the veterans' service, our students learned that even small tokens of appreciation can have a meaningful impact on the lives of others.



## Shining Students

Not only has **Suvan Sundaresh** achieved the rank of Life Scout with BSA Troop 66, he was accepted into the National ACDA Choir and attended their conference in Minneapolis from March 8-11, 2017. Suvan has also been selected to audition for the NJ All State Choir in April.

One of only three qualifiers in each event in each age group, at the Junior Olympics, **Anushree Ghate** was selected to represent NJ in the Eastern Zone Short Course Championship in Webster, NY, March 29 to April 1, 2017.

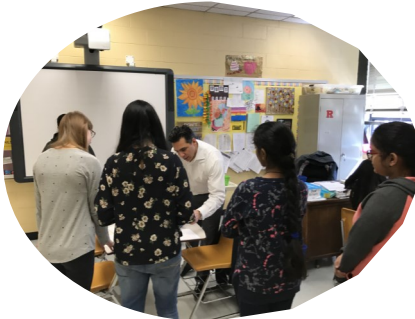
After auditioning on March 18, 2017, **Andrew Chung** was accepted into the All State Intermediate Orchestra and will perform in a concert on May 13, 2017, at Summit HS.

## 8th Grade Career Day

Click [here](#) for more photos.

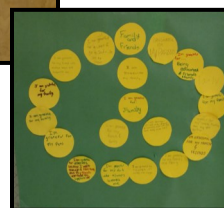
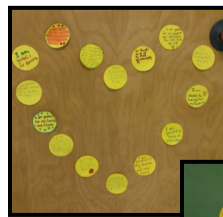


Again this year, our PTA hosted Career Day at Woodrow Wilson. Our 8th graders had the opportunity to sign up for two sessions to explore their interest in future career possibilities. Some of the 19 career fields represented included architect, physical therapist, lawyer, chef, dentist, college admissions counselor, sports reporter and systems integration engineer. Presenters used multimedia applications and hands-on activities to convey expert knowledge on their profession.



## Kindness Campaign Turns Gold

Continuing with positive energy, students and teachers shared moments, not material things, for which they are grateful on circles of golden paper. Students placed these circles on classroom doors in various shapes. Our ESL teacher, Mrs. Haggard, launched the initiative with her students in January, writing positive words in any language on paper hearts. Now the Kindness Campaign turns to Gratitude Gold to help us all recognize that what we already possess is priceless!



## Spice Goddess Visits WWMS

The excitement level in the cafeteria raised to new heights when Chef Bal Arneson visited Woodrow on March 27, 2017. Hosted by Chartwells, Chef Bal came with her own stage and cooking equipment to give students a chance to help demonstrate and sample some very special dishes. With an Indian-American fusion, Chef Bal shared a variation of macaroni and cheese, veggie pizza, chocolate cookies made with lentils, and ginger lemonade. Some of the students expressed to Ms. Cotoia they would love to have Chef Bal with them every day!

You can read about Chef Bal on [her website](#) as well as on the [Cooking Channel's website](#) and learn about her humble beginnings and how she rose to fame as a celebrity chef and author.



## Odyssey of the Mind

On March 4, 2017, the Woodrow Wilson Odyssey of the Mind teams competed in the Liberty Regional Competition at South Plainfield Public Schools. Woodrow Wilson had 11 teams take part in this competition. All of our teams worked very hard and represented our school with pride. The team consisting of Nami S. Jain, Nandana Vinod, Crystal Wang, Shivangi Nanda, Sanya Lopes,

Aneree Amin, and Gayathri Sajith came in 1st place for Problem 5: *A Superhero Cliffhanger*. In this problem, students had to perform an eight-minute skit in which they portray creativity being stolen from the world. Teams had to create a superhero to save creativity!

Coming in 2nd place for Problem 4: *Ready, Set, Balsa, Build* was our team consisting of Andrew Chung, Nathan Zhong, Hamza Azeem, Manav Aggarwal, Achint Das, Aadi Narayanan Hariharadhararajan, and Jay Prasad. In this problem students had to design, build, and test a structure made of only balsa wood and glue to hold as much weight as possible, alongside a team performance centered around the prescribed theme. These teams are working very hard preparing for the State Competition at Ewing HS on April 8. Winners of the State competition will then move on to World Finals in East Lansing, Michigan!



Click [here](#) for more photos.



Included with the additional photos is an article that appeared in *Tap Into South Plainfield*.

## Upcoming Events

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### April

- ◆ 5 6th Grade Assembly—"Wild-N-Wonderful"
- ◆ 6 Peter Pan, Jr.— 3:30 PM and 7:00 PM\*
- ◆ 7 Battle of the Books
- ◆ 10-17 No School
- ◆ 18 PTA Meeting, 7-8 PM in the Faculty Lounge
- ◆ 19 Chipotle Dine-out\*  
Science Benchmark
- ◆ 20 Red Carpet Dance  
Social Studies Benchmark
- ◆ 21 Battle of the Books at JAMS
- ◆ 26 Painting Party, 6-8 PM\*
- ◆ 24-26 PARCC ELA Testing
- ◆ 27 Bring Your Child to Work Day
- ◆ 28-  
May 2 PARCC Math Testing

### May

- ◆ 2 District Jazz Festival—Cafeteria\*
- ◆ 4 Band Spring Concert, 7-8:30 PM
- ◆ 5 7th Grade Field Trip—Funplex, East Hanover, NJ
- ◆ 9-12 Book Fair
- ◆ 11 Orchestra Spring Concert, 6-8:30 PM
- ◆ 12 8th Grade Field Trip—Eagle's Landing Day Camp. N. Brunswick, NJ
- ◆ 18 Choir Spring Concert, 7-8:30 PM
- ◆ 19 Battle of the Books—State Competition—Manalapan  
Music Department Trip to Great Adventure
- ◆ 23 5th Grade Orientation—students visiting from Menlo, JMI, Monroe
- ◆ 24 5th Grade Parent Orientation, 6:30-8:00 PM
- ◆ 25 5th Grade Orientation—students visiting from Woodbrook, MLK  
Superintendent's MS Track Meet, 4:30 PM at Edison HS
- ◆ 31 NJASK 8—Science



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