

## Hurlbutt Elementary School

9 School Road  
Weston, Connecticut 06883

March 2022

Questions? Please see our *Communication Protocol*, which can be found on our [website!](#)

### Fun with Numbers: 2/22/22

In honor of the date 2/22/22, students and staff wore two of something or something with the number 2 on it! We saw two ties, two bows, tutus, two hats, two socks, and a lot of jerseys with the number 2 on them. Classes also read for  $2+2+22$  minutes, looked for hidden 2s in the hallways, and worked in pairs most of the day!

*Fun fact:* Our current first graders will be seniors in high school during the year when the date 3/3/33 happens. Our first grade teachers created a time capsule with their class that will be waiting for them to open when they are seniors at WHS!



## WRITING

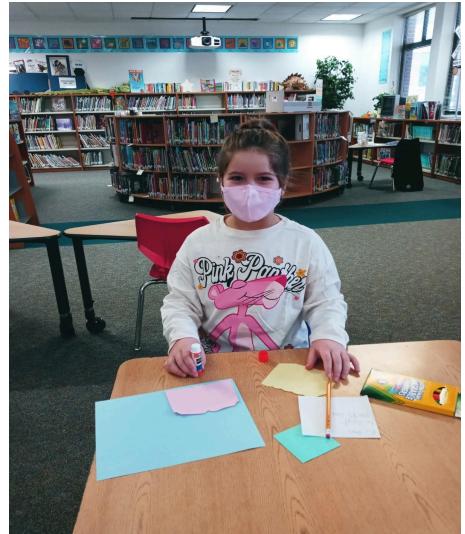
Our young writers at Hurlbutt learn how to use the power of words to make the world a better place. In kindergarten, our students are learning about persuasive writing and the craft and strategies that help them find their voice as a writer. Beginning in their own classroom, students are encouraged to see not only the world around them, but to also create a vision of what could be. Kindergarten students love to imagine what could be better and they love to solve problems. This writing unit immerses them in different kinds of texts to reach their audience including posters, letters and books. During this exciting unit, our students looked beyond the school and into the community. They used their writing skills and enthusiasm to support the Food Pantry. Each kindergarten class visited another class in our school and invited them to join the kindergarten community service project. The students read letters and displayed posters to persuade each class to fill a paper bag with items for the Weston Food Pantry. Over the course of the unit, students watched their writing and persuasive skills result in many bags of food and supplies coming to school to support their cause. They are looking forward to delivering their collection to the Weston Food Pantry.



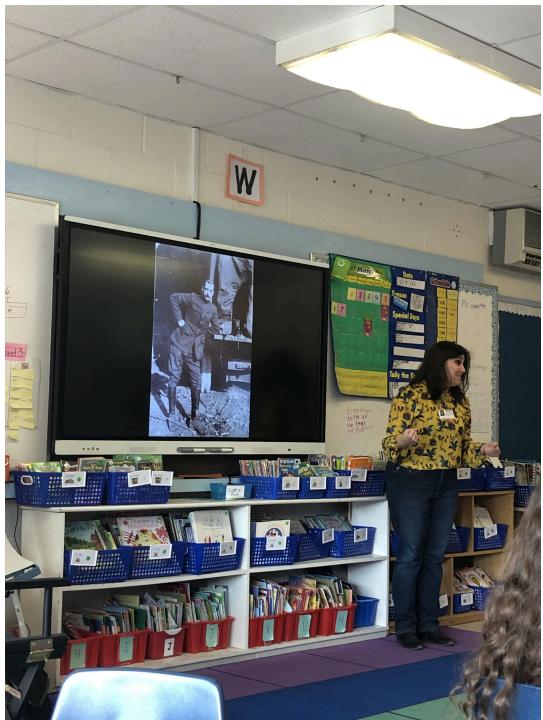
Our Hurlbutt motto is *Be Safe, Be Kind and Be Responsible*. Students at Hurlbutt practice responsibility when they visit our library and check out a book of their choosing. They are eager to show that they can take care of the book and then return it so that other Hurlbutt students can enjoy the book as well. We love when our students are inspired to use their writing even when it isn't a school assignment. Pictured on the left is Chloe, who wrote an opinion piece about why students should return overdue books. This is a great example of how our writing curriculum and program gives students the skills and drive to put their learning into action in our school and community. Writing is a powerful communication tool and Hurlbutt writers are growing in that area everyday!



One of our second graders, Maicey, is using her writing skills to create a book display. She writes “hooks” for books she has read to entice other readers to give them a try. She knows that her writing and “hooks” might inspire another student to read one of the books.



## SOCIAL STUDIES

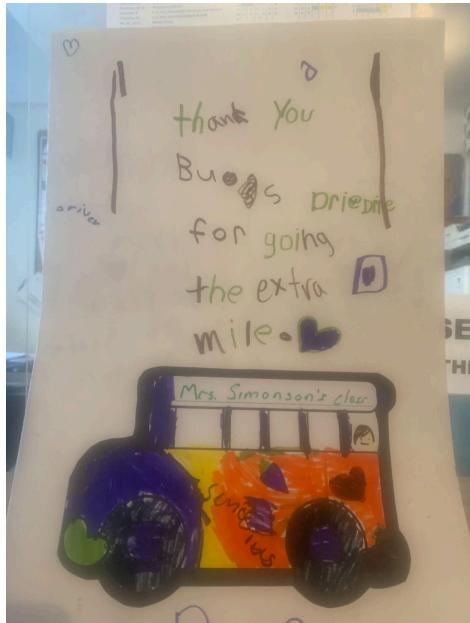


Weston Historical Society representative Samantha Kulish-Fargione visited our second grade classes and taught them about important people in Weston including Horace C. Hurlbutt. This presentation supports our social studies biography unit. Horace Hurlbutt volunteered to help the war effort during WWI by joining the medical unit. After the war, when Horace died in a car accident, his family gave the town 10 acres to build a school. Horace wanted to create a sense of community by bringing all the children together into one school. In 1963, there was a fire which destroyed the school and in 1964, a new school was built. Samantha showed them the plaque that marks the donation of the land for our school. When you visit Hurlbutt, look for this plaque on our campus.

Our second graders also learned about Mort Schindel. Mort, a Weston resident, founded the Weston Woods Studios. He adapted children’s stories into movies. Our students were amazed and excited to learn that some of the favorites he made were *The Snowy Day*, *Harold and the Purple Crayon* and *Where the Wild Things Are*. Mort won an academy award for bringing Doctor DeSoto to life in one of his movies. Mort also started the literacy caravan to bring stories to children and their families.

Sharing these stories about people who contributed to their communities is very inspiring for our students. They left the presentation wondering what they each could do to make the world a better place.

## PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)



Hurlbutt Elementary students created and distributed one-of-a-kind thank you cards to our bus drivers in honor of our district wide bus driver appreciation week. Our students wrote thanks and appreciation to the drivers for their kindness, love, and support. Weston's bus drivers ensure that our students arrive and depart school every day happy and safe.