



# THE ACORN

June 2023

And what is so rare as a day in June?  
Then, if ever, come perfect days. -James Russell Lowell

## Class of 2023

### Future Plans

On June 6th, we'll gather to celebrate our remarkable Seniors with a White Oak School Graduation ceremony. After that, these seniors have big plans! Maitreya Abend will attend Curry College to begin his journey to become a Special Education teacher. Kevin Brass, already well on his way to becoming a career firefighter, will enroll in a Fire Science degree program at Southern Maine Community College. Tristan Carroll is excited to continue his training in preparation for a career working with computers. Theeo Case will attend Holyoke Community College where he'll apply his artistic talents to a program in Graphic Arts. Hannah Halligan has always dreamed of teaching young children. This fall, she will enroll in the Bachelor's degree program in Early Childhood Education at Westfield State University. Madeline Petell will begin the Cybersecurity program at Bridgewater State University in preparation for her dream job in Digital Forensics. Aiden Thayer has been focused on a career in the railroad industry for many years. His next step on that path is the welding program at Asnuntuck Community College -and no doubt he will continue to use his amazing photography skills. Congratulations, White Oak Class of 2023!

## Gardening Club Summer Updates

By Ms. Ramsden and Ms. Beherrell

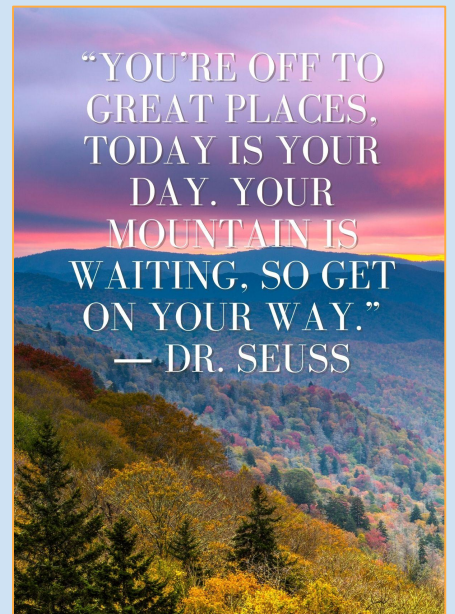
The gardening club has begun planting and watering our garden beds. We are in the process of planting more and more!

As summer approaches, we will be sending out a sign up sheet for those of you that live nearby and might be interested in volunteering to water the garden. The watering cans would be left by the water spicket and it would be a quick stop that's very much appreciated.

For anyone that volunteers, you are also more than welcome to take anything that is ripe!



"YOU'RE OFF TO  
GREAT PLACES,  
TODAY IS YOUR  
DAY. YOUR  
MOUNTAIN IS  
WAITING. SO GET  
ON YOUR WAY."  
— DR. SEUSS





## Scenes from Prom 23

### *Night at the Oscars!*



## Science Fair

On May 22nd, White Oak welcomed extended families, friends, and Armbrook Village neighbors to its first school- wide science fair! This event featured 26 students of all ages who applied the scientific method to intriguing research questions. The students presented their results and responded to questions from the admiring audience. Finally, the audience evaluated each project for its scientific merit.

When the scores were tallied, Mary F. earned 1st place, Tyler F. placed 2nd; Charlie R. placed 3rd; and the team of Thomas W. and Ryan L. earned 4th place! Thanks so much to Mrs. Fuda for coordinating this awesome event. Congratulations to the winners and to all of the hard- working young scientists who participated!





# Cobra Kai

## Series Review

By Charlie Rizas

If you only see one TV show this year, Cobra Kai should be it. Cobra Kai tells the story of a man named Johnny Lawrence, played by William Zabka, who for the last 30 years has been going from job to job trying to earn money.



But a new neighbor moves into Johnny's apartment complex. His name is Miguel Diaz, played by Xolo Maridueña. Johnny becomes Miguel's Sensei and opens a dojo called Cobra Kai. But the one and only Daniel LaRusso, played by Ralph Macchio, opens his own studio. Daniel has a wife and 2 children and a car company called LaRusso Auto.

The rivalry between Johnny and Daniel continues today, 30 years later. They both have different ways of how they do their Karate. Daniel likes calm and relaxing music and focuses on defense while Johnny Lawrence likes Rock and heavy metal music, is more aggressive, and teaches offense. Johnny's motto is: strike first, strike hard, no mercy.

Later in the season there is a tournament in town called the All Valley Karate Under 18 tournament which has been going on for over 50 years. Johnny wants his students to enter and maybe win the under 18 tournament to finish what he tried to do 30 years ago.

Throughout the series we meet lots of characters. For example we meet Robbie, played by Tanner Buchanan, who is Johnny's son. We also meet Daniel's daughter Samantha, played by Mary Mouser.

The series is set in California, in Reseda, Encino, and Tarzana. It is directed by Hayden Schlossberg, Jon Hurwitz and Josh Heald. This show is an action drama.

The plot is action-packed. There are awesome Karate sequences throughout the show. There are flashbacks with the original Karate Kid movies. There are also people from the movies that we see in this show in later seasons. The script is incredible because it shows flashbacks between both points of view. The soundtrack is perfect. It has a lot of 80s and 90s rock music. One of my favorite songs in this show is "Nothing But A Good Time," by Poison.

The acting is excellent because of how the actors fight with one another. We even get to see their training off screen. I love how the show focuses on the both dojo's and how the students get better at karate. Don't miss this show! It is streaming on Netflix. If you like season 1, There are 5 seasons of the show and the 6th one is coming out soon. And it is the last season. I recommend that you watch Cobra Kai first and then the Karate Kid movies so that you already know the characters. I rate this show 5 stars!



# Thank You, Armbrook!

Our Armbrook Village neighbors are so wonderful! Last month, their residents took up a collection of school supplies and presented them to us during teacher appreciation week! And recently, a busload of Armbrook residents came to support our students during the Science Fair! Thanks so much, Armbrook Village!



## Introducing Ms. Mercier

By Stefanie Policki



This month, I interviewed our new teacher, Ms. Mercier. She is from East Longmeadow but now she lives in Granby. Her favorite place to teach before White Oak was Holyoke Community College. She became a teacher because she had difficulty learning growing up. Her favorite hobbies are she likes to swim, she likes to read, and she likes to go camping. Ms. Mercier likes to play softball, tennis, volleyball, and dancing. Her favorite types of movies she likes to watch are magic movies. Her favorite show to watch is The Magicians. Her favorite summer vacation trips were her trips to Disney and Scotland. This summer, she plans to teach summer school, swim in the pool, and sleep late. So far, she loves teaching at White Oak because she enjoys the students and her son graduated from White Oak. We are lucky to have Ms. Mercier as a new teacher! :)

## Food Drive

By Ms. Rossi

The Helping Hands Club will continue to collect non-perishable food items in an effort to help the **Westfield Food Pantry** to service those in need. The following list of items are what the Westfield Food Pantry needs most at this time. We will be collecting these items until June 15th, 2023. Thank you all so very much for all the very generous donations that have been brought in so far. We are so appreciative of our White Oak Community's generosity.



THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED:

- Pasta
- Mac & Cheese
- Canned Fruits, and Vegetables
- Tuna
- Soup
- Rice
- Cereal
- Peanut butter

## Fragrant Fundraiser

The White Oak Women's Leadership Group has crafted essential oil bath bombs and scented shower dust for sale. Scents available are 'Cozy' (Cinnamon-Orange) or 'Relaxing' (Lavender-Eucalyptus). Bath bombs are priced at \$3 each or \$5 for a 3-pack. Fairy Dust prices are \$4 each or 2 pouches for \$6. Please contact a group member or Ms. Armstrong to order or for more information. The proceeds will go toward restocking the girl's bathrooms with care products! Thank you for your support. [tarmstrong@whiteoakschool.org](mailto:tarmstrong@whiteoakschool.org)

Humans are mean, humans are cruel.  
My teacher will often drool in the pool.  
When it's cool, she can be quite a fool  
in school.

By Derryn Miller

## Our Lunch Hero!

In 2012, author Jarrett Krosoczka created **School Lunch Hero Day** (the first Friday in May) after he returned to his old school to find that his childhood lunch lady was still there – and that she remembered him! She inspired his "Lunch Lady" book series!



White Oak School honored our own School Lunch Hero, Mr. Micks, with a gift and a poster filled with thank-yous from students and staff! Thanks Mr. Micks! We are so grateful for your delicious culinary creations, your cheerfulness, and your fun and educational culinary classes!

## Red Sox Trip



On May 13th, these White Oak families enjoyed a picture-perfect day at Fenway!



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# Craft Fair & Car Show

The second annual White Oak Craft Fair and Car Show was a great success! Many thanks to all the crafters, car buffs, helpers, and visitors for your support!





## Boston!

On May 19th, history came to life for our 9th graders when they experienced all the amazing historic sites of Boston. They had a beautiful day in a beautiful city!



## JUNE 2023

Fruit & Milk are served with all meals.  
Alternate Meals: Assorted sandwiches.  
All breads and rolls served are whole grain.  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



## White Oak School Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 <b>Chicken Tikka Masala</b> An Indian dish with chicken in a creamy, spiced sauce. Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	2 <b>Grilled Cheese Soup</b> Veggies, Fruit, & Milk
5 <b>GRADUATION DAY!</b> Bagged Lunch Assorted Sandwiches Chips & Drinks Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	6 <b>Pizza</b> *Chef's Choice* Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	7 <b>Cheeseburgers</b> French Fries Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	8 <b>Roasted Turkey</b> Mashed Potatoes Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	9 <b>Philly Cheesesteak</b> Quesadillas Veggies, Fruit, & Milk
12 <b>Hot Dogs</b> French Fries Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	13 <b>Baked Potato Bar</b> Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	14 <b>'The Daley Special'</b> Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	15 <b>Shepard's Pie</b> Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	16 <b>Mozzarella Sticks</b> Pasta Salad Veggies, Fruit, & Milk
	20 <b>Stuffed Manicotti</b> Veggies, Fruit, & Milk	21 <b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!</b> 1:00 DISMISSAL Pizza Veggies, Fruit, & Milk		
				<b>HAPPY SUMMER</b>