



Demarest Co-op News

November 2017



A Message from the President

I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. I know I had a lot to be thankful for this year! I loved seeing all the fall artwork out in the hallway that the children made this past month. My daughter was also very anxious to sing her little turkey songs to everyone who came over our house for Thanksgiving!

There's room for everyone on the nice list! Santa Night at the Co-op is scheduled for **Friday, December 15th at 7pm**. Come in your pajamas, decorate a gingerbread house, sing carols, eat cookies, & meet the big guy in red! It is such a special night for both kids and adults and really gets you in the holiday spirit! Siblings are welcome!

Another fun event is the Holiday Boutique which gives your child the opportunity to shop for Christmas. It is always so cute to see what my kids pick out for me every year!

One last reminder that all children need to get a **flu shot by December 15th!** Please be sure to get your paperwork in as soon as possible!

- Christina



Demarest Co-op News: November 2017

Miss Christine's Class

The 2's started off November with a visit from a Dumont fire truck! Fireman Matt (who is a fireman in Dumont and Joe's dad in the morning class) was kind enough to bring an engine from his fire house to our school. The children were so interested and amazed by the fire truck. Fireman Matt put on his gear piece by piece. He wanted to make sure the children understand what a fireman looks like while wearing the equipment so they would not be afraid. He showed them the hoses and all the dials and gadgets on the engine and let them climb through and see where the firemen sit. Fireman Matt gave each child a turn at spraying water out of the fire hose. Our favorite story this month was *Fire Truck* by Ivan Ulz. There is a very cute song that goes with the story that the children loved to sing. Google it and sing it along with your child. You will see an instant smile!

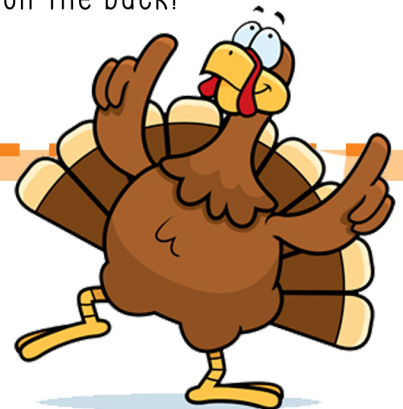
The children made adorable bubble wrap turkeys that were displayed in the hallway. We sang "I'm a Little Turkey," "5 Fat Turkeys," and "Hello Mr. Turkey." We were "gobbling" and "waddling" up a storm all month!

To celebrate Thanksgiving, we made butter and cornbread. We talked about what a recipe is and followed the step by step directions. Everyone was so patient and waited their turn for a chance to stir or add an ingredient. It was so nice to come in from playing outside to smell the fresh cornbread baking in our electric muffin baker.

Making butter was fun! We put heavy cream, sea salt, and some marbles in a plastic jar and shook, shook, and shook some more. We talked about how we poured it in the jar and it was a liquid. We rolled it back and forth to each other. When we could not hear the marbles moving anymore, we took off the cover and there inside was the butter! To celebrate Thanksgiving, the children enjoyed the cornbread, butter and fruit from our class moms at snack time.

We hope you enjoyed the Thanksgiving placemats. The children LOVED having their hand painted to create their turkeys. Our favorite turkey song is on the back!

- Miss Christine



Demarest Co-op News: November 2017

Miss Lisa's Class

We began our month learning about the letter, "N." "N" is for November, noodles, nest, nose, and (something that our Grandma's and Grandpa's read) a newspaper. We explored noodles with our hands and even painted with them. We worked on our cutting skills by cutting out 8 legs for our spiders. We learned that spiders can have up to 12 eyes, and they can have thousands of babies at once! And we had so much fun singing our "Spider on the Floor" song.

We actually opened up our class pumpkin after Halloween. We explored the insides of the pumpkin with our eyes, noses, fingers and even our mouths. We made pumpkin muffins! Miss Christine is such a great cook, and she let us help her make delicious muffins for snack. We waited our turns so nicely to add ingredients and help to stir the batter. We also learned that 3 parts of the pumpkin start with the letter, "S"... the stem, skin, and seeds.

We talked about Thanksgiving and the things that we are thankful for. We learned about the pilgrims taking the Mayflower to America and what a hard winter they had that they almost went back to England until the Wampanoag Indians taught them how to grow corn, dig for oysters as well as hunt and fish. We made our own butter by shaking a jar filled with cream and marbles, and we used it to spread on the cornbread we made for our Thanksgiving treat. Thank you to Charlotte and her mom for the delicious holiday turkey cookies they brought us for Thanksgiving.

Of course, we learned about turkeys. We learned that wild turkeys can fly enough to hide in the trees and the red piece that hangs over their beak is called a snood, and the one under their beak is called a wattle. Did you know that baby turkeys are called poults? We had fun designing turkeys with feathers on paper as well as with model magic. We also designed our "T" is for turkeys which we proudly hung in the hall.

We have been reading a fun book called, *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault. This is a great book about the letters of the alphabet. We glued letters on our giant palm tree (called a coconut tree in the book), and we made our own palm trees and worked on identifying the sticker letters as we spelled our names as well as decorated the palm tree. Miss Lisa brought in 2 coconuts, and we had fun passing them around and shaking them. We guessed what we would find inside the coconut, and strong Miss Maureen and Miss Christine finally cracked one open so we could see. The meat inside the coconut was very hard so we did not taste it, but some of us did taste the milk which really looks more like water.

We are crossing our fingers that we continue to have good weather so we can go out every day. Please remember to LABEL ALL CLOTHES with your child's name and to dress your child appropriately for the weather, including mittens (no gloves please).

I hope you all allow your child to participate in the Holiday Boutique. It really is not a fundraiser, but a special experience for the children. They are so proud when they go into the room with their shopping lists and pick out just the right thing for their family members. Enjoy the hustle and bustle of this holiday season.

~ Miss Lisa



Demarest Co-op News: November 2017

Miss Laurie's Class

We started off the month of November with a unit on apples. Did you know that there are hundreds of different kinds of apples? Our favorite story about apples was *The Little Red House!* We told the story using puppets! At the end of the story we discovered that every apple has a star inside. The little red house with no windows, no doors and a star inside was an APPLE! Next, we made crockpot applesauce. We learned two new big words: recipe and ingredient. We followed the recipe to make the applesauce. A few apples cut in small pieces, some sugar, cinnamon, water, and a crockpot and presto...you've got applesauce! We love to cook!

Next we read a very special story called *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything*. The story inspired us to make our very own scarecrow. We all worked together (which is not always easy) to create Mr. Scarecrow. I am sure you saw him sitting in a chair by our classroom door. He scared lots of friends in the hallway!

Before we knew it Thanksgiving was coming. We really enjoyed learning about the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrims, and the Native Americans. We were fascinated with the Pilgrims journey to America and the sacrifices they made to find FREEDOM. Freedom was a new word for many of us. We all agreed that we are very lucky to live in the United States of America where we are free. We each had a turn to tell why we are thankful. This turned into a very interesting conversation! We made our own beads like the Native Americans, and learned all about the symbols they used to tell stories. We had fun in our classroom teepee even when all 19 of us tried to fit in it!!!!

We did a lot of gobbling as we got ready for Thanksgiving. A turkey is a pretty interesting animal. We learned lots of information about turkeys. Did you know that a hen (girl turkey) can lay as many as 18 eggs at one time and that a Tom (boy turkey) is also called a gobbler?! Wild turkeys can fly, but farm raised turkeys cannot. They are too fat! Our favorite song about turkeys was called "I'm Glad I'm Not a Turkey." As part of our Thanksgiving theme, we made butter and corn muffins. The ingredients for Demarest Co-op butter are heavy cream, a jar, 5 large marbles (lol) and tons of shaking. Making butter was not so easy. We all did more complaining than shaking. It was hard to be patient while the cream turned into butter!

We ended the month learning about hibernation. We learned all about the animals that are true hibernators and the animals that are not true hibernators like bears and raccoons. Bears and raccoons do not go into a deep sleep, but stay in a state of torpor... another new word!

Mrs. Wonderwhy came on the first. She taught us all about dinosaurs. We had so much fun being paleontologists searching for dino bones in trays of sand. We always enjoy science with Mrs. Wonderwhy!

The Elf on the Shelf has arrived! We have begun our countdown to Hanukkah and Christmas! We are looking forward to this exciting time of the year.

Best,
Miss Laurie

