



Demarest Co-op News

October 2017



A Message from the President

I love the month of October! Bring on the cool weather, boots, scarves, & pumpkin spice everything! :) I am so happy that it wasn't too cold for our Trunk or Treat celebration this year. I am always amazed by everyone's trunks and how creative you all are! The students were extra adorable in their costumes & everyone seemed to be having a great time!

November calendars are on the table in the hallway outside the classrooms. December calendars will be out soon to give you a heads up on all the fun stuff we have planned before the holidays.

As a reminder, 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: October 2017

Miss Christine's Class

October has been a busy month for the 2 year old class. The morning class has settled in nicely and are getting into a regular routine in the classroom. We welcomed the afternoon class on October 2nd. They are adjusting well too! Both classes love my little 'friends' that I bring to class. They sit so patiently at circle to see who I brought to class that day. This month it was my Halloween costumed friends, Snoopy as a skeleton, Elmo as a chicken, and sock monkey who was dressed up like a chicken too.

Apples were the talk of the class at the beginning of the month. We talked about different color apples and had apples quite often at snack. They sure love to eat them; in fact the children kept asking me to please buy apples for snack! We painted with apples by rolling them in paint and stamping with them.

Halloween is a fun time of year for our classroom. The children decorated paper pumpkins with spooky faces that were displayed in the hall, made puffy paint scary ghosts, made handprint spiders, and decorated trick or treat bags by marching spiders through different color paints. We talked about how pumpkins grow. We opened up a pumpkin and looked inside. We scooped out the seeds and took them outside. All of the children picked up seeds and we "planted" them in our magic garden. We talked about what we needed for the seeds to grow into pumpkins, a little sun, some rain and some magic! We said the words ABRACADABRA and hoped to find pumpkins the next time we came to school. Sure enough, the day of our Halloween parties, we had baby pumpkins!

I think between trunk or treat and the parties in the class, the children had a great Halloween! I know the teachers did! Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us.

- Miss Christine



Demarest Co-op News: October 2017

Miss Lisa's Class

We had two amazing trips this past month. The Binaghi Family was nice enough to host us at their farm (Stokes Farm), and Farmer Ron taught us all about the vegetables and flowers that they grow there. And we had a fun Halloween trip to Lupardis Nursery where we were able to feed the animals and pick a pumpkin from the pumpkin patch.

We began our month learning the letter "O." O is for October, octopus, orange and owl. We discovered that yellow and red make orange when we fingerpainted our pumpkins. We had a lot of fun working on our shapes when we made our shape fire trucks. Fireman Matt was so nice to come show us his fire truck. He even let us squirt the hose! He also taught us about "Stop, Drop and Roll." We learned that if our clothes catch on fire that we need to stop, drop and roll to put the fire out. He also showed us what firemen wear when they go into a fire. (It looks like Darth Vader.) He told us that we should not be scared of the firemen because they are there to help us. And we should NEVER hide from the firemen in a closet!

Since Fireman Matt is also policeman, he talked to us about Halloween safety as well. We are so lucky to have parents like Farmer Ron and Fireman Matt here at the Co-op. They are proud graduates of our school as well.

We finished our month with preparing for Halloween. We learned all about skeletons and bones. We had fun singing "Dem Bones" and especially enjoyed reading *Skeleton Hiccups* by Margery Cuyler. Everyone was adorable at the Halloween Parade. It was a huge success thanks to Lara Toomin and her helpers.

- Miss Lisa



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Miss Laurie's Class

October was a very busy time for us. We started off the month talking about "fall". As we walked to the playground each day, we would observe the many different colors the leaves had turned. We discovered that on our playground there were maple leaves, oak leaves, birch leaves, and our favorite, the sassafras leaf. The sassafras leaf was easy to identify because it looks like a dinosaur foot print! We read a story called, *Why Do Leaves Change Color?* This book had lots of interesting information, including a brand new word... "chlorophyll." Mrs. Wonderwhy also did a presentation on autumn and what happens to the trees during all four seasons.

Our next topic was Halloween! We loved learning many new songs: "Halloween is Coming" (using sign language), "Oh Once I Had a Pumpkin," "We're On Our Way To The Haunted House," and "Five Little Pumpkins Sitting On A Gate" were among our favorites! We loved acting out some of these songs especially the "Five Little Pumpkins" song. We each had a turn to be one of the five little pumpkins. When we were not a pumpkin, we were part of the audience. It was fun to watch all our friends wearing their silly pumpkin masks. We learned how pumpkins grow, made our real pumpkin into a Jack-O-Lantern, and tasted some of the pumpkin seeds we found inside the pumpkin (after we baked them). We were not all fans of taking the seeds out of the pumpkin or eating the seeds!

It would not be Halloween without skeletons. We read the story *Dem Bones*, which helped to teach us all about the different bones in our body.

We are very lucky to have Miss Lisa in our classroom on Thursdays. She has been busy introducing some really cool topics to all of us. We learned about American architect Frank Lloyd Wright and the Statue of Liberty. We never know what she will talk about next.

October was full of so many fun events. It included a visit from Mrs. Wonderwhy, a trip to Stokes Farm, Halloween fun at Lupardi's Nursery, Firefighter Matt and his fire truck, and Trunk or Treat. Needless to say it's been a very busy month!

Winter is right around the corner so please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather and practice those self help skills with them. It is my goal to teach them to put on their own coats, hats and mittens!

We continue each and every day to practice writing skills, cutting with scissors, and identifying letters and numbers. Please provide opportunities for your child to write and cut with scissors. It is important to strengthen the little muscles in their hands!

