



Demarest Co-op News

November 2019



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. Nothing is better than when they come home with a cute little hand turkey. :)

Thank you to everyone that came out for our Movie Night with Santa event. It is always such a special night for both kids and adults and really gets you in the holiday spirit!

The Holiday Boutique is this week. Please turn in your forms if you haven't done so already. It's a great opportunity to let your child shop for their family and they are always so proud of their choice.

One last reminder that all children need to get a **flu shot** paperwork in ASAP!

Happy Holidays!

- Christina



Demarest Co-op News: November 2019

Miss Christine's Class

We started off November talking about the leaves on the trees and how they changed colors in the fall. We sang several fall songs about leaves falling with Mrs. Paulson, our music teacher. The children made beautiful leaf wreaths. They were so proud of their creations, especially knowing they could hang them up at home. The children also used watercolors with droppers to decorate diffusing paper leaves. This is a great activity for building their fine motor skills. These leaves are displayed on our tree in the classroom.

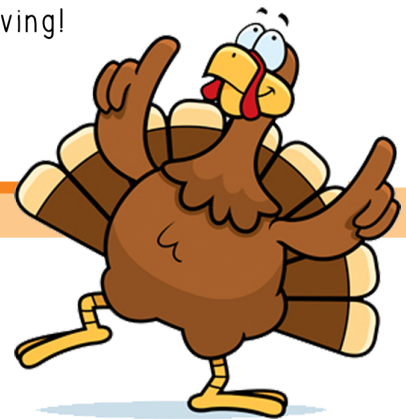
The children created adorable turkeys that were displayed in the hallway. These were made using kitchen scrubbers. We sang "I'm a Little Turkey", "5 Fat Turkeys" and "Hello Mr. Turkey". We were "gobbling" and "waddling" up a storm all month!

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 for the cornbread was exciting! 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! The children enjoyed the cornbread and butter at snack time.

We hope you enjoyed the Thanksgiving placemats. The children LOVED having their hand painted to create their turkeys.

We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

- Miss Christine



Demarest Co-op News: November 2019

Miss Lisa's Class

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

We learned about another "S" word, skeleton. We read a fun book, *Dem Bones*, by Bob Barner which taught us about the different bones that make up our skeleton. Miss Lisa taught us that our "femur" is our biggest bone and a tiny bone in our ear called the stape is our smallest bone.

Mrs. Wonderwhy came and talked to us about "nocturnal" animals. We heard a recording of different nocturnal animals and the noises they make at night. We learned that owls, bats, racoons and skunks stay up all night. We even got to smell the scent of a skunk! (That was fun. LOL.) Mrs. Paulsen taught us fun Thanksgiving songs, and we even got to beat a big drum like the Wampanoag Indians did.

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, as well as hunt and fish. We had fun making cornbread muffins together. We each waited patiently as we took turns adding the ingredients and mixing the batter with our old-fashioned beaters. We also made our own butter by shaking a jar filled with cream and marbles, and we used it to spread on our Thanksgiving muffins.

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 poult? We had fun designing turkeys with feathers on paper as well as with our play dough.

Please continue finding fun ways to point out shapes at home to you child. Some of us are still confusing triangles and rectangles. When you pull out an egg, see if they know it is in the shape of an oval, etc. Do not hesitate to let your child use scissors when you have time to sit down and do crafts with them. Remember to remind them to keep their "thumbs to the sky" and "open and close the alligator's mouth."

We are so excited to have our new friend, Rosalie, in our class. Please say "hi" to Rosalie and her parents, Laura and Brian, when you see them in the hall. Thanks so much to Kali's dad and Sienna's mom for bringing us pizza and brownies shaped like turkeys for our Thanksgiving celebration. Yum yum!!!

Have a wonderful holiday season.

~ Miss Lisa



Demarest Co-op News: November 2019

Miss Laurie's Class

We started off the month of November with a very special story called *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything*. We had fun acting out the story with the many props needed to make a scarecrow. After reading the story a few times we were inspired to make our very own scarecrow using those props. We stuffed him with lots of newspaper until he looked like a real scarecrow. I am sure you saw him sitting in a chair outside our classroom door. He scared lots of our friends in the hallway!

Next, we did a unit on apples. We learned that there are hundreds of different types of apples. Our favorite story was *The Little Red House With No Windows and No Doors!* Miss Laurie told the story using puppets which made it extra special. We found out that there is a star inside of every apple! We talked about how apples grow, and that they grow in orchards. We were amazed at how many things you can make with apples. Next, we made crockpot applesauce. We cut up the apples ourselves, added all the additional ingredients, and PRESTO we had delicious applesauce!!! We really love to cook. We also talked about Johnny Appleseed.

Before we knew it Thanksgiving was coming. We learned all about the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrims, and the Native Americans. We talked about the long and difficult journey the Pilgrims made in search of freedom. Freedom was a new word for many of us. We all agreed that we are very fortunate to live in the United States of America where we are free. We each had a turn to tell our friends what we are thankful for. This turned into a very interesting conversation. We made Native American beads from play dough that we made ourselves. We learned about Native American symbols, and how the American Indians used these symbols to tell stories. We had lots of fun in our classroom teepee telling stories and pretending to be American Indians.

It would not be Thanksgiving without turkeys. We learned lots of information about wild turkeys and domestic turkeys. We learned that girl turkeys are called hens, and boy turkeys are called Toms or Gobblers. We also learned that wild turkeys can fly but domestic turkeys can't fly cause they are too fat! Turkeys are very interesting animals. Some of our favorite Thanksgiving songs were "I'm Glad I'm Not a Turkey", "Five Fat Turkeys are We", "There Were Five Great Big Indians" and "One little, two little, three little American Indians". Singing is a very important part of our curriculum.

As part of our Thanksgiving theme, we made cranberry orange relish to eat with our turkey. We learned about cranberries, how they grow, and where they grow. We tasted a real cranberry which we did not like! We learned another new word relating to cranberries... bogs.

We always love our visits from Mrs. Wonderwhy. This month we learned about animals that live in N.J. who come out at night. Mrs. Paulson taught us many new Thanksgiving songs that we really enjoyed singing together.

Happy Holidays,
Miss Laurie

