

Chebeague Pre-K News – January 27, 2012

Spirit week was lots of fun with wacky hair, pajama day (my favorite) and opposite day. We still have snow and fish themed works on the shelves but have added/swapped some works to celebrate Chinese New Year. We started our celebration with a story and by making dragons from egg cartons. Their dragons served as the centerpieces for the wonderful meal of Chinese food that Mrs. Summa and Ms. Bowman made.

We "traveled" to Asia to celebrate China's New Year celebrations that run from the year's first new moon to the first full moon. On Tuesday they all made little flags of China.

Thursday was a day for baking. We mixed up dough (same recipe as pretzel dough), and then each took a blob, kneaded it, and rolled it into 3 snakes. We then crisscrossed the three snakes to make a six-pointed snowflake. While the snowflakes were baking I shared a slide show of Bentley's snowflakes on the wall. They are so beautiful and are quite amazing projected large.

Following are some of the new works. There are many non rotating works that we continue to work with but the rotating works help bring new themes to life:

Practical Life/Art

- Drawing fireworks with wet chalk on black construction paper
- Squeezing/matching of felt fortune cookies by manipulating chopsticks
- Squeezing transfer with chopsticks of sushi style erasers
- Latches and squeezing - Hide the Buddha in various Chinese style pouches
- Fans - these are really popular
- Spooning - dry noodle transfer with Chinese style soup spoon

Cultural/Science

- Making a flag of China
- Introduction to Asia
- Lake/Island sandpaper landform rubbing

Math

- Snowball + or - game. Draw a card and follow directions. Try to get 10 snowballs.
- Zodiac board game - roll die and move
- Odds and Even with "ice"

Language

- Handwriting: I and U
- Their own name written in Chinese - interesting responses from them
- Zodiac matching - visual discrimination
- We have read three different versions of Stone Soup and have talked about what has been the same/different
- Stone soup felt board story retelling

Peace:

- Gandhi is our new peacemaker.

Music

- For Thursday's music circle we did Copy Kitten, Tap Big Lines and The Shapes that Surround You

Calendar updates

Feb. 2: Ground Hog Day

Feb. 3: Island Commons visit

Feb. 6: Dragon Dance to conclude Chinese New Year - Full Moon is Wednesday, Feb 8

Feb. 7: Barry Dana visit - whole school presentation



Exploring writing Chinese characters



Hide Buddha for a friend. Various containers, one of which will contain a miniature Buddha. Some squeeze open, one zips, one snaps, one has a clasp.



Snowflakes ready for baking



Using choice of chopsticks to match the images held within felt fortune cookies.



Yes they are all different and all have 6 points



Kneading and making "snakes" with our blobs of dough



"Ice" math work making odd and even
Thanks for sharing your children
Miss Nancy