

Chebeague Pre-K- Transitional K News – December 4, 2009

The week of Thanksgiving gave us just a little time to read about life for the Pilgrims that first year and what they ate for Thanksgiving. We also worked on writing numerals 9 and 0. We have now practiced writing all the numerals and hopefully they will choose to practice some at home. If you see them writing any from bottom up remind them that all numbers start at the top. I can print out more number strips for you if your laminated one has been misplaced.

We have now started our letter sound books. The children are exposed to both the upper case and lower case letters and do some handwriting with the Handwriting without Tears sequence of wet- dry -try. This starts with the teacher scribing the letter, then the student uses a tiny piece of wet sponge to erase it, then dries it with a scrunched up towel, and finally scribes it themselves. The other part of our letter book is learning words that begin with the letter sound and choosing some images to cut and paste onto their letter page. We read our pictures to our peers at circle and they are available for them to review during any work times.

On Wednesday the K-5 children harvested the beets from the school garden. On Thursday the Pre-K twisted off the stems, washed the beets and delivered them to Ann for trimming of root hairs and removal of any blemishes. A handful of beets came back to class with us at snack time where they were sliced up, tasted raw and then the tray of sliced beets was returned to Ann for making beet chips for to add to our lunch. Yummy! Ann then prepared enough beet chips for everyone at CIS to have them for snack on Friday. If you have beets and are looking for a way to prepare them that children love make beet chips (Beets, toss in a little oil, salt and bake)

On Friday, Joanie Robinson popped in at morning circle with a hat for each child made by Judy Graves. This is an annual act of love for the island children that Judy does.

Practical Life/Art

- Color mixing with pipette and colored water
- Setting the table
- Drawing a volcano
- Spooning/sorting spoon transfer of silver and white beads

Language

- Letter Ff
- Our new author is Dahlov Ipcar

Sensorial

- Pattern blocks - turkey templates
- Large hexagon box

Math

- Writing #9, #0 - counting hopping etc
- Coin matching work

Geography

- Introduction to volcanoes
- Globe to Flat map of the 7 continents
- Intro to North America

History

- December calendar and its holidays
- St. Nicholas (Europe)- They all made a slipper and hung it on their coat hook with a carrot in it for his horse.

Music/Movement

- Turkey pokey
- U-tube segments of the Nutcracker and of Swan Lake
- We are focusing on our three songs for the holiday concert - Sing of Peace, Twinkle, and Celebrate the Holidays.

Peace

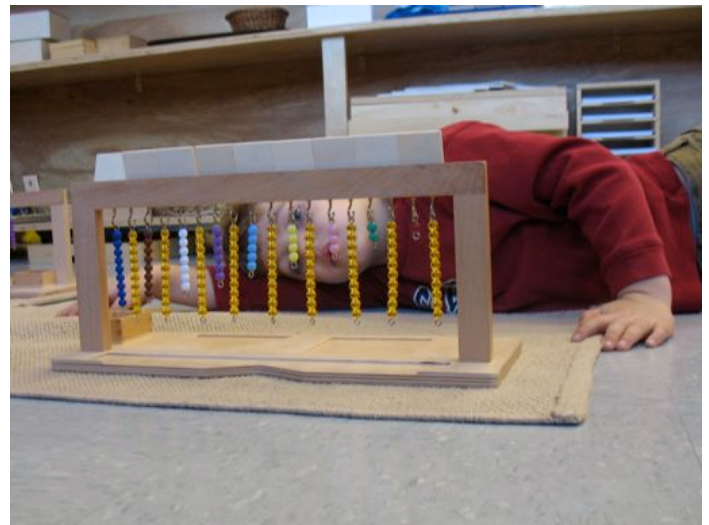
- On Thursday, Denise Sullivan (OT) read a wonderful story called "Have You Filled A Bucket Today?". It describes how we all carry an invisible bucket and ways in which we can help fill others and fill our own. It also presented ways that bucket dipping

occurs and how that makes others sad. Most important is that you cannot fill your bucket by dipping in others!

- Harriet Tubman is our new peacemaker. We talked about people owning other people, and following the stars to freedom. If you have an opportunity to find the big dipper (drinking gourd) and the North star with your child that would be awesome!

Calendar updates:

- Dec 11:** Island Commons field trip
- Dec 17:** 6-7:15 Holiday Concert at the Hall
- Dec 22:** Pre-K - 5 holiday gift exchange at lunch
- Dec 31:** Blue Moon (second full moon in a month)



Making teen numbers with hanging beads

The Beet project



Removing the stems and leaves



Washing and delivering to Ann



Slicing, trying them raw, eating them cooked at lunch



Exploration of color mixing



Sequencing numeral cards in place value groups

*Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy*



These are great hats Judy, thank you!