

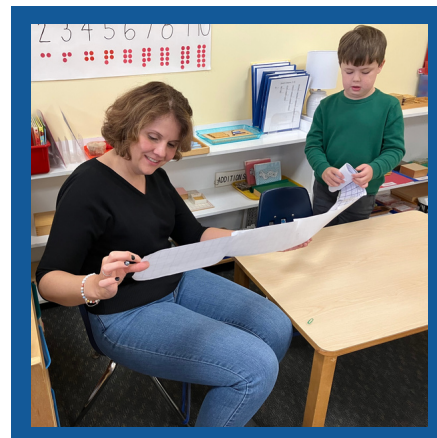
CALENDAR

- 12/8 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/8 Edible House Decorating
Social sponsored by PACE
3:30 p.m. (American Room)
- 12/14 Children's House Open
Classroom: AM Kindergarten Parents
8:45-9:30 a.m.
- 12/14 Children's House Open
Classroom: PM Kindergarten Parents
2:15-3:00 a.m.
- 12/15 Children's House
Winter Concert
9:00 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/18 Winter Concert Make-Up Day
- 12/21-1/1 Winter Break: School Closed
- 1/2 School Resumes
- 1/5 PACE Parent Coffee Meetup
and Meeting
8:15 a.m. (American Room)
- 1/5 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
ASM Spirit Day
- 1/8 Winter Enrichment Begins
- 1/12 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 1/15 School Closed: Martin Luther
King Jr. Day
- 1/16 Kindergarten: The Leadership
Year (For Parents) 5:00-6:00 p.m.
- 1/17 Looking ahead to Kindergarten
Observation 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- 1/19 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)

Our Classroom...



Writing work



Open Classroom



Recess time



Math work

Mitten Drive

In the spirit of giving, the Children's House Mitten Drive collected more than a basket full of mittens and gloves for needy families who visit Bread and Roses in Lawrence.

Well done Children's House. Thank you to everyone for your donations!



Curriculum Highlights

Science

During these two months, the children observed the changes in weather; cooler temperatures and the daylight shortened. These changes affect both plant and animal life where we live. The children learned that by migrating animals stay warm, find needed food, water, and a safe place to have their young. During a movie about migration, the children observed that animals use instincts that help them follow mountains, rivers, coastlines, and the sun, stars, and odors as guides to find their way. After studying about various species the children learned a migration song about where the birds, fish, whales, and reindeer migrate to. Do you know where the American eel begins its life? It was the vast Atlantic Ocean in a place called the Sargasso Sea. Where does the gray whale of the Arctic spend its winter? In the warm waters of the Baja off the coast of California and Mexico!

The class is moving on to learn about hibernators. Where do they go? What do they do to survive during the cold winter months? We hope to find out!



Culture and Geography

Our class focused on fostering the development of giving and thankfulness within our classroom and school community. During our Native American and Pilgrim life study, the children listened to stories about giving and working together. The teachers and children orally shared what they were thankful for. Some of the responses were; their families, friends, homes, school, toys, pets, and teachers.

Students continue to refine their pouring skills while learning the difference between the cape and bay landforms. The children's interest in learning about maps continues to grow!



Math

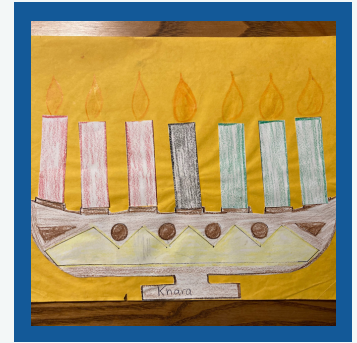
After enjoying the polishing of our class pumpkin, we cut it open. The children took out the inner fibers and seeds. then it was on to math. Each child counted out ten seeds to a cup and then glued the seeds to our counting chart. The final tally was 497 seeds. We listed everyone's guess as to how many seeds there would be. Malin was the closest with a guess of 500!



[Click here for more classroom photos!](#)

Learning about Traditions

December is a busy month! The children are learning about the festivals of light around the world including; Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. All of these events include the symbolic representation of light in living peaceful lives and looking towards the future. They have common ritual processes; prayers of thankfulness, use of candle light, unity, and gift giving. They have heard the story of the menorah and practiced their pincer grip while placing the candles into the menorah. They will learn a poem about lighting the candles and the tradition of bringing the Christmas tree inside our homes. The class will be introduced to Kwanzaa; a custom that reminds us of the prayer and thankfulness for the growing and harvesting of crops.



Looking Ahead...

January Topics

- Continue our study of hibernation, winter birds, and landforms
- Begin our study of the Arctic and Antarctic regions
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Snowflakes and photographer Mr. Bentley

Reminders to Parents:

- Boots, hats, waterproof mittens, and snow pants are needed so your child can enjoy the playground activities in winter.
- Please put your child's name on all outside clothing, lunch box, and carry bags.
- Please check your child's box for appropriate seasonal clothing that fits.