

CALENDAR

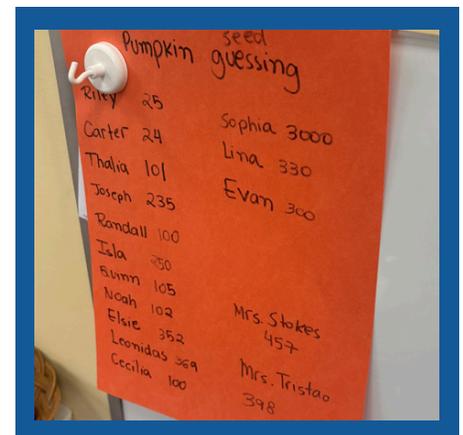
- 12/3 Looking Ahead to Kindergarten:
Observations 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
- 12/4 Portrait Re-takes and Sibling
Portrait Day
- 12/5 All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
ASM Spirit Day
Pizza Lunch
- 12/9 Children's House Curriculum
Overview: Part 2 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- 12/12 Children's House Winter
Concert 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
- 12/15 Snow Date for Winter Concert
- 12/17 Kindergarten Open Classroom
8:30 - 9:45 a.m.
2:15 - 3:00 p.m.
- 12/23 School closed: Professional
Development (Fun Days offered)
- 12/24- School Closed - Winter Break
1/5

Our Classroom...



Math

Our class enjoyed a special pumpkin-carving math activity! We began by having the children draw different pumpkin face ideas—happy, scary, sad, “Boo,” and more. Once all the drawings were displayed, the children voted for the face they wanted on our classroom pumpkin. This was a wonderful opportunity to introduce the idea of voting and making group decisions, especially during November when many people participate in elections. After counting the votes, the “Boo” face won! We then carved our pumpkin and saved all the seeds. Before drying them, the children made guesses about how many seeds they thought the pumpkin contained. Once the seeds were dry, the children worked together to sort them into groups of ten and counted them carefully. We discovered our pumpkin had 542 seeds! The children were so excited to see such a large number represented in a real, concrete way.



Curriculum Highlights

Culture and Geography

In November, we explored the story of Thanksgiving. We introduced the Mayflower, the ship that traveled across the Atlantic Ocean and arrived in what is known as Massachusetts (where we are). The children enjoyed looking at our Mayflower poster, which showed the different parts of the ship, helping them imagine what life might have been like during such a long journey.

The children were introduced to the pilgrims who made the long journey, as well as the Native Americans who were already living on this land. We focused on themes of kindness, helping one another, and sharing — ideas that are meaningful for young children. We highlight the spirit of gratitude and community that we celebrate during Thanksgiving.



What are you thankful for?

Then we created our classroom turkey: each child received a feather and shared something they are thankful for, which we wrote on their feather. Check it out on our classroom door!

Practical Life

Food Preparation: We enjoyed a special food preparation activity connected to our Thanksgiving theme—making homemade cranberry sauce! The children helped measure the cranberries, sugar, and water, and we cooked everything together in our crock-pot. Food preparation is a wonderful activity that supports independence, fine-motor coordination, sequencing of steps, practical math skills, and scientific ideas. The children love to contribute to a real recipe and see the transformation of the ingredients as they cooked. Once the sauce was ready, each child had the chance to take home a portion of the cranberry sauce to share with their families. It was a delicious and meaningful way to celebrate the season!



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

Language

Our second and third-year students have been deeply engaged with the Movable Alphabet. This material allows children to explore written language in a hands-on and joyful way. Many students are building CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words by carefully sounding out each letter, while our more advanced writers are using the letters to create their own sentences. After forming their words, the children take pride in recording them on lined paper, reinforcing both phonetic awareness and handwriting skills. It has been wonderful to watch their confidence grow as they move from concrete exploration to more independent written expression.



Looking Ahead...

December 3, 2025: Looking Ahead to Kindergarten classroom observations [RSVP here](#)

December 9, 2025: Curriculum Workshop Part Two: Sensorial, Math, and Science from 5:00-6:00 p.m. [RSVP here](#)

January 13, 2026: Kindergarten: The Leadership Year (A Hands-On Workshop for Parents) from 5:00-6:00 p.m. [RSVP here](#)

December Topics

- Hibernation
- Winter birds
- Landforms
- Holidays

Reminders

- Please, every first day of the week, remind your child to bring their folder back.
- Layered clothing is best to cover the daily temperature changes.
- Don't forget to update your child's spare clothing for the season.
- Be sure to label all personal items, including jackets, boots, lunch boxes, snack containers, and bags.
- Be prepared for the winter! Your child will need a hat, boots and water proof snow pants and mittens. Please make sure to label it.

Sharing Days

Please encourage your child to participate by bringing something meaningful to share!

- Something your child has drawn, painted or constructed
- Something they found in nature
- A favorite book to share
- An artifact from a special place
- Please no toys or stuffed animals

Congratulations to Red Maple friends and thank you for your hard work—your presentation at the All-School Meeting last Friday was truly wonderful!