

Peek At The Week

Miss Peartree

Mrs. Zanello

November 22, 2011

It was great meeting with all of you at Parent-Teacher Conferences last week. I really enjoyed having the opportunity to talk with you about your child and all of the wonderful things he/she has been doing in Kindergarten!

Everyone is very excited for Thanksgiving! We read many books to prepare for the upcoming holiday. We discussed the first Thanksgiving, Pilgrims and Native Americans, and being thankful. In centers, the children wrote and drew about things they are thankful for. We've also been learning more about the fall harvest and different foods we traditionally eat on Thanksgiving. Last week, the children participated in Harvest Centers. They were divided into many small groups and each group selected a different harvest fruit or vegetable. We had a squash, pumpkin, corn, potato, sweet potato, turnip, apple, pear, and cranberries. The groups drew their fruit or vegetable, described how it felt, measured the height and weight, and put it in water to see if it would sink or float. They recorded their observations on a large chart, and when we were finished each group shared their results with the class. Yesterday, we created a graph of which Thanksgiving foods are our favorites and learned that most of our class likes turkey the best! The children have also enjoyed playing Thanksgiving games, making crafts, and singing songs about turkeys!

In Readers' Workshop, we read several more Kevin Henkes books and practiced making predictions and text-to-self connections. We also read The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush by Tomie dePaolo. The children learned about legends and the origin of Indian Paintbrush Flowers, and then created their own Indian Paintbrush Flowers and decorative flower pots in Centers. In Writers' Workshop, the children have continued to learn about writing sentences. They practiced arranging words to create sentences, and discovered that the order of the words is very important and can change the meaning of a sentence. Then they practiced writing their own sentences about things we see at Thanksgiving.

In math, the children worked on a new rotation of Math Tubs for their Morning Work last week. They made counting books in which they wrote numbers and number words, then stamped the correct number of stamps on each page to match the number; they used magnetic bears with numbers 1-31 on them to practice ordering numbers; they played the Turkey Counting Game; and they practiced printing numbers and number words on wipe boards with markers.

In religion, we've been using our *Promise* magazines and workbooks to learn about sharing, being thankful, and helping those in need. Today, we attended School Mass and St. Pius X's annual Prayer and Share Day. It was so nice to share some yummy treats together, and we thought about how thankful we are for each other and all that we have. Thank you for sending in food and organizing this special day for us!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Miss Peartree



Mr. Turkey

tune: Shortnin' Bread

I am Mr. Turkey, Turkey, Turkey,
I am Mr. Turkey, big and fat.
On my tail are feathers, feathers, feathers,
On my tail are feathers - What do you think of that?
And when I walk, I wobble, wobble, wobble,
And when I talk, I gobble...
GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE!!

