



Devereux School

November 30, 2021

To the families and members of the D@W community,

From squealing down the hill while leaf sledding at recess to making three-dimensional sculptures using natural materials in art, we have taken advantage of the seasonal changes happening around us this November.

This month we celebrated the birthdays of Zach and Caroline – joyeux anniversaire! We were also excited to host the Devereux third-grade class, giving them a truly authentic D@W experience, clomping through mud one day and playing a raucous game of kickball, the next.

To start our month, we started our second unit: Classical Traditions. Focusing on the Ancient Greeks and Romans, we began reading *Tales From the Odyssey* by Mary Pope Osborne, exploring how Odysseus' *hubris*, fate, and the meddling gods help or hinder his long journey home. Keeping with the oral tradition of the Ancient Greeks who first performed the epic poem, we have been acting out various scenes from the *Odyssey*, both improvising our own skits and reading from scripts.

Furthering our studies of ancient civilizations, we also took a moment to investigate how these people measured time. Making water clocks like those made popular by the Ancient Greeks, we kept track of time by indicating the increase in water levels over one minute intervals. After, we made sundials and (ignoring our grumbling tummies) found true north to tell us whether it was time for lunch or not. Culminating our time with time, we visited the Willard House and Clock Museum in North Grafton, MA. There, museum personnel, Robert, Sarah, and Beverly told us about the Willard family, the clocks they built, and their eighteenth-century clock shop. At the end of our visit, the museum director, Robert, gifted our classroom an antique clock! We are excited to take turns winding it each day and to hear its chime each hour and even half hour!

Besides measuring time, we also studied units of measurements this month, focusing on place value and powers of ten while exploring the metric system. Practicing our division and multiplication skills with “magic zeros” and understanding the difference between tens and *tenths* will help us as we move into long division and decimals.

To end our month, Madame had us flexing our division skills and practicing our French numbers by helping her split up the *beaucoup des bonbons* that will be used by both campuses for the tradition of decorating *les petites maisons* next month.

As November is all about being thankful, we want to extend that gratitude to all of you: the families, friends, parents, pets, guardians, and grandparents.

With gratitude,
Veyla, Kasey, and Madame Virginie