To the D@W community,

We returned from March break rejuvenated and very ready to start our new unit on Native Americans! Inspired by the student’s insights, Veyla revamped her curriculum to include a more contemporary perspective on Indigenous Peoples living within the United States. Paul Baker spent an afternoon with us to share his education on Indigenous Peoples of Canada and construction of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee. We also had guest speaker Sylvia Kanes share with us her life as a nine year old refugee and her efforts currently in Ukraine.

We have been studying how to manipulate decimals in all sorts of ways, as well as find the equivalents of their fraction and percentage counterparts in math. In art we created black and white name designs before starting hand weaving projects and in French we invented an item in which we would have to sell to the classroom, full with pitch and all! Our results for Le Grand Concours came in- wonderful work everyone and félicitations!

To celebrate the new life of spring we decided to incubate chicks in the classroom! We are happy to announce the arrival of four healthy chicks: Tiramisu, Tater, Charcoal and Wilbur! Feeling inspired by our egg friends, Veyla brought in a bunch of eggs from her chickens so we could decorate them and make a delicious quiche from the blown eggs we decorated and a frittata for our gluten free friends. In honor of Earth Day, we took an “Earth Day Challenge” where we tried to spend as much time outside as possible! We took to the field for humanities, math and a science exercise of building a tree and its functioning parts out of people. As a contribution to our Pollinator Garden we are planting with Suzanne Hale, we created informational cards for native plants of Massachusetts. You can find them outside the new Waring building.

We took two field trips this month! The first to Newhall Community Farm in Peabody, Ma where we cleared out space for and started a new hedgerow. The kids planted a crab apple tree, peach tree, and juniper who have all settled nicely in their new spots. Enjoying what our local museums have to offer, we visited the newly installed Native American exhibit at the Peabody Essex Museum before enjoying the Native American contemporary art event ‘Each/Other’. It’s always a treat to take the kids out to experience these wonderful local treasures and each time they have us beaming with pride over the compliments they receive! We are looking forward to a fun ending to a magnificent school year and where the end of the year will take us.

Until next time,
Kasey, Veyla and Madame Virginie