October 31st, 2022

To the D@W community,

This October we have been very busy! Earlier in the month, we headed to Russell Orchards for our annual apple picking trip. Soon we will be making tarte aux pommes with Madame ­­-- yum! Working with Carla, we were able to cut a lot of glass and even piece together much of the mosaic. This meant we took a couple of trips to the Marblehead campus to see our peers and help with community tasks such as taking care of Napoléon, our rabbit. We also were able to practice with Emily for our first Fête des Feuilles concert since 2019. We were so happy everyone was able to join us on campus, decorate some pumpkins, and see the artwork of the kids. It was a huge success!

Outside of the classroom we took a field trip to the Cape Ann Museum. There, we learned about what early sailors and fishermen endured while exploring or making a living. We heard the famous story of Howard Blackburn and saw the very ship he was in when it happened! The children had a wonderful time engaging in a scavenger hunt and sitting down to create some sketches of the museum’s pieces.

Back inside the classroom, we learned about buoyancy and Archimedes’ Principle. We made predictions on whether an object would sink or float and had some fun testing our theories. In math, we wrapped up our US Customary measurement study by creating a measurement scale of our own. In humanities, we finished up our riveting novel, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi, with its rebellious ending. To put our cursive writing skills to the test, we composed letters from Charlotte’s perspective on tea-stained paper, explaining why she chose to leave home once and for all. In Sound Painting class, Dennis created an “instrument petting zoo” where we (after safely sanitizing) were able to try out different instruments to see if we were interested in learning how to play them. We’re sure the entirety of Beverly heard this class! Nicole has embraced the gorgeous colors of the fall season in art and inspired us to think about how we arrange our objects and their edges. Using pastels and watercolors, we created beautiful fall themed still life pieces. For French class, we worked hard on learning our song “Ces bottes sont faites pour marcher” along with our irregular verb ‘aller’ and expressions using ‘avoir’ or ‘être’. Our furry friends, Bella and Sparky, came along for a visit to prep us with ideas for our annual pumpkin carving contest!

We were extremely happy to have had our very first Poetry Café of the year! The children all planned out their boat designs efficiently and rose to the challenge of using only recycled materials. We are happy to report there were no casualties (even with an appearance by a shark) and everyone’s boat was able to float! Wonderful work everyone and we look forward to our next Poetry Café in December. For today, we were able to keep our Halloween excitement at bay before enjoying some refreshments and a movie before heading out for the day.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Halloween night!

Warm regards,

Kasey, Veyla and Madame Virginie