

Primary School News...

By: Mrs. Lilian Mullane, Head of Primary School

Ah! Fall has finally arrived, leaves are gently falling and cooler weather has brought out our sweaters! Our students have been diligent in their preparations for the seasonal celebrations.

Mrs. Mongrain's ESL classes were busy learning about her favorite holiday – Thanksgiving! The 4th and 5th graders were challenged: they needed to find out why Thanksgiving is always celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November in the United States. If you want to know the answer too, go to the Lower School Library and check out the book “Thank you, Sarah” by Laurie Hales Anderson to find the answer (Hint: it's in the back of the book in the ‘facts’!!!)



Mrs. Roussel's 5th grade students enjoyed creating exciting stories using the illustrations by Chris Van Allsburg in “The Mysteries of Harris Burdick”. Each student chose an intriguing image and let their imagination give life to each character and object. Please take some time to come see the display in the hallway of the Lower School.

In Mrs. Grenier's CE1 class, the acorns planted by her students on September 17 have started to sprout and they hope to see a forest by the end of the year!

Hollywood, move over!!! Mrs. Herendeen's 4th Grade students finished “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe” posters. After writing a summary of the book, the students illustrated the posters and chose modern day actors to represent the characters...Brad Pitt as Aslan, Keira Knightley as the White Witch and Daniel Radcliffe as Peter are just some of the stars appearing in our hallway (aka “The Red Carpet”).

The library celebrated “Children's Book Week” and invited parents to tell us about their favorite children's stories. Some of the stories were read during story time. In conjunction with their unit on Africa, 5th grade students were introduced to our three fantastic databases (Encyclopedia Britannica, The Gale Group and Facts on File). They are encouraged to use them at home too! For more information on these learning and research tools, please contact Clarissa Richardson (crichardson@awty.org) or go to the Awty Library's main link.

It is never too early to cultivate one's garden! Marie-Dominique Lee's Kindergarten gardeners have been very busy. At the start of September, the students enthusiastically dug their gardens and planted tomatoes and bell peppers. In October, they planted broccoli, cauliflower and cucumbers. A few weeks ago, they sowed radishes and green beans. The tomatoes are green and are already well formed, whereas the cucumber uprooted itself and left the garden... Long live gardening!

Mrs. Permenter's and Mrs. Wolff's 2nd Grade classes sent an invitation to each child in their French “partner” classes. Their French compatriots were invited over for a Thanksgiving celebration hosted by their international friends! Refreshments were served and each

international class read the “Story of the First Thanksgiving” to their guests. Each guest received an “illustrated” copy of the story to take home and share with their families.



On Friday, November 16, the CE2 and 3rd grade classes celebrated Thanksgiving with a show. The students prepared for their show by practicing the songs with Natasha Ramirez, our Music teacher, and by making their costumes in class. The French section students also took part in a fabric painting workshop to make their Indian headbands.

The 3rd grade International and CE2 students traveled back in time to experience everyday life of pioneers through agriculture, art, craft and role play at the George Ranch and are now geared and ready to actively re-enact the customs and traditions of colonists during the 17th - 19th century colonial period.