



## School Closings:

Fri, Nov. 11th  
Veteran's Day  
*(School Closed)*

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Mon. Nov. 21st  
thru

Wed. Nov. 23rd  
Parent/Teacher  
Conferences  
*(No Classes Held)*

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Thurs. & Fri.  
Nov. 24th & 25th  
Thanksgiving Break  
*(School Closed)*

## Upcoming Events:

Mon., Oct. 24th  
to  
Fri., Oct 28th  
*Literary Week*

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Sun., Oct. 30th  
*Fall Festival, Open  
House, Book Fair  
&*

*Barn Dance!*  
11:00 to 3:00

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Fri. Nov. 18th  
*Thanksgiving  
Celebration*  
2pm

## **Notes from Michelle**

First, Some Thanks!

Thank you to Liam Brantmeyer for donating the basketball hoop that finally allows the kids to play almost-full court basketball outside. We are all really appreciating your generosity!

Thank you to the Paynter-Kolber family for their donation of and training on the SmartBoard in Betty's room. It is opening up new avenues of educational technology in the classroom and we are so very grateful.

Thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered for lunch parenting this year. This job is not for the faint of heart, and it really makes it possible for the staff to meet and important work to get done during these times.

Thank you to the wonderful Jodi and the indispensable PTO, for a delectable Teacher Appreciation Lunch. The appreciation quiche really sealed the deal. Then they did it

again in collaboration with our aesthetic guru, Kelly, in creating a sumptuous breakfast for parents and staff last Friday, at Breakfast with Michelle.

Mucho gusto!

*A couple of reminders:* Now that we are really in the thick of the school year, it is natural that you will want to check in with your teacher(s) to find out how your child is doing. This is very important partnership building and we encourage it, just not on the fly at the end of the day. At the end of the day, the teachers have a million things on their mind, are in a state of transition, and not able to give you the kind of centered, focused attention that they wish to give. If they know in advance they are meeting with you, they will have taken the time needed to gather their thoughts about your child. If a touch base is all you need, you may be able to get that over the phone or

In an e-mail exchange.

All teachers can be reached here by e-mailing them at their first [name@highmeadowschool.org](mailto:name@highmeadowschool.org). (except for Barbara who is barbarap, Amy Weiss who is amyw, and Amy Poux who is amyp). Though assistants often attend parent/teacher meetings, please do not ask the assistants for feedback as we do not like to put them in that position. Thank you for your understanding.

Our Open House/Fall Festival is coming up on October 30th. This year promises to be an extraordinary one with our crack team Janna and Julie, bringing us a fabulous literary week for the kids leading up to the Book Fair of used and new books. Dog-on-Fleas will have the place jumpin' with upbeat and heartwarming tunes. And Liz and Natalie have introduced a whole new element to the Festival...*(Cont. on next page)*

## Notes From Michelle (cont. from pg.1)

A Barn Dance! Called by none other than Ruthie Ungar.

But believe it or not, the main attraction is really you, the families that make up this wonderful community. Try to remember back to your first Open House experience, whether you were a prospective parent, or new to the school; the friendly smiling faces were part of the ineffable qualities that drew you here or made you feel you belonged. So please, come and be part of this day, we are not really “we” without you.

We had a fabulous staff day on October 8th in which the staff immersed themselves in the disciplines of technology and hands-on math and learned about the process of Japanese Lesson Study. Our presenters, Josh Baron and Ike Shaw (Technology Visioning at High Meadow), Michael Kolber (Educational Technology through the SmartBoard), Susan Paynter (Gifted and Talented Specialist/Japanese Lesson Study), and Temple Ary (Stern Math), are all ex-

perts in their fields and the teachers were active learners in the sessions in which they participated.

Staff days are not only an opportunity for staff to learn new strategies, gain new content or pedagogical knowledge, or learn new skills. It is an opportunity for them to be learners and to empathize with their young charges who spend so much time in the “Zone of Proximal Development”, that zone in which the learner has the most to lose and the most to gain, the place at which the learner takes the huge leap of faith from knowing - to not knowing - to learning - to knowing. In a learning community, we are all learners as well as teachers.

I really enjoyed spending time with the parents and staff who joined me for breakfast last week. Much of the work and purpose of community is to hear each others’ stories, and last Friday about 25 of us shared our High Meadow stories and talked about the tenets of progressive education. I have a quote from the day that I want to

share. This quote from Paulo Freire’ Letters to Those Who Dare to Teach, relates to the tenet: **The purpose of education in a democracy is to prepare our children to be active participants in democracy.**

“It is necessary and even urgent that the school become a space to gather and engender certain democratic dispositions, such as the disposition to listen to others - not as a favor but as a duty - and to respect them; a disposition toward tolerance, the disposition to question, criticize, and debate...”

The cultivation of these dispositions is both a passion and a problem for any educator committed to doing so, as it breeds children with a voice. This is delightful and confounding at different times, and yet, here at High Meadow we remain committed to the ideals embedded in the work we do with children to speak up in the face of injustice, self-advocate, question, and discuss. AnnMarie

recently did the etymology of “discuss” with her students and they found it meant to *break apart*. Interesting!

As your children move through this year they will discuss, debate, and present, but they will also listen, attend, empathize, and analyze. In this listening and speaking, they will learn about each other and themselves, and this is what builds community.

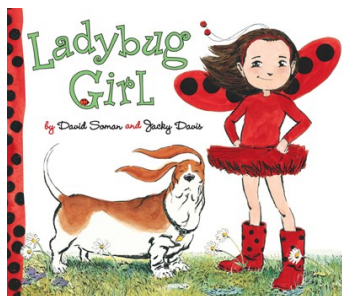
And finally we have exciting news! We are launching our website, and we should be on-line and accessible by this weekend. We want to thank Doug Motel for his tireless efforts, Pat Thompson for her invaluable input, The Communications Committee for their feedback and guidance, and Eli McClatchy for an extraordinary drawing. There will be groovy features like an updatable calendar, a community bulletin board and all the curriculum materials you could possibly desire. Check us out at:

[www.highmeadowschool.org](http://www.highmeadowschool.org) Hooray!

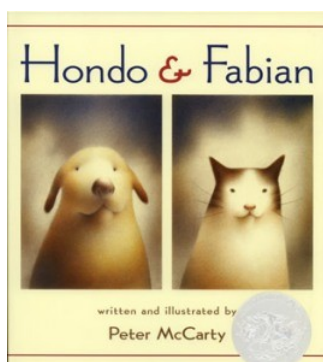
## Literary Week

Leading up to our annual Fall Festival and Book Fair, we have *Literary Week* - a week long celebration of all things literary! This year's visiting authors will include:

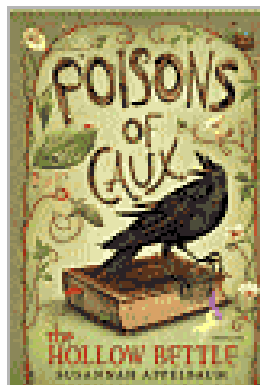
**On Monday:**  
New York Times best selling author of the "Lady Bug Girl" series, Jacky Davis Soman  
[www.ladybuggirl.com](http://www.ladybuggirl.com)



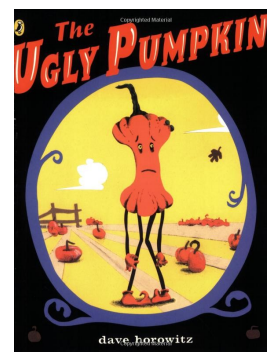
**On Tuesday:**  
Caldecott Honoree Peter McCarty, author and illustrator of "Hondo and Fabian"  
[www.petermccarty.net](http://www.petermccarty.net)



**On Wednesday:**  
Susannah Applebaum, acclaimed author of "The Poisons of Caux" trilogy  
[www.thepoisonsofcaux.com](http://www.thepoisonsofcaux.com)



**On Thursday:**  
David Horowitz, author of "The Ugly Pumpkin"  
[www.horowitzdave.com](http://www.horowitzdave.com)



Additionally on Tuesday, Oct. 25th, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favorite literary characters. We only ask that they do not wear masks or include weapons in their costumes.

Thanks

## Events, Updates & Announcements

### Harvest Festival News

Hi all High Meadow Families! Just a few reminders about our upcoming Open House/Harvest Festival Fundraiser, which takes place on **Sunday, October 30th, from 11 am to 3 pm**

Make a day of it! We will have beautiful crafts for all ages, *Dog on Fleas* performing live from 11:30 to 1 pm, amazing food, new and used books, open classrooms for prospective families to poke around in, and new this year, a traditional **Barn Dance from 1-3 pm in the PAC!**

*Mike and Ruthy* and Friends will be playing live and calling out the square dances. The day will be loads of fun, so don't miss it!

**DON'T FORGET:**

All funds raised at the event come from food and new and used book sales. **The Book Fair will be open from 8:30 to 3:30 next Thursday (October 27th) and Friday (October 28th) for parents and students to visit and purchase books.** The book fair will remain open during the Open House and Harvest Festival on that Sunday, Oc-

tober 30th. Bring friends and come hungry as our food sale will include both sweets and lunch savories.

Finally, this week is the last call for used children's books to be donated. Collection boxes are located all around the school.

We look forward to a beautiful event and a successful fundraiser!

Thanks,  
Janna Cohen

### Halloween

**We will be celebrating Halloween at school on Monday, Oct. 31st.**

However, please **DO NOT** send children to school in costumes. Instead, they will be making masks with their reading partners and then having a Halloween parade around the campus.

Thank you!

## Education Subcommittee

The Education Subcommittee at High Meadow provides a forum for school board members, administration, teachers and parents to discuss the educational mission and approaches at High Meadow School and then to communicate those ideas to our parent body.

Our first meeting was spent reviewing our work last year and looking for new directions for the coming year. Last year we reviewed trends in the parent feedback surveys, considered how a human development curriculum could meet the needs of

the community by addressing physical development topics, and spent considerable time reviewing current research on the effects of technology and social media on the educational and social development of our youth.

In reviewing possible directions for the coming year, we agreed that we would continue to explore ways in which the staff manages and assesses the use of technology in the school. We made some rich connections between the growing use of social networking and the ongoing need for teachers to model

and expect face to face social and emotional relating. Further, we need to make explicit for our kids *the human need* for face to face social relations in this age of technological communications. Both staff and parents agreed that our youth benefit from appropriate social and educational challenges in order to develop important problem solving and life skills.

This led very smoothly into our third focus for the year which will be to explore ideas about inquiry based learning in the sciences, math and humani-

ties as the staff moves into its own exploration of inquiry in curriculum and practice. Lastly we plan to update and develop another parent survey to reflect current educational concerns and interests. The subcommittee meets the second Thursday of the month from 12:15 to 1:30pm. Contact Michelle Hughes for more information if you're interested in joining in these discussions and can make a commitment to regular attendance and participation.

**Natasha Williams**

## PTO News

Hello from the PTO!

Our teacher appreciation lunch was a great success. Thanks to so many of our lovely parents and PTO members for bringing delicious food and helping with set up and cleaning. The teachers and assistants did a fine job of clearing their plates!

We had our first official meeting earlier this month and it was great to feel the enthusiasm of the group and to talk about the year ahead. *Our next meeting is on Thursday, November 3rd at 3:15 in the Pre-K room.*

Next week is Literary Week! Ask your Class Parent about it if you have any questions. Have a lovely weekend!

Jodi

**Jodi**





## Early Childhood Program

### *Parent/Child Class*

The Monday holiday made the time between classes seem like forever! The children returned with enthusiasm and got right to work exploring the classroom and the materials we set out. There were some sweet moments as the children came together in play or comforted a friend.

### *3/4s*

Our class has started having "specials". Debbie comes for music on Thursdays. The children love her songs and

games. They especially love playing the instruments.

We started dance with Elena this Tuesday. We have divided the class in half to work with her to make sure the children get an understanding of what to expect.

The afternoon children get the treat of reading partners, 5th graders that come to read to them and play on Thursday afternoons.

We have been cooking up a storm in the mornings! We have enjoyed pumpkin, banana and ap-

ple muffins. Cooking together builds a sense of community and pride in being able to make something delicious to share.

The children watched the puppet show of "The Little Red Hen". They were divided as to whether the Hen should share her bread with her friends that didn't help.

The big blocks have been unpacked from under the counter a couple of times. These huge blocks inspire amazing group play and the whole class has been involved with the "boats" that have

been built. As the cooperative play develops the big blocks will be available on a more regular basis.

### *Gentle reminders:*

- Please turn in your child's All About Me book so that we can begin to present them. Every couple of days we will have a child present their book and have them share a snack that they bring from home.

- We will be going outside as often as we can, getting wet and dirty, so be sure to send warm, extra clothes.

**Miss Vanessa**

### Pre-K

There is some serious building going on in Pre-K. From the time the children enter in the morning until the end of the day, our block room hums. It usually begins slowly; a few children might build a road with a ramp to drive trucks on.

Then, as more children join, the structure goes higher, becoming a ship to space or a faraway earth destination. There is an impressive amount of cooperation and problem solving going on through all of this. Sometimes a wall will

fall and must be rebuilt and improved. (The small blocks should go **on top of the large blocks.**)

Other times another classmate joins the play and the ship needs to be expanded to add more seating. It's a joy to be on the side lines as these ar-

### Kathy

chitects, engineers and story tellers work. And of course, amidst all of this block play, friendships are being built too. Now if we can just convince everyone that clean up is just as much fun.....



## Kindergarten

### *Kindergarten Science News Update:*

We have discovered that our worms in the see-through compost have helped turn all of the food that was in our compost into wonderful rich soil.

We are finishing our study of decomposition by becoming scientists and exploring another experiment. We have placed material from the woods in three containers. Some in water, some in soil and some in an empty container. We have developed an hy-

pothesis as to what will happen.

We have also begun our study of the Ocean. Each child has chosen some living part of the ocean to study. We are asking each child to work with their families to discover:

1. What type of habitat their creature lives in?
2. What it eats?
3. How it protects itself?
4. Where it is on the food chain?

We will also be making an Ocean mural and each child will make a representation of their creature to add to the mural. Also

check out our new Fire-Bellied toads.

In Language we have been working on filling in our alphabet chart by cutting out different pictures that begin with that sound. We have been discussing the initial sound we hear in three letter words and in some instances we have blended three sounds together to create a word.

The children are very excited about our new chapter book "George's Marvelous Medicine" by Roald Dahl. We have also started our Family Unit.

The children have been sponge painting their family portraits and adding details and a scene to their picture. The next step is to dictate a story about their family. Parents feel free to sign-up to come in and share a family tradition or to present something that your family enjoys.

**Cindy**

## 1st Grade

How wonderful to see you all at our first Family Breakfast. Great thanks to Nan, Terri and Josh for the film clip of the children at West Wind orchard. This trip was such fun! The weather was just perfect and being the end of the season, the children got to use the long apple pickers to reach for the remaining ripe Red Delicious apples. It was a great day to experience the smells, colors, taste and delight of fall apple picking with our children. Once back at school the children pooled their apples for making applesauce for the Family Breakfast, and apple crisp,

just for the treat of it.

Combining art and language arts the children worked with Tracey and Hollie to record the steps followed to make applesauce. This cooperative project hangs in the entrance to the lower school common space.

Math explorations included [This Tree Counts](#), basic subtraction, introduction to number sentences, and learning the construction of 5, 6 and 0.

Our trip to UPAC to experience the African tale The Baobab tree was a resounding success! Thank you all for re-

sponding and ferrying us on short notice.

We are looking forward to some full weeks of school coming up, and are beginning some new studies. Just in time for Halloween, we began studying bats today. Capitalizing on the students' interest in building with wood and some new tools, we are starting imaginative, individual wood craft projects using some left over wood from this summer's gazebo project, which is also a good lesson on re-using.

Next week begins Literary Week. Classrooms

will be visited by authors and illustrators throughout the week, culminating with a school wide book fair on Thursday and Friday, and our Fall Open House/ Harvest Festival/Barn Dance on Sunday.

**Kristin & Patrick**

## 2nd Grade

The second graders recently embarked on an adventure that organically grew out of one of our math lessons. This particular lesson asked the students to calculate the number of fingers and toes in our classroom using their knowledge of counting by fives. Having accomplished this task collectively, someone wondered "How many fingers and toes do you think there are in the whole country?" While we decided this was a bit too big

of a task to take on with our second grade numeric sense, we did conclude that we probably could calculate the total number of fingers and toes at High Meadow.

The very next morning, the second graders arrived at school eager to begin our count. They went off solo and in pairs to poll each grade and discover either how many students were in the class or to count their fingers and toes. Each pair returned jubilantly adding

their results to a graph we created in the classroom. At the next circle time, we again relied upon our counting by fives skill to determine the total number of fingers and toes in each grade. Then, the second graders thoughtfully wanted to include all the various staff members in our count. Using tally marks, another counting strategy we have been working on, the second graders listed various staff members. They did not want to

leave out anyone from Liz and Carole who teach after-care to the various after school club instructors.

Finally, we reached our total number and are impressed by exactly how great it is. It is fascinating what we can discover when we let our inquiry lead us on a counting spree across campus! Interested in the final number of fingers and toes in our seemingly 'small' community? The second graders will share their findings at an upcoming gathering.

**Carrie**

## 3rd Grade

Our field trip to the Huguenot Houses was wonderful. Thank you to the parents who drove and made this possible. It is always an enriching experience to actually become a part of the past and try to see history as it really was. This was an introduction not only to the early settlers but to the study of New York State as well. We will come back to this reference again and again throughout the year.

Our written significant facts to complement our homework assignment are now complete. The children have begun to present their puppets and biographies. It is extremely interesting to

hear what each child feels is important about these famous people. As Beatrix pointed out, Van Gogh was not a happy man, especially when he cut off his ear. You can imagine the lively discussion that followed!

In science we have mastered the difference between fact and opinion and have now moved on to hypothesis. We did a very interesting experiment to find out the result of popping colored corn. Please ask your child what actually happened and why we are now considering new conditions in order to answer our query.

In my year long search for the perfect paragraph I use a fail proof recipe to

help the children understand what is expected. With this intro I can now also begin our life skills curriculum: cooking. As well as cooking in the class we will be using sequencing to make cookbooks. To make this a very exciting unit we will have a ***Favorite Luncheon on Friday, Oct. 28th at noon.*** We would like to invite parents to join us. Details will be sent home in a letter.

Our community service work begins next week as we will spear head a trick or treat for UNICEF campaign. We will request the entire school to take part in collecting money for children less fortunate

in the form of those familiar little boxes. This is an excellent opportunity to learn coinage and begin to handle vast sums of money. Last year the 3rd graders collected over \$500, and the majority was change! It took us over a week to count and calculate. We hope to be as successful this year.

***Our next field trip is on Tuesday, Nov.15. We will be going to the Senate Museum in Kingston and on to the Hoffman House for lunch.*** Set aside this date if you are interested. As always, let me know your questions and comments. Blessings, Barbara

**Barbara**

## 4th Grade

We have just completed our first class novel, "Sees Behind Trees." I have been so impressed with the thoughtful journal entries I have read. The children are really learning to empathize with fictitious characters and subsequently enjoy the rewards of identifying with and learning from the characters' experiences.

In this novel, there are many unanswered questions at the end. This week, their final entry will explore the experience of

completing a novel and still being left wondering about various outcomes. I look forward to reading the responses!

In Science, we have been reading about ecosystems in preparation for our first concrete ecosystem study of the pond. The children have been reading, identifying and defining scientific terms and summarizing sections of the chapters. We have identified the 4 components of an ecosystem: producers, con-

sumers, decomposers and environmental factors. Your children should be able to define each of these terms for you and provide examples of each!

We have completed our Native American biographies, timelines and presentations and have moved on to the study of 4 different Native peoples. Children are reading informative texts and are beginning to engage in compare/contrast discussions regarding the im-

## Jackie

pact of the location of a homeland upon the development of the culture of its people.

In Math, we have been learning about arrays as a precursor to memorizing the times tables.

Children have been grouping numbers into arrays as an approach to identifying various pairs that multiply to give the same product (as in, how many ways can you multiply two numbers to get to 16). Arrays have also been helpful in determining the area and perimeter of a rectangle. That's all for now. Best, Jackie



## 5th Grade

In science we have started our grow creatures, growing. This experiment is designed to prove or disprove the claim that these creatures will increase in size by 600%. Measuring them before and after immersing them in water, we are calculating their growth in length, height, width, perimeter, area, mass density and volume.

We have begun to rehearse scenes from Roald Dahl short stories. Our first two stories have been adapted and are "The Vicar of Nibbleswicke" and "The Fantastic Mr. Fox".

In Grammar, we are learn-

ing to identify the subject as well as the predicate in sentences we read and write.

We have presented our various early humans as a culmination of that study. These presentations resulted in excellent question and response sessions deepening our understanding of this subject. The mobiles we constructed are beautiful and informative. Check them out!

We are beginning our study of Mesopotamia.

"You Were Always on My Mind" is the song we are currently interpreting for our dance classes.

Multiplying fractions and

solving for x is the thrust of our math studies.

In P.E., we've been playing volleyball and indoor soccer.

Georgina is teaching us Spanish words relating to our families.

The entire school is looking forward to literary week beginning next week. *We will be dressing as our favorite literary characters on the 31st.*

The middle school is super excited about *The Costume Ball coming up on Nov. 4th.* This gives us an opportunity to make up for the loss of our annual Halloween Dance which was unable to take place before Halloween due

## Betty & Allyson

to the book fair.

Welcome back, Tracy! We made mad, monkey art. This is such a strange coincidence given our history studies.



## 6th Grade

(Isa) In History we've been making books. (Eliza) The books are about different types of religions. (Cali) There's Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. We each chose 2 to 3 categories and we write about them. (Petey) The categories are beliefs, holidays, temples, gods, symbols and the afterlife.

(Petey) In drama we're starting to practice Mid Summer Night's Dream and we've started using a script. (Olivia) We're double casting most of the roles because they are big parts and we have a big class.

(Sahara) In science, we've finished cells and genetics and are moving on to the Skeletal System. (Chance) We're each choosing different functions and parts of the skeletal system and present-

ing them. (Hudson) We're presenting in 2D, 3D, in a performance piece, a 500 word essay or by creating a class 3D project that we add to in groups (like Bob-era, Ana-Tomy or RoseNDale in the previous years). *(From Betty - please ask your child what craft items he/she might need to continue their work in class. You will have to send in some of these items. Thanks.)*

(Amir) In math we are looking at patterns and algebraic expressions using patterns. We are also reviewing some algebra from last year. We've been translating between variables and expressions.

(Emma) In Literature class we're reading The Witch of Blackbird Pond.

(Spike) In Art 1 with Tracy, we're making a canvas pres-

entation of Save the Oceans, in the style of Jackson Pollock. We're making a mural. (Ruby) In Art 2 with Tracy we are making a mural about saving the rain forest.

There's a bulldozer cow eating trees. (Ana) In Art 1 with Claire, we are making coil pots with rope and we're going to paint them, then draw them. (India) In Susanne's Art 1 class we are making silhouettes of heads and hands. (Jonah) In Susanne's Art 2 class we are doing the same thing and we're going to put them on the windows on plastic transparencies. We will have 2 images on each window.

(Chance) In Chorus 1 we are singing the Halloween song from The Nightmare Before Christmas.

(Cali) And we're also singing Monster Mash.

## Allyson & Betty

(Nitya) In guitar, we are learning a new song with the chords, the base line and the melody. (Hudson) in PIE with Ike we are working on drumming a piece with trip-lets. (Spike) We might be doing a song called Iron by Woodkid. (Isa) In Dance we are working on a dance to You Are Always on my Mind. (Matt) And in P.E., we have been playing volleyball and now are going to work on indoor soccer.

(Gideon) In Spanish, we've been making flash cards with basic question words.

The Student Government wants everyone to know that they have a *Costume Ball scheduled for Friday, Nov. 4, 2011 from 7 - 9:00 pm.*

They have also been talking about field trips.

## 7th Grade

By RACHEL AND LEO

In Math, the 7th grade is studying proportions, algebra, percentages, fractions, and ratios. It is very interesting and we are learning a lot.

In Science we are learning about the Grand Canyon. We have been learning about the rock layers. Recently we tested different rock samples for acid reaction.

In English, we are studying words with Greek and Latin roots. Like: panacea, monologue, omnipresent, prelude, and renegade. We have taken two vocal tests.

In History, we are studying Ancient Rome. Recently we divided into 6 groups and each got a Roman social class. Each group studied their classes

civil rights, advantages & disadvantages, and daily life. We then presented our notes to the rest of the group. Right now the class has divided into different aspects of the Roman culture to do reports. We are going to have an event called Rome day.

In Spanish we are conjugating verbs. We are also learning family words.

In Art we have split into three art groups taught by Claire, Suzanne, and Tracy. In Claire's class we are making clay bowls and plates with rope. We are also doing some drawings. In Tracy's class we have started our mural. In Suzanne's class we have been working with shadow portraits for the windows.

In chorus with Sarah we have been singing Hallow-

een songs. We are going to start our concert pieces shortly.

In Advanced Guitar with Ken the class is working on a James Brown song. In Beginner Guitar with Ken the class has been working on blues scales.

In P.I.E. with Ike we are learning a song called Iron.

In P.E. we have been playing volleyball, basketball, and walking on the nature trail.

In dance, the whole group is working on a dance to "Rolling In the Deep" by Adele. The girls are working on a piece called "One and Only" by Adele.

In Flex Group 1 with Ike we have been making a website. Each person gets a page to personalize.

## Peter & AnnMarie

In Flex Group 2 with Peter we have been playing math strategy games.

In Flex Group 3 with Tanya and Patrick we have been starting to de-bark trees for the bridge. We have been harvesting the garden as well.

In drama we have been playing drama games. We have been making outlines for our characters. We have been deciding what kind of play we should do.

Gathering & Reading Partners: We are having Upper School gathering the 1st Thursday of every month. Isaac, Dylan, and Ethan are going to rap the "Cat in the Hat". We are reading to the 2nd grade

## 8th Grade

### Humanities

The 8th grade has begun studying the American revolution and is currently engaged in a web quest called "Historical Figures of the American Revolution." We are working in pairs and conducting interviews of our historical figures, with one of us representing the historical figure and another playing the interviewer.

We are also reading the historical novel Johnnie

Tremain, by Ester Forbes. We are reading independently at home and discussing the novel's historical context in class. We continue our work in Classical Vocabulary, Book 2.

### Science

We finished reading A History of Science this week, which was a survey of the basic history of science, including astronomy, geography and mathematics. We also dis-

cussed the Grand Canyon and really enjoyed Cora's presentation of her recent visit there.

### Math

In math we are learning about negative and positive exponents, and are practicing equations with these skills. We are also reading articles that Peter brings into class which are related to math or science.

Kayla

## AnnMarie & Peter

