

## **THE BEECHWOOD SCHOOL: NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER**

### **CLASS 6: Ms. Marita and Ms. Isabella**

Class 6 had a fun and productive October, highlights from which include studying fall themes such as apples, acorns, leaves, owls and pumpkins! As we celebrated the autumnal season, we practiced writing our letters Aa (is for apple and acorn), Bb (is for bat), Cc (is for cat), Ll (is for leaf), Oo (is for owl), and Pp (is for pumpkin). Class 6 students also studied the environmental science aspect of apples, acorns, leaves, owls and pumpkins and made numerous autumnal crafts, including leaf rubbings with crayons and real leaves, a fall scene with real leaves that we collected on the playground, colorful owls made with recycled materials, as well as many Halloween-themed crafts.

We have also started a weekly student reader activity that was inspired by Class 6's love for books and the sharing of books! Throughout the week, each student is encouraged to bring in a book to share with the class, and he or she may either read it word-for-word (with or without help from the teachers), or he or she may retell the story by resourcing one's memory and/or the pictures in the book! This activity has encouraged the students to practice using context clues and recall in order to read or retell a book, and as one way to help them learn how to read! The student reader club has also revealed the impressive public speaking skills of our class – everyone has shared a book and read/retold with expression and gusto! Due to the overwhelmingly enthusiastic response to the student reader activity, I will be sending out a schedule with one day out of the week set aside for each student to bring in a book if he or she likes, that way parents will know ahead of time, and so that I can schedule everyone in to our fast-paced day!

So far this month, we have learned about the letter Dd, including Dd (is for Democracy!), and we voted as a class on which Mo Willem's character we like best – Piggie or Gerald the Elephant. I read several Mo Willems books aloud to the entire class before the official vote, so that each of the students could cast his or her individual, informed vote!

Throughout November, we will continue to study the alphabet (phonics and letter formation), the numbers 1-20, colors and shapes. Also, we will be learning about and crafting about Thanksgiving, which will include themes such as the first Thanksgiving, the fall harvest, fall foods, and gratitude!