SPECIAL VISITOR DAY IS YOUR CHILDREN’S OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE A SPECIAL PERSON INTO THEIR CLASSROOM. THE VISITOR HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN BY PARTICIPATING AND OBSERVING HOW THE CHILD CHOOSES A LESSON, WORKS WITH THE LESSON AND PUTS THE LESSON AWAY. THIS PARTICULAR MORNING IS FILLED WITH YOUR CHILD’S EXCITEMENT AND PRIDE OVER THE ARRIVAL OF THE SPECIAL VISITOR. THE VISIT IS HELD FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.

◊ **Banking** is every Thursday.

◊ **Special Visitor Day** is Thursday, November 5th from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

◊ **Saturday, November 14th** from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We need parents to help the day of the event. Please let Debbie know if you are available. 1 hour of volunteering, the day, of supports a truly successful amazing community event.
This week our class went on their first field trip to Cranberry Acres. When we arrived, Annette, our guide, met us and took us on short hike on a trail through the woods. The scenery was filled with splendid Autumn colors. Once we got to the bogs, the children were able to gather the cranberries. Each child was able to weigh what they picked and was allowed to bring the cranberries home. It was a wonderful first outing and as we were leaving, our guide told me that she had never seen such a well behaved group of children. What a wonderful feeling I walked away with. Kudos to the parents who helped our children during this trip. The children helped Miss Emily put our outdoor garden beds to rest for the winter. They removed all the remaining plants and turned over the soil. In one bed, the children were able to plant garlic which will lie dormant during the winter months and sprout in the Spring. The children tasted the baby kale that we have been growing in our mini hot house. Emily will be creating a salad with the children next week with the greens.

I have introduced the children to a social curriculum which we will be implementing throughout the school year called “Have you filled someone’s bucket today?”. This program helps children understand that their actions and words can affect other people both positively and negatively. We first read the book which is written for young children and then role play different scenarios to see if we are "filling" someone's bucket or "dipping" into someone's bucket. The children are beginning to internalize these concepts and I can hear them practicing with each. If you would like more information on this amazing program, please let me know and I will be happy to go over it with you.

We have been spending a lot of time studying, thinking, and singing about water. Early in the year I presented a sorting exercise called “Earth, Air, and Water,” which got the children thinking about these various elements. Small jars containing these substances are placed on the rug and the children sort pictures of various land and seascapes and place them under the appropriate jars.

Just recently I added “Sink and Float” to the Geography shelf. In this exercise there is a basin of water and another small bin full of objects. The children place one object into the water at a time and determine whether it sinks or floats. They then retrieve the object and place it in its matching cup. This is an extremely popular activity and the children follow the complicated steps very well.

Today I presented the first “Water Tension” lesson. In this lesson the child puts a drop of water onto a tiny receptacle, in this case one of the suction cups of a soap holder. He or she then adds a few more drops to the same receptacle and watches carefully to see if the drop forms a rounded dome. We talk about the water molecules holding together in this mysterious property! Later on in the year we will explore more water tension exercises.

A new song we’ve learned is “The Earth is all covered with water, the Earth is all covered with sea! The Earth is all covered with water, more water than land don’t you see!” This is sung to the tune of “My Bonnie lies over the ocean....”
Late Day

We had a shortened week due to Parent Teacher Conferences on Tuesday and Thursday. Monday, however, was a wonderful start to our Sense of Wonder Art Class with Pam Benjamin. Children walked with a partner and three teachers to the studio. We used our senses to experience the beauty of Fall. We arrived at Miss Pam’s studio and were treated to her warm welcome and introduced to her assistants, Bill and Isaac. The studio, itself, is an inspiration, filled with natural light, tools, art supplies, colorful masks and student creations adorning the walls. This week the students had a chance to observe and then share the potter's wheel with Bill. Those not at the wheel worked at the table to mold and create their own piece of sculpture. This process will continue next week. Children’s' sculptures will be fired and saved for display. Clearly the students experienced joy in the creative process.

Books we read this week included: Pumpkin Soup, Henry the Castaway, Owen, Switch on the Night, and New Friends.

Weezie