

# EVERGREEN COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL FLASHBACK!

DECEMBER 2009

## Early Childhood



Our entire Early Childhood program celebrated Stone Soup during the month of November. The children learned about the story and how an entire village worked together to make a wonderful feast. Villagers thought it was a magical stone that created the soup for a village, but they learned it was the generosity they each showed by offering what little they had to put together one feast for all. Each child brought in a vegetable to help make the school celebration and families were invited to school for a "Stone Soup" feast.

During the busy holiday season, it is important to slow down in order to appreciate all that we have and to share our abundance with others. Both pre-kindergarten classes are looking at projects to do through and beyond the season that reflect appreciation and sense of community. They made pumpkin bread and cards signed by each child.

The loaves were personally delivered within our immediate community – Mr. Jackson, Ms. Gray and Dave, and office staff, along with deliveries made to the local fire and police stations. Everyone appreciated being appreciated.



## Elementary

Local heritage was brought to life when the 2nd grade visited the Wilmot Little School House, which was built in 1876. The class re-enacted a morning of a typical day for that era. They all dressed in prairie clothes, ate pioneer style food and carved objects out of Ivory soap. This enriching experience gave the children a glimpse of life during pioneering days as it occurred right in their own home area. This is a wonderful example of hands-on learning which ECDS provides its students.



Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades all recently experienced the Arvada Center by viewing the musical, HONK, which told the story of the UGLY DUCKLING. The performance reinforced the classrooms Character Education program with its message of looking beyond a person's appearance to learn about true character. After returning from the performance, each child designed a clay figure of their favorite character of the play. The accompanying photo shows some of the children working on their clay figures.



## Middle School

Our Middle School has recently adopted Challenge 20/20, a program that joins schools in the U.S. together with other countries. Collectively, schools identify local solutions to a global problem. This internet-based program consists of globally based experiential curricula, giving schools the opportunity to build educational partnerships. The 6th and 7th grade are focusing on poverty, while the 8th graders are addressing drug issues in Singapore and Nigeria, where they have already begun to establish student and teacher exchanges. Ben Jackson shared, "It is an opportunity for students to collaborate with other same-aged children and to focus on real world problem solving."



Community speaks not only to our hearts but to our stomachs. ECDS parents, students and teachers enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast, followed by delicious pumpkin pies, marking the beginning of the Thanksgiving holiday. Middle School students passed out pie slices and juice to the students and then cleaned up the entire cafetorium. Thankfulness comes in many forms; sometimes it is the small gestures like this that are really appreciated. Kudos to our Middle Schoolers.

