

# Celebrate the Children

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### Visitors

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Visitors
- Classrooms
- Upcoming  
Events

Recently we had the pleasure of having two professionals visit all the way from Buenos Aires, Argentina! Maria Aggio and Socorro Cornejo spent a week at CTC observing, learning and collaborating with our staff. Thank you for a great visit, Maria and Socorro!



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

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**PROGRESS REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE ON PORTAL FOR REVIEW.**

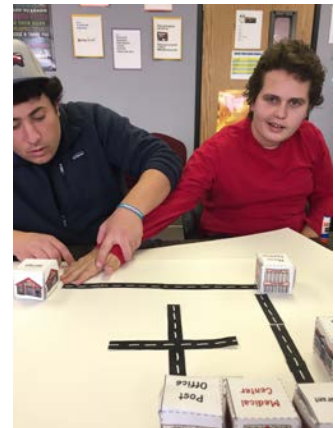
Any questions, please contact Sue Lechner  
@ [slechner@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:slechner@celebratethechildren.org).

## A PEAK INTO THE CLASSROOM PAULA'S CLASS

Our class was busy learning about the voting process, watching debates and learning about the different candidates running for president. We practiced voting in our class on different things like what is your favorite pumpkin food and what is your favorite food made from corn. We voted in a private voting booth and only their aide was allowed to help them. They voted on an actual sample ballot and got a sticker when they voted.

Our class also has been busy talking about what buildings are in a community. We built our own buildings, folding and taping them. We made some roads on a large poster board and then the students decided where they wanted to put their buildings. We decided to put the jail by the law office and the courthouse. It was a fun activity and the students enjoyed figuring out what roads they have to take to get to certain buildings.

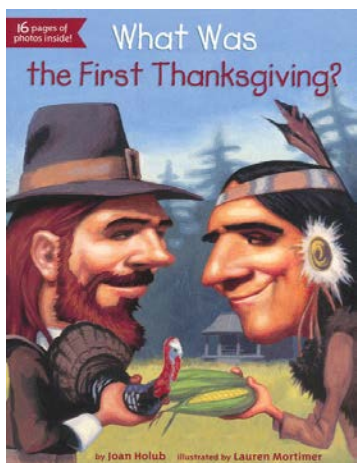
We have been working on our food preparation skills in Life Skills. Our class has been learning about measuring tools and how to use them. We made owl cupcakes and apple turkeys this week in preparation for Thanksgiving. The students love working with food even though it's hard to wait to eat everything until AFTER we finish decorating.



## A PEAK INTO THE CLASSROOM JAMIE'S CLASS

### Jamie's class is discovering the history behind Thanksgiving...

We have been extremely busy in our class reading a chapter book on the history behind Thanksgiving. My class was assigned a chapter a day where we found definitions of vocabulary words, read a chapter as a class using reading guiding strips to help keep students on track, and then answering 5- 10 comprehension questions per chapter. As a class we gave our opinions during each chapter on whether we enjoyed reading that chapter, before we moved onto the next. The students enjoyed learning the history behind Thanksgiving and why we celebrate it by reading *What Was the First Thanksgiving?* This was filled with historical background on the Pilgrims and the reasons behind their voyage to the New World, the native Wampanoag tribe, the challenges both groups encountered, plus the reason that Thanksgiving was made into a national holiday. The students also had fun sewing and creating their own Native American pouch. In the story these pouches were used to carry small pieces of food or small items to trade. We completed this chapter book before break. The class is now excited to move onto our History curriculum, Access American History. Our first chapter is on the first Americans. We are looking forward to exploring this chapter together on Native Americans and being hands on through projects and assignments.



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## A PEAK INTO THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM WENDY'S CLASS

November marks the end of our outdoor adventures for a while. Our PE classes took full advantage of the beautiful weather to do many fun and educational activities. During Halloween week we played "clean out your backyard" which was a hit with all ages. Two teams start out with 12 nerf ball ghosts on either side of a low volleyball net. Upon hearing the go whistle they are to throw as many balls to the other team's "backyard" as fast as possible until the stop whistle blows. Students counted how many they had left on their side. Three rounds were played to determine the ultimate champion. Students had to use math skills to determine how many balls were needed to return to the winner's side in order to play the next round.

All classes also enjoyed raking leaves and jumping into the giant pile afterwards. That's right, they *enjoyed* raking leaves!

Finally, we began our unit on flag football this month. Students are brushing up their throwing, catching and running skills just in time for a Thanksgiving day catch. I'm so proud of my many students who were once afraid of the football and now really enjoy playing catch with a friend or staff member. If your son or daughter seems afraid to catch any ball start at a close range, throw it to them underhand and aim it toward their chest, not their face. Slowly increase the distance between you and *maybe* begin to throw to them overhand. Encourage them to throw overhand to you.



## A PEAK INTO THE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

In our *Celebrate the Season* after school group we have made several crafts to represent what happens during the seasons. We made a beautiful vase with sunflowers, we made a pinch paper apple picture as well as our very own leaf globes with leaves falling off the tree.

Right now we are preparing to make Holiday ornaments to hang around your home during the holiday season, these will be for sale on the giving tree in the main lobby.



The CTC *Fantasy Football* group is in full swing! The teams are in a very tight battle right now in order to place for the playoffs! The students are using their knowledge and what they have learned in this group to make their best picks every week. In just a few weeks, the fantasy season will be over and a champion will be crowned! Let's all cheer on our students and favorite teams, as we enter the back end of the NFL and fantasy seasons.

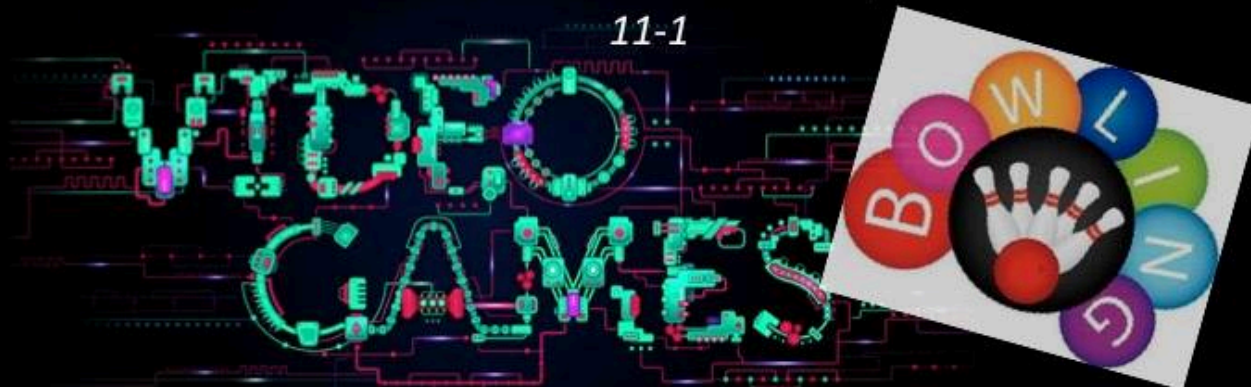
# SAVE THE DATE!

## “VIDEO GAME THEMED” BOWL-A-THON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016

CIRCLE LANES LEDGEWOOD, NJ

11-1



Family Fun Fundraiser!

105.5 WDHA \* Prizes \* Costume Contest

More Information to Follow!



Mark your Calendars!  
Special Olympics Track & Field Competition



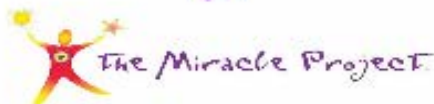
**Special Olympics**

*New Jersey*

**SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017**  
Hackettstown High School  
Look for more information this winter

**The Mayo Performing Arts Center  
cordially invites you to a very special evening with...**

***Elaine Hall  
of...***



*Come be inspired and learn about  
her groundbreaking*

***"Inclusion from WithIn"  
Methodology  
&  
"The Seven Keys to Unlock  
Autism"***

**Monday, December 12th - 7:00 p.m.**

**The Mayo Performing Arts Center  
100 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960**

***Free Lecture with Q&A to follow***

*Ms. Hall will discuss how her program uses performing arts to provide children with autism and other special needs with tools to build communication, social skills and self-esteem*

**For reservations and information visit:  
[www.mayoarts.org](http://www.mayoarts.org)  
Or call the Box Office at (973) 539-8008**

**In January 2017, MPAC will launch this inclusive theater program in Morristown!!  
Musical Theatre Thursdays! for ages 9-15**

For information on classes, please visit:  
[www.mayoarts.org/education/pes](http://www.mayoarts.org/education/pes)  
or email [croy@mayoarts.org](mailto:croy@mayoarts.org)

***More about Elaine Hall:***

An international keynote speaker and workshop leader, Ms. Hall calls attention to the modern-day challenge of autism while celebrating the value of the human spirit in overcoming any challenge. She is the star of the Emmy Award-winning HBO documentary, *AUTISM: The Musical*, based on her groundbreaking theatre program being launched at MPAC in January, 2017!



**Major funding for The Miracle Project at MPAC  
is being provided by:  
Bruce Jacobs and Ken Levy of Jacobs Levy Equity Management**

## CTC CONNECTIONS - RESOURCE WEBSITE

*...everything you need to navigate the journey!!*

On this site you will find access to a vast array of Local, State, & National Resources and Organizations dedicated to supporting children, families, and professionals. You can sign up for newsletters & publications, locate workshops, seminars and conferences, access webinars, find publishers, connect to other families, get homework help, and the list goes on!

We encourage you to explore, connect, and utilize the vast resources available to you through these organizations. The knowledge you will gain, the confidence it will afford you in your journey, and the community connections you will secure are invaluable!

Look for "CTC Connections" on the home page of the CTC School website

Go to the "MORE" tab, click on "RESOURCES", then "CTC CONNECTIONS"

<http://www.celebratethechildren.org/ctc-connections.html>

### Featured CTC Connections Resource Link:

#### HOMWORK HELP PAGE & WEBSITE LINKS

We have compiled an array of websites dedicated to homework help and education on our CTC resource website.

- Khan Academy
- BJ Pinchbecks Homework Helper
- Crash Course
- Fact Monster
- PBS Learning Media
- Ted Talks
- Met Kids
- Amy Poehler's Smart Girls
- ETC....

**This page is listed under the  
"Homework Help" Tab**

We encourage students, families and professionals to visit this page and many other Topic Specific pages listed on the CTC Connections Resource Website:

<http://www.celebratethechildren.org/ctc-connections.html>

### Morris County HOW

Our "HOW" Hands On Workshop Series

Is your student ready for life after high school?

Are you?

"HOW" is a five-part workshop series to help families navigate the transition from school to adult life.

Our NEXT MEETING of the 2016-2017 School Year is

**Monday Jan 9, 10:00-11:30am**

**RSVP REQUIRED**

*email Cheri calexander@celebratethechildren.org*

Mark Your Calendars with the Additional Meeting Dates in the Series: Feb 13, March 13

#### UPCOMING PARENT TRAININGS AT CTC

- Dec 7, 12:30-2:00 – Parent Healing Group
- January 26, 1-2:30 – V&V, Visualize & Verbalize
- February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 10AM– Sexuality & Hygiene
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 11:30AM – AAC (Alternative & Augmentative Communication) Training

**RSVP REQUIRED**

Contact Jen Mandato at

[jmandato@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:jmandato@celebratethechildren.org)

#### CTC Parent Support Groups & SFSS Small Group Parent Series

We have a few Parent run Support Groups that meet on and off premise. Contact your SFSS Case Manager for more details!

We also strongly encourage families to reach out to their home communities for support and recreation opportunities!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Bowl A Thon

December 3, From 11-1  
Circle Lanes  
Ledgewood, NJ



Elaine Hall of The Miracle Project presents:  
"Inclusion from Within" Methodology & "The Seven Keys to Unlock Autism"

Monday, December 12 @ 7pm  
The Mayo Performing Arts Center  
100 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960  
Free Lecture with Q&A to follow  
For reservations and information visit:

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Our next meeting is **Monday, Jan 9, 10-11:30 am**

**RSVP REQUIRED**

Email Cheri at [calexander@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:calexander@celebratethechildren.org)

Mark your calendars with additional meeting dates in the series: Feb 13, March 13

### Upcoming Parent Trainings

**12/7** – 12:30-2 Parent Healing Group  
**1/26** - 1-2:30pm V&V Visualize & Verbalize  
**2/8** - 10am Sexuality & Hygiene  
**3/3** - 11:30am AAC (Alternative & Augmentative Communication) training

**RSVP Required**

Contact Jen Mandato at

[jmandato@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:jmandato@celebratethechildren.org)

## SAVE THE DATE

More Information to follow



### Benefit/Gala

March 11 @ 7pm  
Meadow Wood Manor,  
Randolph, NJ

### Profectum's 5th International Conference Honoring Individual Differences: The Gateway to Supporting Neurodiversity

Friday, March 31st thru Saturday, April 1st, 2017  
The Huntington Library, Art Collections and  
Botanical Gardens  
San Marino, CA

### Special Olympics

**SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017**  
Hackettstown High School

**Light It Up Blue**  
March 31, 2017



## Celebrate the Children

A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

Phone: 973.989.4033  
[www.celebratethechildren.org](http://www.celebratethechildren.org)