

# Celebrate the Children

## PUMPKIN PICKING



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pumpkin Picking
- Around Campus
- Profectum Conf
- Upcoming Events

It was a perfect Autumn day at Ort Farm for a hayride and pumpkin picking. Students and staff loaded onto 3 hayrides to go pick pumpkins. Then it was off to visit farm animals and climb on a haystack pyramid. We all picnicked for lunch. Once back at school everyone received a coloring book and an apple.



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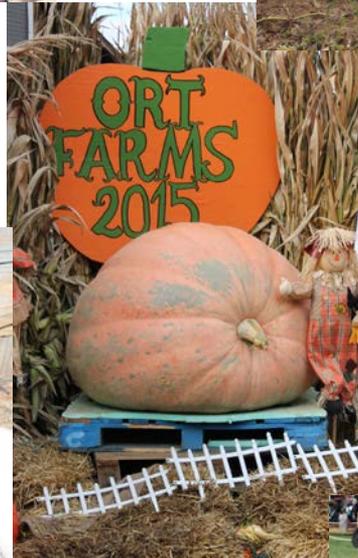
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## A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM SAM'S CLASS

This week in Reading/Language Arts we are learning about The Wilderness and things that we could do to survive there. We decided that water is a necessity so we made a solar water collector to purify water to drink. The students dug a 3 foot hole and placed a pan in the center. Next we covered the hole with a plastic sheet and placed rocks on the edges and in the center to weigh down the sheet. After 48 hours we went back to check our collector and got some great results. We collected over 1 cup of water!



## A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM JACKIE'S CLASS

So far it has been a very busy year in Jackie Giganti's class. When we arrived back to school in September, our school garden was completely overgrown with weeds, but our students and staff worked so hard for several weeks pulling weeds, as well as shoveling and spreading mulch throughout the garden and around it. Now the garden looks amazing and ready for planting some fall/winter crops like garlic. We even made our own scarecrow named Kevin to keep the critters away. We have also been busy in the community improving our life skills by going to places such as Whole Foods in Morristown to make healthy snacks, Hedden Park in Wharton to help the environment and clean up the park, apple picking and purchasing at Sun High Farm in Randolph, and Turkey Brook Park in Budd Lake to visit and honor the Veterans' memorial there as well as walk the mile track together. In Applied Literacy, we read some stories about diversity and other cultures, completing the unit by making our own fried plantains with cinnamon sugar. Yum! Tune in next time to discover more amazing things we will do and places we will go in Jackie G's class!



## A PEEK INTO THE ART PROGRAM MARY BETH'S CLASS

We started our school year strong with an improved art room. The CTC Foundation funded a beautiful new art storage system enabling our middle and high school students a personal storage area for in process and completed work. Thank You CTC Foundation!

Our Theme for the year in art is, The Impressionists. We are starting with a unit on Claude Monet.

Students created collages and paintings in the style of Monet. We are currently working on our piece de resistance; a homage to Monet's water lilies. The large collaborative mural is displayed on the second floor back hallway.

Our youngest students are working hard on group projects inspired by the book *Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle. And of course the song Brown Bear, Brown Bear by our good friend Brady Rymer.

Students are differentiating colors and using a range of tactile materials in a multi-media collage of each animal from the story. Completed animals are hanging in the kindergarten/first grade wing. Stop by and see all the beautiful work!





## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



We've been very creative in arts and crafts this cycle! This week the students had fun cutting tissue paper, using modge podge, and adding a light to the inside of their mason jars to create a light up candy corn. After they dried students brought their art home to enjoy!





# Transition

Transition is "the process or period of changing from one state or condition to another" (IDEA). The planning process can begin at the age of 16, but usually starts at the beginning of high school. A team of teachers, therapists and those others who work daily with the students come up with an IEP plan, along with the student and parents. Things considered are what the student wants to do after they graduate, skills that need to be strengthened and if the student is striving for eventual independence.

Celebrate the Children has a great transition program. There are many different jobs both in house and also jobs in the community. In house jobs include Green Vision, which we have written about. There is also writing for the paper and the school store. Community jobs include the Hampton Inn, Starseed Bakery, Habitat for Humanity and Saint Francis.

Beginning at age 14, students job shadow by going to different jobs to tour the facility and talk to different managers. At 16, the students begin job sampling by going to see different jobs and working alongside an intern. By 17, students begin scheduled internships that switch every 8-12 weeks. This helps figure out strengths in jobs and also creates a positive work experience. If a student has a job they like, then they can feel more positive about working in general. One of the main people who plans transition and job internships is Diane Sandonato. We sent her some questions and here are the responses.

- Why did you decide to work with special needs kids?

I always knew I wanted to work with children. When I was in college, volunteered at the Special Olympics. Being able to witness the pride in the athletes made me realize that working with students with special needs was my future and I never looked back.

- What position did you start in?

My first position was teaching an elementary level special needs class with students ranging from 7 to 10 years old.

- What is your favorite part about this job?

My favorite part of my job is placing students at a variety of work sites in the community and watching the growth in their confidence as they find success in the work they do.

- Do you see yourself doing transition in the future?

Yes. There have been many accomplishments over the past 5 years, but there is always more room for more growth. I enjoy facing the challenges and rewards that go along with being the transition coordinator.

- If you could pick a job you coach which would it be?

I would like to work at High View Farm. I would enjoy feeding the animals and working outdoors.

- If you were a bike part which one would you be and why?

I would like to be the gear shift because it allows you to make adjustments to your pedaling as you go up and down hills. I relate this to managing the road through the peaks and valleys of life experiences.



**Interview  
by  
Gil and  
Jenny**

# Profectum Conference

October 18, 2015

This years Profectum Conference was a HUGE success. We had over 30 staff attend.



## 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 that are 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 the "CTC Connections" logo on the home page of the CTC School website

<https://sites.google.com/a/celebratethechildren.org/national-and-state-organizations/>

### Parent Training Groups

*Next up....*

Specific Behavior Strategies to  
Use with Your Child-Part 4

**November 17, 2015 10 am- 12:00 pm**

Presenters: Monica Osgood & Lauren Blaszak CTC  
Executive Directors

Life-Long High Value Employment  
for People with AUTISM

**Nov 10 @ 6pm OR Nov 11 @10am**

Presenter: Moish Tov, JoyDew

230 Diamond Spring Road, Denville, NJ

**Please RSVP to:**

Student & Family Support Services  
Jennifer Mandato (973) 989-4033 x 413 or  
[jmandato@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:jmandato@celebratethechildren.org)

### CTC Parent Support Groups

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!

*It may be when we no longer know what to do, we have come to our real work, and that when we no longer know which way to go, we have begun our real journey.*

– Wendell Berry

### Morris County Prep Club

At Celebrate the Children School

Is your child 14-21 years old? It is time for you to start planning for when they leave school. Come join PREP Club to learn about what you need to know to plan for life beyond high school.

**Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, Nov 11<sup>th</sup>, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:00-7:00 pm**

**RSVP REQUIRED – email Caroline**

[cmclaughlin@arcnj.org](mailto:cmclaughlin@arcnj.org)

**\*\*Second Wednesday of every month.**

### CTC MAPs Club

Making Action Plans for Life and Career

Transition Navigators meet with older students twice monthly completing activities based on transition curriculum. Small group activities, peer to peer discussions, formal presentation, and individual activities allow students opportunities to learn how to identify their strengths/challenges and set life goals for the future.

### Mark Your Calendars!

**"Future Fair" – Dec 11<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am @ CTC**

**"Transition Expo" – TBA, Spring 2016**



# Save the Date

## Trunk-Or-Treat

### Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 10am



On Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am Celebrate the Children will host our annual Trunk-or-Treat Halloween extravaganza! The day will consist of a Halloween Parade and Trunk-or-Treating! Trunk-or-Treat provides our students with a fun and safe way to participate in the trick-or-treating experience. We are currently seeking parents and staff who would be willing to participate in our Trunk-or-Treating. Participants are asked to decorate their cars and hand out a special treat! The event begins at 10:00 but we are asking parents who are participating in trunk-or-treat to be ready and set-up by 9:45 in the side parking lot. Please send your child in with their costume clearly labeled with their name on it on the day of the event.

All family and friends are welcome to attend this wonderful event!

*We hope to see you there!!!!*

**\*Please remember we are a PEANUT AWARE SCHOOL when picking out your special treat\***

**\*\*\*NO PRODUCTS THAT MAY CONTAIN PEANUTS WILL BE PERMITTED!! \*\*\***

**Suggestions: Chips, Pretzels, Skittles, Starbursts, Pencils, Rings, Apples, stickers etc...**

**Please contact Kristin Polster if you would like to participate, [kpolster@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:kpolster@celebratethechildren.org) or [973-989-4033 Ext. 199](tel:973-989-4033)**



## Parent Training Group

**Topic:** *Specific Behavior Strategies to Use with Your Child-Part 4*

November 17, 2015  
10 am to 12:00 pm



### **Presenting:**

Monica Osgood, Executive Director

Lauren Blaszak, Executive Director

Monica and Lauren will be presenting together on strategies and techniques to use with your child during challenging times.

### **Location:**

Music Room

230 Diamond Spring Road, Denville, NJ

### **Please RSVP to:**

Student & Family Support Services

Jennifer Mandato

(973) 989-4033 x 413 or

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

# Celebrate the Children



School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles  
Developmental Individual Relationship-Based Intervention®

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

230 Diamond Spring Road Denville, NJ 07834

Phone: 973-989-4033 Fax: 862-244-4969

## Parent Training Group

Please join us for an information session about JoyDew. We will be hosting two information sessions on

**November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm and November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.**

Please RSVP if you would like to attend:

Student and Family Support Services

Jennifer Mandato

**973-989-4033, ext. 413 or [jmandato@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:jmandato@celebratethechildren.org)**



Is your child nearing age 21? Most likely, you are already worried about what will happen when he/she exits the school system. What will be his future from now on? Will she have a job, friends, and a purposeful life? As we all know, there is very little available for adults with autism, and what is offered may not be what you want for your child.

As parents to two young adults with autism, we are facing the same problem. That is why we founded JoyDew.

JoyDew's mission is to provide high quality employment in a supportive environment for adults with all levels of autism.

We focus on providing a meaningful life to people with autism ages 21+ and their families. We do this by offering these young adults the training programs needed to acquire high-valued careers based on their unique abilities, as well as offering long term employment, an enriched quality of life with a sense of purpose, and friends and community.

**To learn more please join us for a special presentation about our organization, presented by Moish Tov, founder of JoyDew.**

To learn more visit: [www.joydew.com](http://www.joydew.com)

# Save the Date

## 6th Annual Bowl-a-Thon **STAR WARS THEME!**



Saturday, December 5, 2015  
11am-1pm  
Circle Lanes, Ledgewood, NJ  
*More Information to Follow!*



**Morris County Prep Club**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
6-7 pm

**RSVP REQUIRED**  
to Caroline McLaughlin  
[cmclaughlin@arcnj.org](mailto:cmclaughlin@arcnj.org)  
or call 732-354-9374

**Save the Date  
Trunk-or-Treat**

Friday, **October 30** @  
10am

Contact Kristin Polster at  
[kpolster@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:kpolster@celebratethechildren.org)  
973-989-4033 X  
199

### Parent Training Groups

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AUTISM**

November 10 @ 6pm  
or November 11 @ 10am  
Presenter: Moish Tov, JoyDew

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Nov 17 from 10-12  
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Star Wars Theme  
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Circle Lanes,  
Ledgewood, NJ  
More information to  
follow.



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A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

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