



November 2018

Dear TCS Families,

Our trip to Randell Spackman's farm was enjoyed by all. The students learned about the history of the land (site of the Battle of the Brandywine – the house and barn were damaged by cannon balls!) and saw the numerous rescued farm animals. They also learned about the multiple antique pump organs that Mr. Spackman is restoring. Thanks to Mr. Coyle for coordinating this fun adventure.

It is the Annual Fund time of year and I hope you can make a donation to help TCS continue to offer the meaningful and supportive education that we are known for. Any amount will be appreciated and is tax-deductible.

Please be sure to sign-up for a conference with your daughter's or son's teacher(s) on November 15th. Here is the link to sign-up. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084ca5ae2aa3fa7-parent1> You may see one or more teachers, depending on your need to speak with them.

Finally, we are working on a plan to recognize the positive behaviors our students display. We will communicate our plans once they are put into place. Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,
Bill

Important dates to mark on your family calendar:

November 2: End of 1st marking period

November 6: School CLOSED – Election Day

November 9: Reports cards mailed

November 15: Dismissal @ 12:00 p.m.

Parent Conferences, 1:00-7:30 p.m.

November 16: School CLOSED – Teacher In-service

November 20: Thanksgiving Feast

November 21-23: School CLOSED – Thanksgiving Holiday

November 28: Open House for Prospective Students, 9:15. a.m.

December 14: Trip to University of Pennsylvania

December 20: Shakespeare play, 7:00 p.m.

December 21: School CLOSED – Teacher In-service

December 24-January 1: School CLOSED – Winter Break

PTO News

Dear Families,

Thank you to everyone who came to the Halloween party last Saturday! It was great fun to celebrate Halloween with other TCS families! Please see the attached Smilebox video for some fun photos from the party.

http://www.smilebox.com/play/4e4459314f4451324d44453d0d0a&blogview=true&campaign=blog_playback_link&partner=smileboxee

This month, we are planning a bowling social for students at Round 1 in Exton. Dates and further information will be coming soon! Our next coffee social is scheduled for Friday, November 30th at 9a. Hope to see you there! We are planning to have a special guest speaker...stay tuned...more information to come.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please email me at gkrajicek@comcast.net.

Cheers!

Annual Fund

Please consider making a donation to TCS as the tax year winds down. Your gift, of any size, enables us to continue doing the things that sets us apart from other schools. All gifts to The Concept school are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. You can click the link below to make a donation. Thank you!

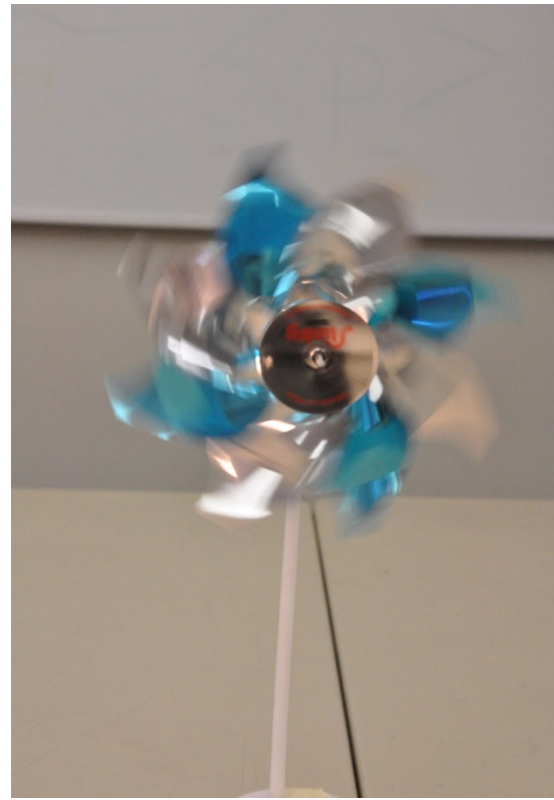
<https://www.theconceptschooll.org/giving/where-to-give/>

TCS Food Drive to Benefit West Chester Food Cupboard

The TCS community is collecting food for the West Chester Area Food Cupboard. This activity continues our comittment to giving back to the larger community through service projects. We will be collecting food through December 20th, the night of our Shakespeare play. I hope you can donate an item that is listed on the flyer at the end

Photography Class

So far we've covered The Exposure Triangle (ISO, aperture, and shutter priority), manual shooting, and white balance. The second marking period will be focused on "Composition" starting with Rule of Thirds. The picture of the cards demonstrates shooting in aperture priority mode (shallow depth of field). The pinwheel picture shows shooting in shutter priority mode to show the movement of the pinwheel.



Social Studies Update by Mr. Loux

Students have been working diligently on Practice National History Day essays. Thesis statements were due last Friday on 10/26, and now students are focusing on detailed research and writing to help prove their historical argument about their topic's triumph and tragedy. Other highlights from October included two successful Black Plague skits in Modern Europe, starting our unit on psychological development from infant to elderly in Psychology, reading The Epic of Gilgamesh in Ancient Civilizations, and a great field trip all over Philadelphia in American Studies. Here is a picture of the class checking out the Race St. Pier, the Delaware River, and the Benjamin Franklin Bridge.



Intro to Coding Class

Students are currently focused on learning HTML coding for websites. We've learned the basics: that all documents must start with a document type declaration; that the HTML document itself begins with `<html>` and ends with `</html>`; the main body is between `<body>` and `</body>`. We explored the six types of headings; ordered and unordered lists, and adding pictures.

Halloween 2018 at TCS

A fun time was had by all on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. Special thanks go to Mrs. Wright for coordinating the day, as well as all the other staff members who helped out.



Harry Potter-themed costumes



John K. stacking cups in Minute to Win it



Mr. Coyle devouring a donut



Painting a pumpkin

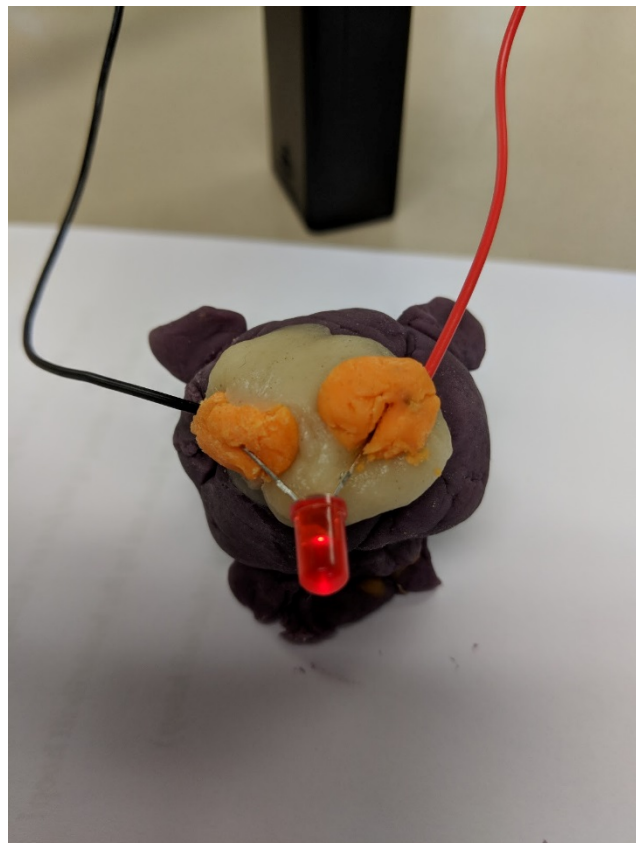
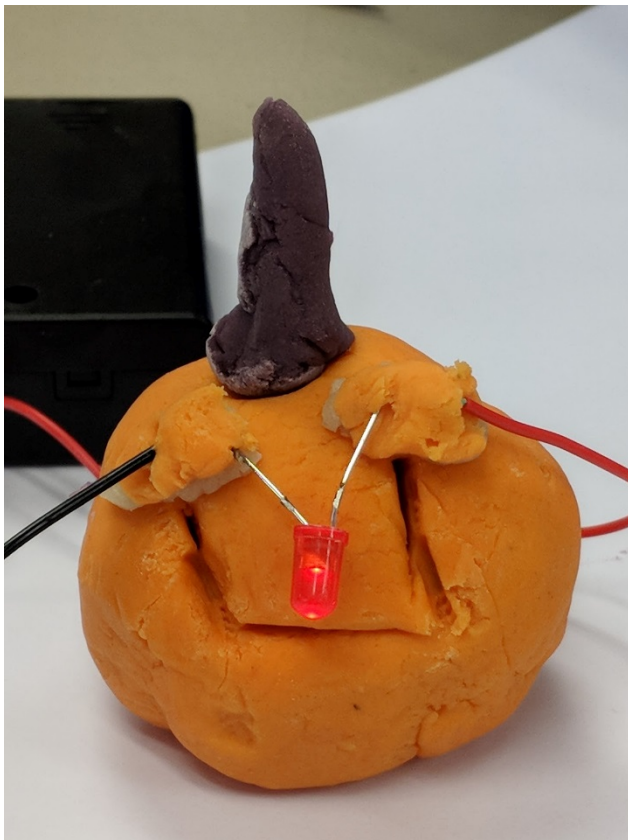
Cooking News by Mr. Loux

Our cooking class also finished our unit on pancakes from scratch. Check out the fluffy flapjacks! Next up is french toast.



STEAM Foundations

Students are learning about circuits. We're having fun and getting our hands dirty with "squishy circuits!" We created our own conductive dough and insulation dough in the kitchen. We created a sculpture in the dough, then we used the dough along with a 9 volt battery pack and a LED. Next, we'll do paper circuits!





Halloween Party is a Huge Success!

We had more than 30 people attend Saturday evenings' Family Halloween Party. Thanks go out to Georgie Krajicek for coordinating the fun night, as well as to the parents and staff members who helped out in numerous ways. I heard that the next family activity may be bowling – stay tuned for more details. Families enjoyed social time, free pizza and snacks, and fun games for all.

Video Editing is working on a “Disaster” editing project. We downloaded (with permission) from Discovery Education. We added a logo, an introduction, a title page, and severely edited the video to between 30 seconds to 1 minute. Next, we will turn off the audio from the video clip, add music, and dub over the movie.

Advanced STEAM has been working on a major project for the nature center. We're creating two wood duck bird houses. We started with the concept; interviewed our “client,” Miss Tilmon; researched the bird, types of wood, and the blueprints for the house; calculated the amount of wood needed; and we took a field trip to Lowes in Exton. The men who helped us at Lowes were incredible. They taught the boys about wood, about cutting, about screws, about painting, and much more! Mrs. Fredericks' husband cut the wood, and drilled pilot holes. We are about to assemble the bird house. Look for pictures next month!



Mr. Coyle, Brendan Cooley, and Mr. Loux play bluegrass music at Thornbury Farm.

Below, students work on their Halloween dioramas in Mrs. Culler's class. They were amazing!



Flag Duty

Students raise our flag each morning. Below, Nick and Michael properly fold the flag at the end of the day.



Help Support the Concept School!!

(At no cost to YOU!!!)

Our PTO has undertaken to continue to support our school by managing many areas that, with your support, provide monetary benefits to The Concept School. Please sign up for these opportunities!!!

Happy clipping!



Please continue to clip Box Tops! You can find Box Tops on many of the products you will be using for dinners and parties. For a list of participating products, go to **BTFE.com**.

Thanks for your support. **Thank you to Mrs. Friel (Connor's mom) for coordinating this activity.**

Amazon's Smile.amazon program: This program allows you to shop on Amazon and when you do, a portion of your purchase comes back to The Concept School. All you do is log on to smile.amazon.com and fill in "The Concept School" as your organization of choice. A link to explain this program is attached.

<https://smile.amazon.com/about>

Giant A+ School Rewards

1. Register for an online account or sign into an existing one.
2. Access your account settings.
3. Select The Concept School to reward #40184

WE'RE HAVING A FOOD DRIVE!

To benefit the



**West Chester
Food Cupboard**

Needed: Store Gift Cards (Giant, ShopRite, Acme)

Unexpired, Non-Perishable Food Items Needed:

Canned Tuna
Pasta w/Meat
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Hearty Soups
Rice
Pork and Beans
Shampoo, Soaps
Baby Food

Canned Chicken
Chili
Spaghetti Sauce
Side Dishes
Canned Fruits
Canned Beans
Hot Cereals
Toothpaste
Diapers

Sardines
Spam
Pasta/Noodles
Mac N Cheese
Vegetables
Dried Beans
Cold Cereals
Toilet Paper
Feminine Products

Visit wcfood.org to learn more.

The Concept School

Ends December 20, 2018

Please bring donations to school and place in labeled boxes.

Questions? Ask Mrs. Wright or Mrs. Phillips