



Adolescent Program

Guides: Jack McArdle, Alex Pape and Caren Ross.

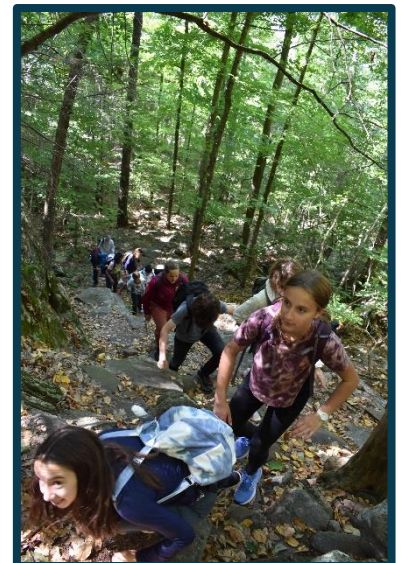
2022 Fall Edition

We adults have many ways to tell you about the life and variety of things we do here at “The Farm”. These fresh, undistilled words of the kids in this newsletter, though, do it with a flavor it's hard to capture.

An adol can find a place here and contribute. You'll see it. We see we're on the right track when we read their pieces, and smile. Sure, there are awkward phrases, but the natural human life of hand and mind shines through. Get comfortable and enjoy the treat.

Jack McArdle

Adolescent Teacher



Student Articles

Farm Fest by Riley

At the end of September, we held "Farm Fest", a student-run fundraiser for our trip to Costa Rica. We prepared eight dishes of farm-sourced food, including gnocchi, calzones, barbecue chicken tacos, goat cheese arrangements, and more. This preparation consumed most of our early micro economy classes.



We incorporated science class into the fundraiser by preparing "information booths". The four ninth years each chose a scientific topic related to the farm, and we prepared presentations for them. The booths were on goat cheese, regenerative farming, beekeeping, and fermentation.

We sold out with 75 tickets and had 11 students on "staff", as well as help from our adolescent guides. The event's ticket sales and accompanying donations have allowed us to reach our financial goal, and we depart for Costa Rica in December where we will be studying the science of peace in the Children's Eternal Rainforest. On behalf of the adolescent community, I would like to thank everyone who came to the event or donated. Your contributions are invaluable and we cannot wait for the incredible experience to come in Costa Rica.



Beginning of the Day Schedule:

Barn Manager: Arthur

Barn: Tallash

Barn: Piper

Barn: Fred

Barn: Abbie

Barn: Levey

Projects: Myles

Projects: Maya

Projects: Liam

Projects: Eli

Projects: Kosi

Projects: Riley

Literature: *Animal Farm* by Levey

In literature class, we read, discuss, annotate, analyze, and write essays about different books throughout the school year. Right now, we're reading *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. Through *Animal Farm* we're learning about different economic structures, political systems, social hierarchy, classism, and the Russian Revolution. As of right now, we're on the last chapter, and thinking about what essays we'll write based on different topics that will make us take a deep dive into different aspects of the book. Some of these topics are "Compare and contrast the different types of rulers shown in the book", "Is *Animal Farm* a fable, allegory, or satire? Use elements from these types of literature and the text to make your argument or evaluation", "Explore one of the following themes: class; equality and inequality; power, control and corruption", and "Explore how language is used to manipulate and control others in *Animal Farm*". Personally, I'm comparing different characters to different political figures relevant in the U.S.S.R./Russia. Overall, we're using literature to look at history through different lenses and learning about the history and background of the book while increasing our literacy and writing skills.



Micro E by Abbie

This year in Micro Economy, we have made some new products for our business, such as grape jelly. Which we sold at the MSGH Garden Party! On nice days we have harvested different items from our garden, such as carrots, beets, sunchokes, and habanero peppers. We also made zucchini relish with our own zucchinis from our garden. Next, we dehydrated calendulas, we then harvested our lemongrass to make lemongrass tea. Right now, we are drying out herbs, such as rosemary and thyme. Last week, we canned some of the peppers, beets, and sunchokes we harvested earlier this month.

Spooky Stories by Liam

Every year at the farm when October comes around, we begin to write our own spooky stories to share at our Halloween party. Many people look forward to writing and sharing their spooky stories each year. On the day of the Halloween party, we all go up into the cold, dark hayloft with our stories in hand. By lantern light we read them to our peers. In the dark with all the miscellaneous items, the hayloft is reminiscent of a spooky attic. I find it very fun to come up with our own ideas and to be able to write freely and creatively. Personally, I am excited to scare all of my classmates.



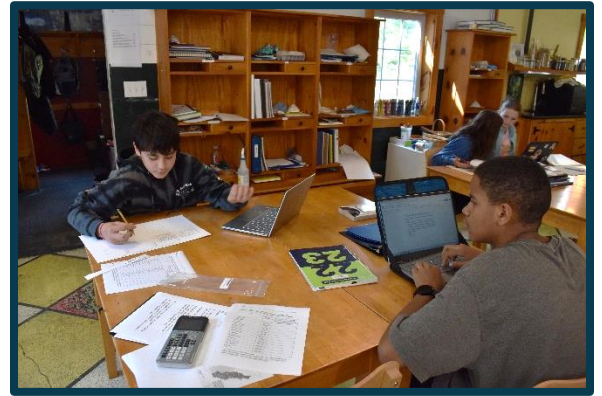
Projects by Maya

At Millstream Farm while half of our group cares for the animals on our farm, the other half does projects. On Projects, we make cheese, dry calendula petals, work in the garden, pickle goods for Micro-E and most recently, we made a fence for a new garlic bed. In order to make the fence, we went into the woods on the edge of the property to cut down some beech and maple saplings with handsaws. We had to drag the trees through the woods back to the school where we then cut them into sticks that were four feet long. For this we used a reciprocating saw and a machete. We then proceeded to hammer posts into the ground to make the poles for the fence. Then, we crossed them to create a barrier. In the next few weeks, we plan to plant

some garlic out back. I liked the cutting down of the trees with my classmates and using all the different tools.

Music at Millstream by Fred

Here at the farm, we have a unique music program where we learn songs and culture from all around the world. We learn dance routines, songs to sing on a regular basis around the barn, and how to make music together with instruments from around the world. Our teacher, Mrs. Colleen is an experienced musician as well as an amazing teacher who helps us to see and understand how other cultures make music. Last year, Mrs. Colleen put us in touch with a school in Sweden who prepared and sent us slideshows about their musical culture as well as other cool information about Sweden. Mrs. Colleen also helped us prepare google earth presentations showing the school in Sweden our musical culture and song preferences. Right now, we are selecting songs about peace and creating a short presentation about the message behind the song.



Civics by Arthur

This fall we have been studying Civics taught by our wonderful teacher Jack. We began by learning about the history of the United States government starting with the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution of the United States. We also learned about the decision between the New Jersey and the Virginia Plan and the Connecticut Compromise. Next we learned about the branches of government and each of their functions and histories. Now we are learning about early political parties, their origins, and their beliefs. The Civics Class has really helped me further understand the issues and opinions of today's problems.

Math at Millstream Farm

by Piper

This is my first year at Millstream Farm. We have many different classes, but the class I will be talking about is math. In math, we have a system of packets, which are organized in boxes with folders. There are multiple different sections in the boxes. In each section, there are three different types of packets. First, we do the work packet, then we take the practice test, and finally, we take the formal test. During math class, we work on our packets and receive lessons, and when we need help, we ask our fantastic teacher Jack, though, on the formal test, we aren't able to. At home, we work on IXL, which is a math program. Whenever anyone gets confused or needs help, IXL can explain it to us in a short, convenient video. What makes math at Millstream Farm so great for me is that we can learn at our own pace.



Art

by Tallash

Art class this year has been very eventful and special. We started painting various doors in the barn and in the classroom to make our wonderful premises look much better for the coming years. It has been fun painting on unique surfaces and trying new things out! Perscilla has so many ideas and it's great to try them out in past years and this one too!

Circle of Life by Riley

Earlier in the summer, we gave away half of our three-year-old flock. We wanted to continue to care for one of our chickens who are cross-beaked, and we kept three other chickens to keep her company. Unfortunately, that chicken died of age later in the summer. At that point, we were left with only 3 chickens, which is an inhumane living situation since chickens are flock animals.



In the first two weeks of school, we made the decision as a class to slaughter the remaining chickens. Señora Rivera, who has much experience, guided us through it, and we were given the choice of whether or not we wanted to watch or participate. As somebody who has eaten meat, I wanted to watch for the sake of not sheltering myself from where my food is coming from, and although solemn, the experience was a good one.

As with the cycle of life, the old chickens dying made space for us to get new baby chicks. We received 12 in mid-September and have been raising them in our brood box since then. Students have been closely monitoring the heat in the box and researching what it should be. Shortly the chicks will be old and big enough to be out of the brood box, but still in their heated and confined environment. Come winter they will be close to full grown and move to the adult coop, and shortly thereafter they will begin laying eggs.



Español by Kosi

El español en la granja es muy interesante. Nuestra profesora, Caren Ross, nos da enseñanzas diferentes que dependen de nuestras habilidades de español. Tenemos nuestras clases de español para veinte y cinco minutos en la tarde en cuatro grupos diferentes que hacen su español a tiempos diferentes. Después de la escuela, tenemos más trabajo para practicar más español. A

veces escribimos diálogos o historias. Por ejemplo, recientemente, leímos la historia clásica *Lazarillo de Tormes*. La leímos en clase y contestamos preguntas sobre lo que leímos. Otras veces, contestamos preguntas y otras cosas en un libro.

Open Time by Myles

Open Time is when we go outside or, if it rains, we have the option to play boardgames or make art inside. Some people like to draw or make different types of art. Some people make animal drawings and carve rubber stamps with them. When the weather is nice, we play paddle tennis, tetherball, and ping-pong. Often people will also see the animals and take them out for walks. Open Time is a time to run around and get all of your energy out before classes start again. I personally like playing tetherball. In the winter, we play



paddle tennis. It is super fun because sometimes it is slippery, so you fall on your bottom! Last year we played tag around the farm, and we also played volleyball. Free time is very fun and is good exercise.



Projects by Eli

In math on Wednesdays, my partner and I are currently making a perfect scald model of the barn and other school property. First, we had to sand a board for a base for the model so that we don't get splinters. Then we had to decide what parts of the property to include with the barn. Next, we had to make a rough drawing of the school property. Now we are making the measurements

for the school property to use for our model. We had to use two people because of how long the tape measure was. Luckily, it was a nice and sunny day. We'll need to figure out the scale for our model. The final step will be to build the model.

