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**Hopatcong, NJ - Title: Fall at Hudson Maxim**

**Mr. Arthur DiBenedetto, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, announces**

On October 4th, Hudson Maxim’s small, smaller, and smallest green thumbs again joined together to bring the colors of fall to our school grounds! Community members, parents, grandparents, teachers, paraprofessionals, and even a couple of siblings helped our young gardeners at our annual Fall Beautification Day. This biannual event would not be possible without a Pride Grant earned by Mrs. Doreen Sciabica and funded by the Hopatcong Education Association in conjunction with the New Jersey Education Association. Each class was presented a mini fall gardening lesson about bulbs and mums by Mrs. Sciabica before planting crocus, hyacinth, and daffodil bulbs and red, yellow, purple, orange, and white mums and ornamental cabbages. The children enjoyed putting their bulbs to “bed” and "tickling" the roots before planting! New to our agenda this fall was the harvesting of Hudson Maxim’s very own vegetable garden!!! Mrs. McFadden, Mrs. Sciabica, and the children smiled with excitement as they picked green leaf lettuce and green beans and pulled up onions and carrots all grown from seeds started last spring!! Did you know carrot seeds are smaller than poppy seeds??? Enormous thanks goes out to the Hopatcong and New Jersey Education Associations for their continued generous funding of this program, Nester's Nursery on Sparta Stanhope Road for their stellar customer service and beautiful flowers, and all Hopatcong community members, young and old, for helping us make Hudson Maxim a more beautiful place for learning and growing!

 

