

# Kindergarten Focus: Sweden

*Global Week 2019 - Lower School*

During Global Explorers Week in Ms. Misulonas' kindergarten class, our country of focus was Sweden. Through art projects, the students created the flag of Sweden, a crown of candles for St. Lucia Day (a December holiday), a Viking (the first King of Sweden was a Viking), a Viking shield, and a Dala horse (a beloved symbol of the country). The children also expanded their palates by eating Swedish ginger cookies (Pepparkakor), Swedish meatballs, Swedish candy, and Lingonberry jam and butter on rolls. Yummy!

Our trip to the Swedish American Museum was wonderful! First, the children learned a Swedish song and folk dance. They changed into the costume of the period 1870 and experienced life/chores at that time by "playing" in a Swedish farmhouse (stuga). The students then received their passports and a ticket, boarded a steamship, and sailed to America. When they arrived in America, the children "played" in an American house/garden from that time period. Last, they made flower crowns for the Swedish holiday, Midsummer's Day, which is celebrated in June. Swedes wear these flower crowns and dance around a maypole in recognition of the beginning of summer.

The kindergartners also learned two Swedish games. We played "Boules" and "Gooddag". Gooddag is similar to the American game of "Duck, Duck, Goose" and school children play it at the beginning of the school year as a way of introducing themselves and welcoming their classmates. Boules is actually a French game that is greatly enjoyed by Swedes. We enjoyed it, too!