Soup with a Side of Puzzle

Mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, candied yams…why not potato leek soup?

Potato leek soup, known as Vichyssoise, is usually enjoyed cold. However, hot and creamy, this soup is ideal to warm the autumn chill. In fact, it would make for a delicious first course on Thanksgiving or a leftovers lunch alongside a turkey sandwich.

The recipe, which serves eight, is very simple. Also, I like using buttermilk rather than regular milk for its pleasant tang.

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Ingredients:

- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 4 large leeks (not the green part), rinsed and thinly sliced
- 1 yellow onion, sliced
- 8 medium Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
- 6 cups chicken stock
- Juice of ½ lemon
- 3 cups buttermilk
- 2 cups heavy cream
- Freshly ground black pepper
- Sea salt
- Fresh chives for garnish

Melt the butter in a large pot over medium heat. Add the leeks and onion and sauté for about 15 minutes. Then add the potatoes, stock, and lemon juice. Stir and bring to a boil. Cook on low heat for about 45 minutes. Remove from the heat and let cool until lukewarm.

You can process in batches in a blender, but I prefer a hand (immersion) blender. This gadget cuts down on the clean-up! The soup should be smooth, but a few chunks are okay. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Return to low heat and stir in the buttermilk and cream. Simmer until heated through.

Top each bowl with snipped fresh chives.

Susan E. Poppiti is an adjunct faculty member in Mathematics at Immaculata University and an AP Calculus instructor at Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. To further her commitment to mathematics education, she also serves as a math content expert for UPchieve, an ed-tech nonprofit providing free, online STEM tutoring to high school students. Susan can be reached at spoppiti@hotmail.com.

PUZZLE

The goal is to form a word for each word fragment by adding letters to the beginning and/or end of each fragment. All of the words created are Thanksgiving foods. Please note that you may not add letters to the middle of the fragments, nor can you rearrange letters. Also, the same word may not occur more than once.

The first reader to email me with correct answers will receive a mélange of fall spices for the pantry.

ple	mst	qua	ser
ran	ine	rnb	ars
fin	hro	eek	lif
gra	rus	urk	cui
eca	ota	hed	pki