



Kindergarten News



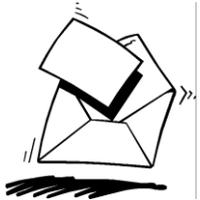
October 13th, 2017

What's New?

Parent-Teacher Conferences are next Wednesday and Thursday. The students will be in school for the morning only, with dismissal at 12:10.



Feel free to come with any questions you may have. I look forward to seeing all of you and telling you about all of the amazing learning that your students are doing...in our 15 minute time frame...good thing I talk fast!



The students love to write letters at the writing center so we can always use more envelopes. Please be on the lookout for junk mail/extra envelopes you may have at home...just send them in the blue folder and I will add them to the writing center. I'm sure like me, many of you get them in the mail and you don't have a use for them. We will put them to good use!

Thanks!

Every Friday is Pencil Day!



Randolph has a pencil cart, and it will visit our class on Friday mornings. If your kindergartner would like to get a pencil from the machine, have him/her bring a quarter next Friday! Maybe you could put it in a baggie with their name on it...I will collect them from folders throughout the week and make sure they get their pencil on Friday.

On the morning of **Halloween, October 31st**, we will be having some Halloween fun in our class! The students will be allowed to wear their costume to school (no masks please) and

it must be a school-appropriate costume. Please consider leaving any accessories at home. We will be doing some fun activities and projects all morning, and will need lots of helpers, everyone is invited! The fun will take place from around 10:00-12:00. Each student must also bring a change of clothes, because they will be taking their costume off before lunch. Maybe send a bag with your child's name on it, so that we can get the costume back home easily. There will be lots of adults here to help with the changing.



Thank you to all who have signed up to donate something for our Halloween fun! If you have not yet had a chance to sign up and would like to, please click the link below.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a45aead28a20-halloween2>

Today your child is bringing home his/her **Song and Poetry Binder**. This binder will come home each Friday and is to be returned on Monday. Please take some time this weekend to listen to your kindergartner read/sing the pages in his/her binder. There is also a section in the back for our Weekly Reader magazines. These provide the students with exposure to and practice with nonfiction text.



Today your child is bringing home his/her **treasure bag!** Please remove this treasure from the small bag and read over the paper that is included. The treasure can go into the large treasure bag that is located inside your child's folder. The large treasure bag stays at home...the small once goes back and forth each week, transporting a new treasure. Please return the small treasure bag to school on Monday.

Have a Wonderful Weekend! Mrs. Mitchell



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This week's treasure Book:

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

We watched the author read the book online, and the class loved it...he's great at those onomatopoeia words!

Check it out at the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ogyl6yKDwds&t=2s>

Next week's treasure book:

The Wednesday Surprise

Mark your calendar:

October 13th- 6:30 pm: Family Movie Night

October 18th and 19th- Half Days of School and Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 20th- Spirit Day: pink

October 31st- Halloween Fun (morning)

Check out our classroom photos... updated daily!

https://twitter.com/MrsMitchell_KDG

Reading Rocks!

We have finished our first unit in Reading Workshop. This week, the students worked on being good reading partners, and learned how to appropriately respond to a partner's book. They worked on asking questions and they have also learned how and when to help someone who needs it. They are slowly adding more books to their book boxes...when their books are sent home and then returned to school, they are added to your child's book box to be read and shared often....so please see that their book/book baggie are returned to school the day after they bring it home. Thank you!



Word Work

Each week, we are learning new **HEART WORDS**. We call them heart words because we need to know them in our hearts and by sight (they are not words to be sounded out). Please practice these words at home, and look for them in the books you read, or in the poetry binder that came home today.

New Words This Week:

in, to

Our Heart Words:

I, you, we, the, up, go, so, as, see

This Week's Rhyme:

Sing a Song of Sixpence

(I accidentally switched last week and this week...oops!)

Growing Writers

We are continuing our second writing unit, **Launching the Writer's Workshop**. The students are adding more books to their writing folders. This week we worked on **sketching, labeling and stretching out words** so that we can add them to our sketches. We have also started to tell/write our stories in words, to go along with our sketches. I want them to feel like writers, so at this point the expectation is that they get even one letter down for each word. Hopefully it matches the beginning sound of the word...but we are working on that! Building their confidence as writers is a top priority. If they are not willing to take a chance, progress will be slow. They have to be risk takers...try stretching out some



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words at home and encourage any attempts they make. It's ok that they are not using traditional spelling at this point!

Math Matters!

This week in math, the students played the two games we learned last week, with Dot Cards again. (Match-Up and Top-It). We continued to work on adding one makes the number get bigger and subtracting one makes the number smaller. They played Frogs in the Pond and solved Pocket Problems. You can do this at home by putting a given number of items in a container or box, and then adding 1-2 (or taking away 1-2) and asking how many there are now, your kindergartener should be able to tell you the new amount without counting them. They also had an introduction to sorting this week, and learned that there are many different attributes by which items can be sorted. Try this at home, too!



Habit 1: It's Up To Me (Be Proactive) We read a great story about **Sammy Squirrel** and how he kept trying to find other people to make choices for him....he was not using Habit 1! We are learning that everyone is responsible for making their own choices, and is really only in charge of themselves. This very applicable in our classroom and in school (and at home too!) At Randolph, each student is held accountable for their own learning and their own choices. I encourage the students to be independent and take care of many things on their own, such as finding a pencil or putting their materials away.

Character Counts!

This week we began our focus on RESPECT. Having **RESPECT** means you take care of things and people. That's an invaluable life lesson and very appropriate for kindergarteners! We talk a lot about how to show respect at school and home. **Ask your kindergartner about the animals in our read aloud, A Roar of Resect. What happened when Mr. Pillar's class decided to put on a play? Why did Mr. Pillar give Lang the Lion a medal at the end?**

Friendly Reminders

Things your kindergartner will need each day, for a successful day of school:
** A **water bottle** and a **healthy snack**.
** Their **blue folder**. Please empty this each night. It will often contain homework or notes to be filled out and returned.
Return the **Song and Poetry Binder, blue folder, the **small treasure bag**, and your child's **water bottle** on Monday.

GRAVITY

Science Spin

We are making good progress with our first science unit entitled "Kindergarten in Motion". This week we learned all about **gravity**. Try some test drops at home and see the difference between how a sheet paper falls when it is flat, and when it is crumpled up. And ask them why a ball falls to the Earth faster than a tissue!



The Leader in Me

Randolph Elementary is a Leader in Me school. This week we began our focus on

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