



Kindergarten News



October 27th, 2017

What's New?

Keep an eye out for the bright pink BRAIN BEADS note to come home in your child's blue folder. Throughout the week,



there are times when students really show that they are using their brain, and say/do something really

smart! We acknowledge that with a pair of BRAIN BEADS that the student can wear at school! However, those need to be returned to our basket at the end of the day. So, they also get to take home a little note so you can celebrate their achievement as well.

Halloween Information:

On the morning of **Halloween, October 31st**, we will be having some Halloween fun in our class! If your child would like to dress up, please have the student 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, everyone is invited! The fun will take place from around 10:00-12:00. Each student must also bring or have on a change of clothes, because they will be taking their costume off before lunch. Consider sending a bag with your child's name on it, so that we can get the costume back home easily.

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/70a0a45ead28a20-halloween2>

Every Friday is Pencil Day! This is optional, and it will continue through the year. Feel free to send in a quarter any day of the week and I will hold them



until Friday. The new pencils will come home at the end of the day on Friday.

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 kindergartener 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 one goes back and forth each week, transporting a new treasure. Please return the small treasure bag to school on Monday.

This week's treasure Book:

The Art Lesson

Next week's treasure book:

Strega Nona

Mark your calendar:

- October 31st**- Halloween Fun (morning)
- November 3rd**- Spirit Day: SCHOOL SPIRIT
- November 3rd** - Fall Festival 6-8 pm
- November 7th** - NO SCHOOL
- November 22nd-26th** - Thanksgiving Recess (NO SCHOOL)

Check out our classroom photos... updated daily!

https://twitter.com/MrsMitchell_KDG

Have a Wonderful Weekend! Mrs. Mitchell



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Reading Rocks!

We are sailing through our reading unit called **Emergent Readers**. This week the students learned how to reread as a strategy to keep the story going. When looking through a book and making up an adventure, it's easy to get off track. If a student finds him/herself a little off track, they can go back and reread previous pages. This is a very good skill to develop as they become more active readers and they will find that rereading is something that will help as they begin to read pattern books and longer texts. This week the students also learned that readers change their voices when they read....try this at home, it brings a new level of fun to reading!



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:

is, a

Our Heart Words:

I, you, we, the, up, go, so, as, see, in, to, my, am

This Week's Rhyme:

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Ask your kindergartener



why there is a crocodile picture next to our rhyme of the week!

Growing Writers

We are wrapping up our second writing unit, **Launching the Writer's Workshop**. The students are currently working on using words to tell their stories, in addition to their pictures. They have really been practicing how to stretch words out, several times, to hear as many sounds as they can before finishing the word. As you saw in the writing samples at conferences, the students love to make pictures in their books, and that gives a great starting point for writing stories. **Our goal this year is that they are able to write a simple sentence on each page, and that their pages go together.** The students have added more books to their writing folders. This week we worked on how to make our stories better by adding more words and pictures, as well as a cover. They emptied their writing folders and bringing their stories home today. Please take a moment for your writer to show you his/her work!



Math Matters!

This week in math, the students spent a day focused on the properties of **rectangles**. We also worked on counting with 1-1 correspondence when the items are scattered. Try this at home....drop a small handful of cereal or crackers and ask them to count the total. Hopefully they will put them into a **straight line first**...that is how we practiced it when we played Fish in the Pond! This week in

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math we also worked on telling and solving **number stories**. You can practice this at home. For example, I had 3 blue markers and 2 red markers. How many do I have in all? Another example: There were some birds in a tree and then 1 chipmunk came and now there are 4 animals in the tree. How many birds are there? You can make them as complex or simply as needed, and work on both sums and differences (+/-).

Science Spin

We are making good progress with our first science unit entitled "Kindergarten in Motion". This week the students completed an experiment to determine how the weight of an object determines the amount of gravitational pull it has, and how much harder it is to move. **Ask them what happened to their rubber band when they added washers to their special science cup!**
(it got longer)

The Leader in Me

Randolph Elementary is a Leader in Me school. This week we began our focus on **Habit 2: Have a Plan** We read the habits story this week, about Goob Bear. He was using Habit 2, because he made a plan for how he could save enough money to buy the bug collecting kit and even have money left over to spend on other things. He buddy Jumper Rabbit, however, did not use Habit 2. Without a plan he spent all of his money before he could even do anything special with it. Luckily Goob Bear is the best friend ever....ask your

kindergartener how he helped Jumper Rabbit at the end of the story!

Character Counts!

This week we continued to focus on RESPECT. Having **RESPECT** means you take care of things and people. It has been a great way to teach the class about how important it is to take care of the things we have in our classroom, which they are really committed to doing. That's why we have such a great space to work in every day. We talk a lot about other ways to show respect at school and home. They are learning that it feels good to be respected, so it's important to give that same feeling to others. Plus as a bonus they have seen that it make them feel good to respect their classmates and friends. **Ask your kindergartner about the animals in our read aloud, Duck at the Door. How was the duck treating the other animals? How did the animals feel when the duck left? What happened at the end of the story?**

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.

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