



# Kindergarten News



October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## What's New?

Thank you for the wonderful September Family Project pages. The class book is a very treasured item in our classroom, and the students look at it often! We are also enjoying the **October Family Projects**, and they look great in our hallway. Thanks for the time and effort you have put in, the students love to talk about the work you did with them!



**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 31<sup>st</sup>**, 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. I will send out a sign-up genius for those of you who wish to donate items as soon as I have it ready. Thank you in advance!

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 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:**  
Tops and Bottoms

Next week's treasure book:  
Going on a Bear Hunt

Mark your calendar:

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**- 6:30 pm: Family Movie Night

**Have a Wonderful Weekend! Mrs. Mitchell**



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

October 20<sup>th</sup>- Spirit Day: pink

October 31<sup>st</sup>- Halloween Fun (morning)

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

This Week's Rhyme:  
Hey Diddle, Diddle

**Check out our classroom photos...  
updated daily!**

[https://twitter.com/MrsMitchell\\_KDG](https://twitter.com/MrsMitchell_KDG)

## Growing Writers



We began our second writing unit  
this week, **Launching the Writer's  
Workshop**. The students now  
have their own writing folder.

It's time to start writing all of  
their great stories into books! They have  
been spending weeks developing their oral  
storytelling skills, so now we will begin to put  
those stories on paper. This week the  
students worked on the steps in story  
writing. We **Think** of a story, **Picture**  
it in our heads, **Say** it to ourselves and a partner,  
**Sketch** a picture, and then **Write** the words.  
They have gotten through the first four  
steps, and have also added labels to their  
sketches. At this time of the year, they are  
just leaning to be brave writers, and give it  
a try. I am working on teaching them to  
get over the fear of not having it written  
correctly, and I am working to banish the  
words "I can't" from our classroom!

## Reading Rocks!

We are continuing our first unit  
in Reading Workshop. This  
week, the students worked on  
using the pictures in a book to think about  
what they already know, and they  
practiced two different voices when  
reading. They practiced talking like an  
expert when telling someone about their  
book, and they also practiced using a  
storytelling voice when reading. They also  
learned how to use the pictures to tell the  
story, using the word **then** to connect the  
pages. Ask them to try this with a book at  
home!



## 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:

as, see

## Our Heart Words:



## Math Matters!

This week in math, the students played two  
different games with Dot Cards. They  
learned a game called Match-Up, which is  
like Memory. They also played a new  
game called Top -It with Dot Cards. This is

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just like the card game War...which is a great game to play at home! We also talked about the ideas of addition and subtraction, and the students made number boards. The big idea in this lessons was to understand that when you add one, numbers get bigger and when you subtract one, numbers get smaller. We also spend a day focusing on triangles and the tables worked to together to search for triangles in magazines, and glue them to their team triangle.

## Science Spin

We continue to move through our first science unit, "Kindergarten in Motion".

This week we learned more about motion and forces, and how the weight of an object determines the amount of force needed to make it move, and the students conducted a great experiment as their task was to make different types of balls move without touching them. Ask them how they got the balls to move, and which one was easier to move...the golf ball or the tennis ball?

## The Leader in Me

Randolph Elementary is a Leader in Me school. This week we continued to learn about the idea of a **Friendship Piggy Bank**. While this is not officially on the list of habits, it's a great way to kick off our study of good habits. This week we read Martha Doesn't Share? to see what happens when a person doesn't share with others. Ask your kindergartener how Martha changed

at the end of the story, and what she learned about sharing.

## Character Counts!

This week we are continuing our focus on GRIT.

Having **GRIT** means you never, ever give up.

That's an invaluable life lesson and very appropriate for kindergarteners! We talk a lot about how things that seem too hard are just new, and once it's not new anymore...it's not hard anymore! **Ask your kindergartner about the giraffe in our read aloud, Giraffe's Can't Dance. How did the giraffe show GRIT? This book also gave us a great chance to once again talk about Friendship Piggy Banks. Ask your kindergartner how the other animals treated Giraffe? What did that do to his Friendship Piggy Bank?**

## Friendly Reminders

Things your kindergartner will need each day, for a successful day of school:

- \*\* A **water bottle** with a flip top.
- \*\* 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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