* uses
* 12/18 – Early Release (1:15)

# Curriculum News

**Literacy:** Our Guided Reading groups are up and running and going well! Students will continue to work on developing independence during Literacy centers. This week we will be focusing the five finger rule for reading non-fiction books. When reading a non-fiction text students are to think about the main idea, purpose, and details (three facts they have learned). After reading students should be able to identify this inform (main idea, purpose, and details) in a non-fiction text. While reading with your students at home encourage them to use the five finger rules they have learned for both fiction and non-fiction.

**Phonics:** In our Word Work Center this week we will be working on forming regular plural nouns orally by adding /s/ or /es/ (e.g., dog/dogs, wish/wishes). We will complete different activities to teach the students the difference between singular and plural nouns.

**Sight Words:** I, at, is, to like, me, the, it, am, and, went, a, come, in, here, go, see, my, you, look, up, said, we, on, can, play, an, got, for, with, one, his, she, have, no, will, he, get, because. **New Words: are, they, of, not. Keep practicing the words we have. Your child needs to be able to write and read these words “in a snap”! The students feel so proud when they accomplish these words!**

**Writing:** We are working on making the students more confident in their writing and to enjoy writing. We are starting our All About unit in Writing. We will be making informational books all about topics the students know about. The students will pick a topic and write 3 facts they know about it in the book. We will work on adding details in our sentences as we are writing. We will continue to work hard on “Being a Smartie Speller” while we write. Our Kindergartners are really working hard on applying their letter/sound knowledge to the writing of words and sentences.

**Math:** In Math class we will be practicing counting by ones and tens using a hundreds chart. We are learning about 3D shapes this week. We will be learning about what defines a 3D shape and that they have vertices, faces, and edges. We will be learning the folloing 3D shapes: cube, cone, sphere, rectangular prism, cylinder, and pyramid. During centers this week, students will be working on 3D shapes. We will continue working in small groups during centers, students will practice staying on task, using a quiet voice, and working cooperatively with others.

**Social Studies :** This week we will be starting our Change Over Time Unit. We will be discussing how things change over time. Students will explore how people and the environment change over time, developing historical concepts of past, present, and future.

# Important Dates

* 1/11 – Scarlett’s Birthday
* 1/15 – Early Release (1:15)
* 1/18 – No School
* Please remember to check the GREEN ALLIGATOR folder daily and return it to school. Remove anything in the “Keep at Home” side and check the “Return to School” side for important notes/info.
* Homework is sent home at the beginning of the month. It is optional to do. It reviews all the concepts that we are working on in class. Keep the packet at home until it is completed and send it back to school at the end of the month.
* We are finished mClass testing the students to find out where the students are in reading for the middle of the year. At this point in the year students should be on a C reading level and a D reading level by the end of the year. I sent home the students reading levels with their report cards. I also sent home reading strategies and sight words. In the homework packets I am sending home a few different reading comprehension passages to work on.
* If you are interested in ordering Scholastic books visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.

# Reminders/Further Information

Monday: Music

Tuesday: P.E.

Wednesday: Art

Thursday: Science

Friday: N/A

# Specials

Ms. Dodson’s Classroom Newsletter

**Have a wonderful week!**

Ms. Dodson

[**ddodson@wcpss.net**](mailto:ddodson@wcpss.net)

### Alston Ridge Elementary

Cary, NC

Week of 1/11/16 – 1/15/16

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

banner with apples and crayons