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* 12/18 – Early Release (1:15)
* 1/26 – 100th Day of School
* 2/2 – Eli’s Birthday
* 2/11 – Henry’s Birthday
* 2/12 – Track-Out Day

**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 focus on identifying the reasons an author gives to support a point in a text. We will be reading informational text and identifying the main point. Once we identify the main point we will look for the supporting details with in the text.

**Phonics:** This week in Word Work we are going to start learning about digraphs (sh, ch, wh, th, etc). In our Word Work Center this week we will be focusing on the digraphs th and wh. The students will be identifying words that stat with the digraph. We will also be talking about short vowels.

**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, are, they, of, not, was, yes, where, there. **New Words: then, from, saw, day. 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 working on 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 a book. As a class we will be making the first few books together. Last week we did some research on lions and started an All About Lions book. This week they will be picking their own topics and wring their own All About Books. 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 will continue learning about shapes this week. This week we will focus on how shapes can be put together to form other 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 going back to 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.

# Curriculum News

# Important Dates

* 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.
* As these winter temperatures approach, please be reminded that it is very important for students to come to school every day with the appropriate winter clothing for outside activities. If you have a child in need of winter clothing please let the school know so that they may help you find appropriate clothing for your child.
* Do to the snow day on Friday, January 22, we will make up the day of school on Saturday, April 2.
* 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 have 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.
* We will be celebrating the 100th Day of school on Monday, January 25. We will have some fun activities in school that day celebrating being a 100 days smarter!
* Book orders were sent home. If you are interested in ordering Scholastic books visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF. I will place the book orders on Monday, January 25.

# Reminders/Further Information

Monday: P.E.

Tuesday: Art

Wednesday: Science

Thursday: Readers Theater

Friday: Guidance

# 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 1/25/16 – 1/29/16

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

banner with apples and crayons