* 10/12 – Ms. Dodson will be out at a training
* 10/13 – Fire Safety Day (Cary Firefighters will be visiting our class today)
* 10/16 – Early Release (dismissal starts at 1:15)
* 10/17 – PTA outdoor movie night
* 10/19-10/23 – Red Ribbon Week
* 10/21 – Field Trip to the pumpkin farm

# Important Dates

**Literacy:** Our Guided Reading groups are up and running and going pretty well! Students will continue to work on developing independence during Literacy centers. This week we will be focusing on asking and answering questions when reading a book. We will be learning the five finger rule for reading. This has the students answer questions about the reading such as who are the characters, what the setting is, what is the problem of the story, the main details, and how the story end. While reading with your student at home encourage them to use the five finger rule.

**Phonics:** We are continuing the next section of our Letter Land phonics program. We are focusing on a letter a day and doing different activities to help the students remember the letter and the sound it makes. We will also practice identifying the difference between letters and words. The children will participate in a sorting activity using letters, words, and sentences.

**Sight Words:** I, at, is, to like, me, the, it, am, and, went, a, come, in, here, go. **New Words: see, my, you, look, up**

**Writing:** This week we will continue to work hard on saying the words we want to write slowly and recording the sounds we hear….also known in our class as “Being a Smartie Speller”. We each have a new mini Word Wall chart and alphabet chart to refer to during Writing Workshop time. Once the word Wall Words have been introduced, we hold students accountable for spelling those words correctly when writing their stories. This week’s focus will continue to be: “When you use your alphabet chart, you can write anything!” Our Kindergartners are really working hard on applying their letter/sound knowledge to the writing of words and sentences.

**Math:** Every morning we work on calendar concepts during our morning meeting. In Math class we will continue practicing counting by ones and tens using a hundreds chart. During centers this week, students will be working on teen numbers. As we continue working in small groups during centers, students will practice staying on task, using a quiet voice, and working cooperatively with others.

**Handwriting:** We will practice writing lowercase letters formed in similar ways.

**Science:** We will be finishing our five senses unit this week and beginning our Investigating Properties Unit! During our Science Units I will be having experiment Fridays with the class. They will be safe simple experiments where the students can be scientist!

* 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.
* A permission slip for our field trip to the pumpkin farm was sent home last week along with information explaining what we will do on this field trip. The field trip is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21. It costs $14 per student. Please send back the permission slip and money ASAP. If you would like to be a chaperone on this field trip we would love to have you join us. A signup genius was sent out and the link is on our classroom website. Chaperones need to be a registered volunteer through the school. The cost for chaperones is $10.
* Before track-out I sent home raz-kids information. I strongly encourage you to let your student use this program at home. This will help them in learning how to read.
* Please remember to send in a healthy snack with your student each day for our snack time.
* Our classroom gets chilly throughout the day and we do not have control of the room temperature. If you could send a sweater for your student to wear when they get cold it would be appreciated.
* Please send a water bottle in with your student each day for recess. It gets hot out there!
* Book orders were sent home last week. I will be placing the order on Monday, October 5. If you visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.
* We are still working very hard each day on following the classroom rules and expectations. Please know that it is still normal for students to come home on yellow or red this time of year and it won’t be until about midyear until the students have a pretty good hold on this. We are learning about self-control and when it is the right time to do certain things. If your student comes home on one of these colors, please talk to them and discuss why they received that color and what they could do to make better choices. As long as we continue to work together and stay consistent the students will have great success with this.

# Reminders/Further Information

Monday: Math

Tuesday: Music

Wednesday: Art

Thursday: Technology

Friday: Readers Theater

# Specials

# Curriculum News

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 10/5/15 – 10/9/15

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

banner with apples and crayons