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* 12/18 – Early Release (1:15)

**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 comparing and contrasting the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories. We will be reading two fiction text on the same topic and comparing the two text.

**Phonics:** This week in Word Work we are going to be practicing long vowels. We will learn what each vowel say and work on identifying the vowel in CVC and CVCe words.

**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, then, from, saw, day, run, big, out, down, did, make, after**.** **New Words: no new words this week. 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 going to be working on our class book this week! We are making a class book about what the students want to be when they grow up! Every student will have a page with their writing and picture in the book! We are going to have the book published by a publishing company! 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 going to begin working on word problems this week by acting out stories and using lots of manipulatives to solve problems. We will be learning strategies to help us identify if the word problem is an addition or subtraction problem. We will continue working in small groups during centers, students will practice staying on task, using a quiet voice, and working cooperatively with others.

**Science:** This week, we will be starting our Animals 2X2 Unit in Science. We will be talking about living and non-living things, looking and observing some animals and bugs (fish, worms, snails, pill bugs), and I will be sending an Animal Report home for the students to do over track-out. They will pick an animal and then tell us about the animal (their habitat, what they eat, what animal family they belong to, etc.). The students will share their Animal Reports with the class when we track back in.

# Reminders/Further Information

* 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 working hard on following directions. We are slowly making progress. We are going to keep reviewing the classroom rules and working on this.
* Please send a water bottle in with your student each day for recess. It gets hot out there!
* Interims will be sent home on Monday, May 2. The interim will include grades for what we have been learning so far this quarter. They were suppose o be sent home last Friday but we were having problems with powerschool.
* Due to weather, Gator Fest was cancelled Friday night. It is rescheduled for June 3rd.
* We are making a class book about what the students want to be when they grow up! We are having the book published by a publishing company! We sent home a permission slip and order form on Friday. You do not need to order the book but I do need the permission slip back ASAP in order to include your students writing in our class book. I need the permission slips and order forms returned by next Friday, May 6. The students have made their rough drafts and I personally am looking forward to seeing the finished product!
* We sent home a permission slip for our field trip to the Durham Life and Science Museum last Thursday. This field trip is on May 11. The cost of the trip is $13. For this field trip we could use as many chaperones as possible! The more chaperones the smaller the groups are and the field trip is more fun for the students. The chaperone cost is $8. You need to be a registered volunteer through the school to be a chaperone. You can find out more about becoming a registered volunteer by calling the main office.
* Mark your calendars! On June 27 at 10 a.m. we will be holding our end of year performance for Track 2! Every student will get 3 tickets for their family to come to the performance. Please send in $2 to help us purchase the students costumes for the performance.
* If you are interested in ordering Scholastic books visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.
* 5/9 – 5/13 – Teachers Appreciation Week
* 5/11 – Field Trip to Life and Science Museum
* 5/11 – Track-Out Day
* 5/29 – Jahmai’s Birthday
* 6/3 – Gator Fest

# Important Dates

# Curriculum News

Monday: Math

Tuesday: Technology

Wednesday: Music

Thursday: Media

Friday: Guidance

# Specials

Ms. Dodson’s Classroom Newsletter

**Have a wonderful week!**

Ms. Dodson

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### Alston Ridge Elementary

Cary, NC

Week of 5/2/16 – 5/6/16

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

