* 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.
* Interims were sent home on Friday. This summarizes what we have done so far. Attached to the interims were your students’ mClass reading levels and tips to work on with your student at home to help them become a better reader. By the end of Kindergarten the goal is for them to be reading at a level D. Also attached was a list of sight words that we will be learning throughout the school year.
* 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 will be tracking-out this coming Friday. We will not be changing classrooms this track-out, so when students return on September 8 they will be coming back to room 222. I will send home a track-out packet of things students can work on over track-out (this is optional but strongly encouraged).
* If your child’s transportation changes (even if it’s for the day), please send a note in in their alligator folder letting us know.
* Please send in a family photo we will be making a scrapbook of our class and their families. This is a great way for the students’ to get to know their new classroom family a little better and also help them feel more comfortable in their new environment.
* Please remember to send in a healthy snack with your student each day for our snack time.
* Send in $4.00 for the registration fee for RAZ Kids if you have not done so already.
* My websiteis up and running and I will update it each week with information. Go to Alston Ridge’s website, click on class pages, and then click on my name under Kindergarten and it will take you to the site.
* 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!
* If you visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.

**Literacy:** This week we will finish introducing our Literacy Centers. We will be practicing our centers of how to Read to Self, Buddy Reading, Work on Writing, Listen to Reading, and Word Work. The children are practicing working quietly, staying in one spot, and focusing on their task to build stamina in reading. At these centers, we continue to practice staying quiet, on task, and completing our work. We will continue to read “big” books, enlarged books with text large enough for children read along, and poems. We will practice making predictions using the front and back cover, finding the title, and locating capital letters and sight words. As we read “big” books and poems together, we will practice reading with fluency and expression.

**Phonics:** We are will be reviewing the Letter Land characters this week with the finish of fast track. Letter Land is a phonics program that introduces the letters and sounds by using characters and alliteration that go with each letter.

**Writing:** Our focus this week in writing will be choosing a good topic. We have been working on adding as much detail to our pictures as possible. We will continue to practice adding labels and words to our pictures. Students will practice stretching out words and recording the beginning sound (more if they are able).

**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 hundred chart. During centers this week, students will also work on counting objects, identifying, and forming numbers to 10 using Play-Doh, Unifix cubes, computer activities, and pattern blocks. As we continue working in small groups during centers, students will practice staying on task, using a quiet voice, and working cooperatively with others.

**Social Studies:** We will be finishing our Citizens Unit this week in Social Studies. We will continue to practice being a good citizen. The students are engaged in activities that allow us to get to know each other, form friendships, and establish clear expectations for learning. We’ve provided lots of time for social experiences and the practicing of new classroom routines. We are continuing our discussion on our “Traffic Light” behavior system and the importance of being patient, responsible, respectful, caring, and helpful. We always strive to make good “green” choices. If we are doing something that is unsafe or unkind we may need a reminder and have to move our clip to “yellow”. The children always have a chance to make the right choice and move back to green. If they continue to need reminders and must move their clip to “red”, a note will be sent home so that they can talk about how they will make better choices for the next day. Please know that it is normal for students to come home on yellow or red this time of year. We are trying to enforce and teach the students the rules so we have fewer problems later on. 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.

Monday: Music

Tuesday: Media

Wednesday: Readers Theater

Thursday: TA

Friday: N/A

# Specials

* 8/10-8/11 – Ms. Dodson will be out at a training
* 8/14 - Early Release (Dismissal begins at 1:15)
* 8/17 – Track out

# Curriculum News

Ms. Dodson’s Classroom Newsletter

**Have a wonderful week!**

Ms. Dodson

**ddodson@wcpss.net**

# Reminders/Further Information

# Important Dates

### Alston Ridge Elementary

Cary, NC

Week of 8/10/15 – 8/14/15

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

