Monday: Technology

Tuesday: P.E.

Wednesday: Art

Thursday: Readers Guidance

Friday: Science

**Literacy:** Over the next several weeks the children will be introduced and practicing the centers of how to Read to Self, 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.

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

**Writing:** During writing this week we will be introducing the different tools that good writers use in writing (letter chart, pencil, writing journal, writing folder, etc). We will be using these tools every day during our writing workshop. We will be practicing picking a topic and drawing pictures and writing small sentences that go with the picture. We are working on kindergarten coloring (coloring in the lines, using “real life” colors, and filling in the white space). I encourage the children to “stretch words out” to sound things out. Students are encouraged try their best to write the sounds that they hear. At this point our priority is not for them to spell words perfectly; we simply want them to listen for sounds and write the letters that correspond. This is hard work for little ones and “kid writing” is very appropriate for this time of year! The goal is for children to get excited about writing and to share their work with pride.

**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 are continuing 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.

# Curriculum News

* 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.
* 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.
* If you missed open house last week I sent home all the information that was given out and the power point presentation that I presented is on my website.
* This will be my last newsletter I send home in the Alligator folder (unless you send in a note requesting otherwise). The newsletter will be posted on the classroom website on Mondays.
* 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.

Ms. Dodson’s Classroom Newsletter

# Specials

**Have a wonderful week!**

Ms. Dodson

**ddodson@wcpss.net**

# Reminders/Further Information

# Important Dates

* 8/14 - Early Release (Dismissal begins at 1:15)
* 8/17 – Track out

### Alston Ridge Elementary

Cary, NC

Week of 8/3/15 – 8/7/15

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

