* 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.
* 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.
* A permission slip for our field trip to the pumpkin farm will be sent home this week along with information explaining what we will do on this field trip. The field trip is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21. It cost $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. I will be sending out a signup genius in the near future for chaperones. Chaperones need to be a registered volunteer through the school. The cost for chaperones is $10.
* 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.
* 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, September 21. If you visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.

**Literacy:** This week we will start our daily 5 Literacy centers. Students will work on developing independence during Literacy centers and focusing on the reading standard of the week. This week we will be focusing on the difference between fiction and nonfiction. We will continue to review concepts of print during shared reading time, when students are introduced to engaging “big” books and poems. Through these activities students will practice tracking words from left to right, top to bottom, page by page and begin to understand that words are separated by spaces in print.

**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.

**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). We are slowly introducing writing a sentence to go along with the story.

**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 be looking at two groups of numbers and determining which group has more or less. 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:** This week we will be talking about our five senses and what they are used for. The 5 senses unit will prepare the children for our Investigating Properties Unit coming up next quarter!

Monday: Music

Tuesday: Media

Wednesday: Readers Theater

Thursday: Technology

Friday: P.E.

# Specials

* 9/14-9/18 – Custodial Appreciation Week
* 9/25 – Report Cards will be sent home
* 9/29 – Picture Day

# Curriculum News

Ms. Dodson’s Classroom Newsletter

**Have a wonderful week!**

Ms. Dodson

[**ddodson@wcpss.net**](mailto:ddodson@wcpss.net)

# Reminders/Further Information

# Important Dates

### Alston Ridge Elementary

Cary, NC

Week of 9/14/15 – 9/18/15

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

banner with apples and crayons