



September Newsletter



September Character Trait: Perseverance

It is hard to believe that September is here, and we have been in school for nearly four weeks. We are continuing to work on letters, letter sounds, counting, one-to-one correspondence, as well as the additional skills listed on the report card. We are also continuing to work on being good listeners and following directions and classroom rules.

This is a big class this school year, and we are having several issues with talking. We have sent home several yellow apples and even some red ones. This is definitely not good at the beginning of Kindergarten. When students are talking and bothering others, it not only interferes with the education but with that of the other children in the classroom. Please speak with your child about the importance of listening in class and not talking or bothering others.

On September 4th, we will have a practice day for eLearning. **Students will be in attendance that day (September 4th).** All of the work will be completed at school that day, and the completed packet will be sent home with your child so you can see an example of what will be completed on eLearning days. eLearning may be used to make up for days missed due to inclement weather. This is our first year for eLearning, so it is a new experience for everyone. We will be completing a packet like your child will bring home for the Planned eLearning Day on September 18th. **Students will not be in attendance on September 18th.** You should be receiving some information regarding eLearning in the near future from the school corporation.

Thank you so much to everyone that volunteered to provide snacks for our parties this school year. The parties are very special times for the children! We have someone signed up for every item on our party list except for the butter and the second group of 3 large pumpkin pies for our Thanksgiving Feast. Also, the salty snack and drinks for our Easter Party in April. If you would like to volunteer to provide one of those items, please send me a note letting me know that information. **Please remember not to send homemade snacks because, unfortunately, we can no longer accept them even if you have packaged them**

individually. All snacks must be prepackaged from the place of purchase. This means that the snacks have to be purchased in individual packages, or if you are sending packages of cookies, animal crackers, pretzels, etc. the entire package needs to be sent to school unopened. However, individually packaged snacks work the best and save us the most time! Drinks should always come to school packaged individually to save time and prevent major spills in the classroom. **I will no longer accept big jugs of juice. These can be very messy, and with 30 students, too time consuming. Please remember to send both a snack and a drink to school for your child's snack day.** Thank you to all of you that have been diligent in sending snacks and drinks on your child's snack day!

During August we have been learning to write our upper and lower case letters and learning the sounds each letter makes. We learned the letter people for the following letters:

Aa – Miss Achoo

Cc – Cotton Candy

Ee – Miss Exercise

Bb – Beautiful Buttons

Dd – Delicious Donuts

Ff – Funny Feet

During September, we will be learning the letters and sounds for:

Gg – Goopy Gum

Ii – Incredible Inventor

Kk – Kind Kick

Mm – Munching Mouth

Hh – Horrible Hair

Jj – Jumbled Junk

Ll – Lemon Lollipop

Nn – Noisy Nose

There is a song that goes with each letter. The children really love the songs! I sent home a sheet containing the letter people in the Parent Packet at Open House.

We are also learning to write/practice our names. If your child is having difficulty writing their letters, numbers, and/or name correctly, please practice with your child at home. I will continue to send practice packets with any student that is still struggling with correct letter, name, and/or number writing until they have mastered those skills. If your child is receiving one of those packets, please help them to form the letters correctly with proper placement on the lines.

For Math, we are learning how to count to 20 and beyond as well as writing numbers to 20. We will continue to practice counting and writing our numbers. We are also learning to add numbers through our calendar time each morning. We will continue to learn more about the days of the week, months of the year, the calendar, and time through our morning Math Meeting.

We have learned about the shapes circle, triangle, square, oval, triangle, diamond, cube, and hexagon. We will be learning about additional shapes in the future. We are also learning all about our colors. We will continue to work on these skills during September. In addition to letter and sound recognition, name writing, numbers and number words, we will also work on our coloring, cutting, and gluing skills.

As I stated in our Parent Packet sent home during our Open House, we will be sending home report cards every nine weeks. The first grading period will end on October 8th. We will be discussing your child's progress and their Report Card during Parent/Teacher Conferences. We are working daily on the skills listed on the Report Card for the first grading period.

We have been sending home your child's purple folders daily. These folders contain your child's classroom work, menus, newsletters, snack calendars, and homework. **Please check your child's backpack each night for the purple folder.** Thank you for helping your child to get the folder returned to school each morning!!

When I send home work that needs to be completed or redone, please help and supervise your child to see that the work is completed correctly and neatly and return it to school the next day. I am receiving work returned that is several days old, and some that has never been returned. The care, concern, and interest you show in helping your child complete the work correctly and neatly inspires them to do their best.

Please be sure to have your child complete the agenda homework that is sent home on Friday. If your child is having difficulty writing their letters correctly, please help them with the letter formation. Please remember to sign your child's agenda at the bottom of the page and return it on the following Monday. **This lets us know that you have seen the agenda and approve of the completed work before it is returned to school.** Also, please be sure to help your child complete the Letter-Writing Homework neatly and return it to school by the following Friday. The

Letter-Writing Homework helps your child with the correct formation and placement of each letter on the lines.

The NWEA testing for our class will be administered on September 3rd and 4th. This test is given in the computer lab, and the children are instructed what to do through headphones. There is no time limit on this testing. A sheet listing your child's scores will be sent home when this test and the NWEA Reading Fluency testing are complete.

In addition to these tests, we have also assessed each student on upper and lower case letters as well as letter sounds, number recognition, counting, and colors. A copy of that assessment was sent home in your child's purple folder earlier this school year. The letters, sounds, numbers, and colors with the minus sign were the items that your child could not identify. Please practice those skills with your child. It is imperative that your child recognize both upper and lowercase letters in order to state the beginning sounds in words as well as begin to sound out words in order to learn reading skills.

As I stated in my Parent Packet, I use a series of five circles each day. If a child is still misbehaving after several warnings, they receive a circle on the chart. Each time, the children are given warnings before they are given a circle. Their cardboard worm is also moved at the time they receive a circle. This allows the children to see that their behavior is not appropriate for the classroom. Many of the children are adjusting very well to spending the day at school. I know that this has been a difficult adjustment for those students that did not attend preschool. The behavior of each student not only affects their education but the education of the other students in the classroom. If your child has been bringing home yellow or red apples please speak with your child at home about their behavior in the classroom.

We will be sending home Book Bags for the first time the second weekend in September. I think I have enough for each child to receive a Book Bag every weekend. You can read the books to your child but try to encourage your child to read and say the words in the books with you. This will help your child with reading fluency. Once you have read the books, please mark your child's name off of the list enclosed in the Book Bag and return the books to school. Your child must return the Book Bag in order to receive a new bag of books. Once we begin the Pizza Hut Book-It Program in October, these books can be counted toward the four

books required each month to receive a certificate for a free personal pan pizza.

We have several children in our classroom that cannot tie their own shoes. That used to be one of the skills on the Kindergarten Report Card. Unfortunately, that skill is no longer listed on the Report Card. However, it is very important that your child know how to tie his/her own shoes. Please work with your child at home so that they can learn to tie their own shoes. As fall and cooler weather approaches students will begin wearing jackets and coats to school. If your child does not know how to button or zip their own coat, please practice with your child at home. Each child needs to know how to button or zip their own coat. Thank you for your help!!!

Fall Pictures will be taken on September 20th. A flyer for those pictures will be sent home soon.

We will celebrate Johnny Appleseed Day on Thursday, September 26th. I will be purchasing apples and caramel from the cafeteria for our Johnny Appleseed celebration.

Kindergarten is an **extremely** important year in your child's life. Your child will learn a great deal this year. Thank you for the support and encouragement that you give to your child. Your support and encouragement helps stimulate your child's desire to learn. Thank you so much for all you do!!

Mrs. Collins

September Dates to Remember

September 2 – Labor Day (No School)

September 3 – Students Return to School

September 4 – Practice eLearning Day – Students in attendance

September 18 – Planned eLearning Day – Student not in attendance

September 20 – Fall Pictures

September 26 – Johnny Appleseed Day

Future Dates to Remember

October 10 - Parent/Teacher Conferences – Report Cards Sent Home

October 11 – No School – Teacher-In Service Day

October 14 – 18 – No School – Fall Break

October 21 – School Resumes from Fall Break

Kindergarten Skills That Will Be Covered During September

Literacy Skills:

- Recognize and print all upper and lower case letters
- Recognition of all letter sounds
- Follow words from left to right
- Distinguish letters from words
- Recognize sentences are made up of separate words
- Orally state the beginning sounds in 3-letter words
- Read common high-frequency words by sight
- Classify objects into categories
- Identify characters, setting, and events in a story
- Identify the parts of a book (ex. title, author, illustrations)
- Write for specific purposes
- Write moving left to right
- Use words and pictures to write a simple story
- Reads & writes first name
- Recognize 11 colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, white, pink, & gray)

Social Studies:

- State school and classroom rules

Science:

- State what objects you see in the day sky & night sky

Math:

- Count orally by ones (goal 100 by third grading period)
- Recognize and write numbers 0 to 10
- Write numbers 0 - 10
- Match numbers to objects with a written numeral to 10
- Compare groups of objects and identify greater than, less than, or equal to
- Two-dimensional shapes: square, circle, oval, triangle, rectangle, hexagon, diamond