

KINDERGARTEN NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023



Parents,

HERE WE GO! It will certainly be a busy month! We will spend some time getting to know each other and becoming familiar with our daily routine! I can't wait to get started!

We will begin our **Writing Workshop** right away. Your child's writing will change dramatically this year! They will likely start out "pretend writing" (just like they pretend to be a lion or a firefighter)! Soon they will be labeling pictures with a letter or two. Then they will write words and eventually sentences under their pictures. These will be hard to read at first, but as their word repertoire and phonemic awareness develop, their writing will gradually become more conventional! Meanwhile I will closely monitor your child's progress! This is my job; yours is to simply admire whatever your child brings home, to make him/her feel like the best author you've ever read, even though they are still learning to spell and don't quite have it right yet! ☺ Above all, show an interest in the content of whatever your child "writes". This encouragement is so invaluable!

We will also start our "**Daily 5**" immediately. Every afternoon, after our story and comprehension lesson, we will rotate through 5 stations. Included are *word work, read to self, listen to a story, ABC Mouse (computer), and work on writing*. For awhile the "work on writing" component will involve actual penmanship practice. This is intense work, so we all cheer for our friends when they complete a packet! Be sure and be encouraging when these packets come home as well!

We will begin our "**I Can Read**" notebooks as well. These will contain reading materials including poems, songs, rhymes, and mini-books that we have been reading together as a group. They will be sent home on some Friday's but will need to be returned on Monday so that they're available during "read to self" time. There will be more information for you with the notebook! We will also be creating the first of many **Class Books** this month. These are books we will work on together and practice reading. Children may take turns taking these home too, if they would like. We will begin working in our **math/science and phonics journals as well**.



Later in September we will receive our first "**Rainbow Heart Words**" These are sight/high frequency words that will be introduced gradually starting with the purple words and working our way all the way up the rainbow to red. Your child may want to bring a set of words home to practice at some point. There is NO PRESSURE to learn them by a given time though. Every child learns at his/her own pace and will progress toward a **personal goal** . Only if the entire class is ready, will I implement a class goal to learn all of a set of words. Some of these words will also be our **spelling words**. We will eventually have actual (no pressure) spelling tests! We will also begin work on **phonemic awareness and phonics** (which includes letters and sounds *for those who need more practice*). I also started a program last year that is very exciting called "Secret Stories"! Look for more information on that a little later!

PLEASE BRING: A **baby photo** of your child and a **family photo** as soon as possible. Please indicate if you want them returned and I will make a copy and give you back the original right away!



Thank you so much for entrusting me with your child's education this year! It is an honor and a privilege to be able to work with them!

September Units of Study



Social Studies - Names, Friends, Family, All About Me...from babyhood to big kid!

Science - Intro to Science Journal, Apples, Mr. Tree, What a Scientist Does,
(ask question, predict, observe, record data, conclusion—w/ball unit)

Writing Workshop - "My Pictures Tell a Story"

Math - Numbers, Counting, Attributes

Literacy: Sound Song, Letters & Sign language, Color Words, Rainbow Heart Words, Mother Goose Rhymes, Shared reading/"I Can Read Books".

Art - Self Portraits, Cezanne' & Matisse (apple still life).

Bible/Fruit of the Spirit -**LOVE**; Each month one of the Fruits of the Spirit will be emphasized. We will start with Love and work our way through all nine of them. Our Bible curriculum begins with "The Story", which is great because it is chronological! We will start at the beginning with Creation and end with Easter. Then we will move on to "Believe", which helps us apply the stories to our own lives!

Reminders & More:

* Please have an extra set of clothes in your child's backpack or cubby every day. Accidents happen and even a small spill can be uncomfortable.

* If you have any questions about ANYTHING, please don't hesitate to ask! And if you just want to chat about how your child is doing (or anything else!), just give me a call anytime after 2:30! (Being with them is my favorite, talking about them and their progress is my second favorite!) ☺

Upcoming Events:

Thursday , Sept. 14th — FIRST FIELD TRIP! We will be joining the preschoolers on an apple orchard adventure! Cost is \$3.00 per child. Sign up and come along if you can!

Friday, Sept. 29th — FIELD TRIP to Bush Park to do some "ball racing" (part of our science unit). We will also play on a playground if weather permits. If you would like to come along, please sign up on the *Field Trip Form* located on the *Parent Bulletin Board!* Thanks!

*Also, if you ever feel like joining in on the fun, just let me know! You can share something related to a unit of study, show us something of interest, teach us about your job, read us a favorite book, anything at all! We would love having you! ☺