

Mrs. Davis’ Class News

Week of September 5 - 8

**Readers Workshop** - We are continuing to set goals as readers to read for longer amounts of time. We have assigned reading partners and reading spots in the classroom for independent reading time. We've also talked about what to do when conferencing with our partner during 'turn and talk' time and how to stay engaged in a book. This is an ongoing focus as we start out our readers workshop at the beginning of the year. We are learning to record tally marks each day in our reading logs. These books come home each night, students will need to record in their reading logs each day. Students will bookshop once a week and select new books. Please continue to record at least one title and number of minutes that is being read in the agenda each night.

We also read Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon & Quick as a Cricket and practiced retelling the story elements (characters, setting, problem and solution).

**Close Reading**: We read the poem "Watermelon" and identified sight words, rhyming words and illustrated the poem making sure the pictures matched the words in the poem. We chunked the text into smaller parts and reread for deeper understanding.

**Word Study**: We started our first word sort this week - Short a and short i. We introduced these words, cut out the words and sorted them by short vowels. We've learned to sort with a partner and how to go on a word hunt to find other words with the same spelling pattern.

**Math**: We've started a new math series this year. During our first week, the children have been working on story problems by using the part-part-whole mat to solve their addition equations. We’ve also cut out several vocabulary cards that the students will use to help understand key words/phrases for the unit. These are great visual aids for better understanding.

**Writing**: This week we officially started Writers Workshop and the kids have really enjoyed getting their thoughts down on paper. We discussed rules and procedures and they really have written some exciting stories! (You are welcome to check out their writing folders at curriculum night.) Each day we have introduced small moments by reading Roller Coaster, Night of the Veggie Monster, and Let's Get a Pup, said Kate. We’ve talked about how a small moment is a true story that really happened in our lives. We discussed how to plan out a story across several pages and how to add more details to the illustrations. They are amazing writers and have enjoyed this special part of the day.

**Science**: We have been exploring a watermelon by making observations, measuring the circumference, predicting if it will sink or float and weighing it. They have created a watermelon book for this.

**Social Studies**: We’ve been sharing our All about Me t-shirts and read our first Scholastic Weekly Reader.

Red Fluency Folders: These will be coming home each Friday. Please have your child read the new poem and help your child add the new poem/reading to the folder. Return the fluency folders each week.

A few reminders: \*Last day to order sprit wear is this Friday, September 15.

\*Log in codes and passwords for Raz Kids, Sumdog and Dreambox will go home on Monday. Please keep the sheet protector in the 3-ring binder so you can use it at home while we will use it in school. Also, let me know if your child is unable to log in at home.

\*Thursday folders need to be returned each Friday. You may return the finished homework in it.

\*Curriculum Night is Thursday, September 14 at 6:30. Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

\*Each classroom adopts another staff member at our school. Our buddy is Mrs. Maas, our computer teacher. We are excited that she will be part of our class this year for special parties and events. Right now, this is a secret to the children because she is giving them clues.

The students started taking home their agendas/binders. Please check their agenda and ask them the question they have written in their agendas. There is no need to write a response, just a way to ask your children about their day. This will be the format for the year. Please initial the agenda each day. Also, record at least one title and number of minutes read each night. Their behavior color will also be in their agendas, too.

If anyone would like to be in charge of the Scholastic Book Orders for the class, please let me know. This company is a great way to get books for your child at a cheap price.

Homework: Math homework has started. The math homework is a review of what we have learned over the week. Math homework will come home each Thursday and will be due the following Monday. Reading homework consists of reading 10 to 20 minutes at home each night.

Here are a few important items to note for the upcoming school year: \*Absence email - mckeeabsent@cms.k12.nc.us \*There is no change to daily transportation after 2PM. Changes must be made in writing. \*All volunteers must register each year in the CMS volunteer system. Even if you volunteered last year, you must register again. Please go to www.cmsvolunteers.com \*ListServ (VERY IMPORTANT): Mrs. Bagwell sends out a weekly update from the PTA and McKee events and updates. This often includes the Principal Awards and important calendar dates.

Please sign up for the emails.

http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/mckeeroadES/Pages/ListServe.aspx