



# Kindergarten News

## Off to a GREAT start!



### A Friendly Reminder

- Early Release Day— Friday, October 2, 2009 dismissal will be at 12:35. Please send a note if transportation arrangements are different on this day!
- There will be no school for students on Friday, October 16th.
- When late please remember to drop your student off at the office not the classroom.
- Please send in a smock marked with your child's name for art class.
- The phone # of the transportation office is (301) 840-8150
- Our email addresses are:  
Kathryn\_E\_Callahan  
Kristen\_L\_Friedland  
Laurie\_E\_Weaver  
Amy\_J\_Parato  
Christine\_J\_Ballen  
followed by @mcpsmd.org

Kindergarten is off to a roaring start! Thank you to everyone for a great beginning to the school year! The children are adjusting well. We are enjoying working with your children!!

### Language Arts

- Each quarter a special children's author is the focus of our author study. We are currently studying Margaret Wise Brown.
- The high frequency word wall words that we have learned so far are; "see," "I," "and," "like," "a," & "am."
- MClass assessment is on going in each classroom. Reading groups begin in early October.
- We have been working on identifying and generating rhyming words.
- We are studying the characters and

setting of stories.

- We are learning the difference between all of the uppercase and lowercase letters.
- We are learning about syllables.
- We are learning to write using pencils.
- We have been reading environmental print.
- Writers' Workshop has begun with a focus on learning to use detail in both illustration and in writing. We are learning to ask: "what did you see, hear, touch, & taste?" We are also learning to label our work and to make various lists.

### Math

- We have been

learning about sorting.

- We have been making graphs.
- We are practicing counting using one-to-one correspondence.
- We are working on number representation.
- We are practicing writing numbers.
- We are using positional words. Please keep practicing at home.

### Science and Social Studies

In science and social studies, we are examining likenesses and differences as we discuss "Myself and Others."

### Homework

- Please remember that your child's homework packet is due on Thursdays.
- Please remember

come home with your child. This will be our class mascot, and your child will have a special job at home to complete.

### Art

Calling all artists! Please put a labeled men's t-shirt in your child's backpack to be used on occasion in art class as a smock. We will leave them in the backpacks for sanitary reasons and use them when necessary.

### Conferences

Parent conferences will be held on Friday, No-

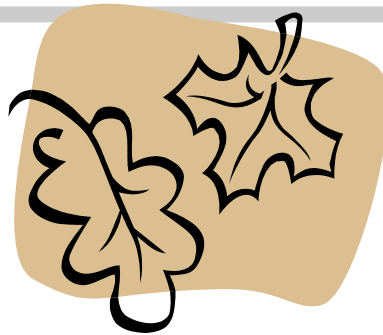


vember 9th, and Monday, November 12th. Please see your child's teacher if you have not yet signed up for a time.

### Other Reminders

- Please remember to send in the \$10 activity fee if you have not yet done so.
- Please be sure to empty the binders each night.

- Please remember that students may not eat food in the gym in the mornings.
- If your child's teacher is Ms. Kirby, Mrs. Ballen, or Ms. Friedland, please make sure that your child brings a snack to school each day.
- Please make sure that your child's jacket is labeled with his or her name.
- Please remember to bring in a change of clothes for your child.
- Volunteer training will be on October 2nd at 7:00 PM and October 4th at 9:00 AM.
- Thanks again for all of your support!



Finally we are making good progress in demonstrating responsibility and attention to classroom rules. Students in each class have developed a class set of rules that connect well to the school-wide PAVE values. In addition to learning lots of new routines, students are growing accustomed to adhering to rules for respect and a calm work atmosphere at school. We are proud of them!

## Snack

Thank you to the families who have sent snack for September. Please refer to the snack letter that went home to see when you have been asked to contribute. Let us know if you need an extra

copy. Please also note that we prefer individually wrapped items sent at the beginning of the month. If items are not individually wrapped, please send Dixie cups (small) so that we can create individ-

ual portions, thus limiting the spread of germs. Also, all items must be store bought, in accordance with MCPS health regulations. Thanks again, in advance!



## Requested Items

We have collected activity fees and newspaper fees for most students. If you haven't yet sent in the requested fifteen dollars, please

do so in an envelope labeled with your child's name and "activity/newspaper" fee. Thanks!



## Binder Routines



We really appreciate your help in checking all sections of your child's binder every day. Please remember to take out all papers everyday including graded homework. Just a reminder: the yellow emergency cards and the blue discipline forms need to be turned in as soon as possible.

At our orientation meeting we suggested that you keep our kindergarten parent handbook (with the star on the front) in the binder all year for your reference. All other papers should be removed daily, if possible.

Be on the look out for a furry friend, our class mascot, coming home shortly with a journal.... More information to follow soon!



.Scholastic book orders will be coming home shortly. Be on the look out for the order forms in your child's binder. The due date will be marked on the order form.



## Just a Reminder....

- Please make sure that your child leaves toys, jewelry, cards, etc. at home. These items can be distracting and may get lost or broken.
- If you want to donate money to the hurricane relief effort, (Ritchie Park Cares) send in cash, coins, or a check made out to the American Red Cross. Each class has a container to collect these funds.

