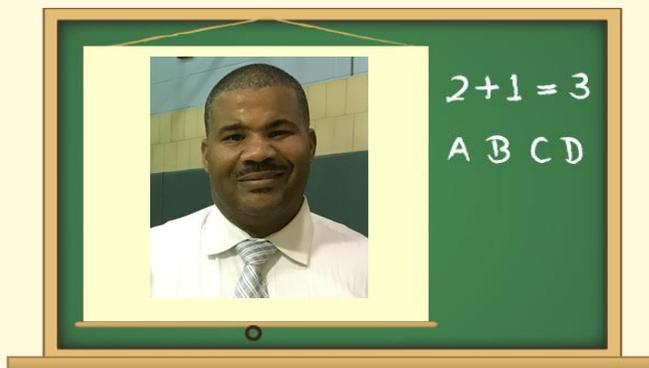


WOODLIN WIZARD NEWS



Hello, Wizard Parents.

This **new monthly newsletter** provides a **big picture look** at what your Wizard students will be learning in the month ahead.

It's a 20,000-foot view, which our teachers will narrow with greater detail for you in their ongoing communications to you as the month progresses.

I firmly believe that **being transparent** in all that we do **helps us build trusting relationships and strong partnerships**, which, in turn, greatly support the academic, social, and emotional growth of our Woodlin Wizards.

So **take a peek** at what's ahead **for October** as we encourage our Woodlin Wizards to be *curious, confident, and caring* as they *explore, learn, and succeed* in the Woodlin way!!

Craig Jackson



Kindergarten

October is a busy month in kindergarten! We are really getting the hang of our routines, and are ready to start diving into books in small groups! In mid-October, we will be **bringing books home to read!** We also will be reading informational texts aloud about Fall, apples, pumpkins, and the farm. Learning about this will help to prepare us for our **field trip** at Homestead Farm on October 25th!

In **math**, we are really building a strong foundation for **counting** and **cardinality**. Not only are we counting and representing numbers in numerous ways, but also practicing different types of counting strategies. We will **begin measuring items** using non-standard units and determining items that are longer and shorter, and even putting them in order. It is quite a busy month!



First Grade

First graders have an exciting October ahead of them. In **writing**, students will publish their stories and begin the process of writing their “**How-To**” pieces. To support this writing instruction, the students will have an **in-school field trip** to learn about the bread making process. Students will learn the steps to follow to make bread, which will support them as they begin their “How-To” writing pieces. **You can help too.** Discuss with your child a couple of things that he or she is an “expert” at, like making a specific food dish, a craft, etc., and how they would write instructions for someone else to follow.

In **reading**, students will begin looking at informational text. Using informational texts, students will distinguish information learned from text versus pictures. In **math**, students will use different strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems. Some of the strategies include drawing, using a number line, using manipulatives, counting on, counting back. In **social studies**, students will learn the parts of a plant and its uses.



Second Grade

We are off to a great start in second grade! Students have been **working hard** and have been **especially engaged in our hands-on science and engineering design projects**. We have already learned and grown so much in the first six weeks!

Coming up in October, we will continue using our **math** knowledge of place value to skip count, compare numbers, and write numbers in different forms. We have been **extending our mathematical thinking with Dru and Teller, meerkats from Botswana!** They help us problem solve, reinforce mathematical vocabulary, and think flexibly. At the end of the month, we will begin working with bar graphs and picture graphs to display data. In **social studies**, using images and informational text, we will identify and explain how **leadership** positions and organizations help maintain safety and order. We also will identify ways community leaders help solve community problems.

In **reading**, we will identify the **points of view** of different characters in various versions of the same story. In **role playing exercises**, students will use dialogue from the stories to speak like the characters to understand their points of view better. We also will be shifting from literature to informational text and using text features to understand the main idea and key details of a reading. Students will continue working their way through our Jacob's Ladder instruction in small group and having meaningful discussions in whole group around two Junior Great Book stories, *The Red Balloon* and *The Happy Lion*. In **writing**, we will be finishing up our Lucy Calkins narrative unit. Students will use the **narrative writing checklist** to compare their writing to the checklist and set writing goals.



Third Grade

What a **great start** the third graders have had!

We have been busy getting ourselves organized—our desks, binders, schedules, etc. Adjusting to the rigor of third grade and an early lunch and recess schedule (11:30 am -12:30 pm) has been no easy task for the students. But **all have risen** to the occasion!

This month, we will be **reading** informational text and practicing some close reading strategies. In **math**, students will begin to explore area and how it relates to repeated addition and multiplication. In **writing**, students have been busy researching A Wider Circle and will begin to write an informative piece later this month.

To keep their energy high, please be sure to **send a snack with your child** every day for their afternoon snack break.



Fourth Grade

Fourth graders are off to a **great start of learning and growing together**. Our students are understanding their roles in contributing to our *classroom culture of respect, responsibility, and best effort practices*.

Here is what we will be learning in October.

In **reading**, students will explain events, procedures, ideas or concepts in historical, technical, and scientific texts, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text. Students also will be able to refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. Students will also ask questions and engage in collaborative discussions of the Jacob's Ladder informational texts, "***Mindsets: How the Popular Psychological Theory Relates to Success***" and "***The Fringe Benefits of Failure and the Importance of Imagination***".

In **math**, students will represent and solve multi-step, comparison word problems using all operations. Students will develop understanding and apply the area and perimeter formulas of a rectangle; use multiplicative reasoning to convert units of time; and solve problems involving conversion of measurements. In **science**, students will make observations and/or measurements to provide evidence of the effects of weathering or the rate of erosion by water, ice, wind, or vegetation. In **social studies**, students will compare ways Native American societies in Maryland used the natural environment to meet their needs before the establishment of the thirteen British colonies.



Fifth Grade

Our **fabulous fifth graders** are off to a great start. We began the year with a class meeting to organize binders and talk about expectations for the fifth-grade year.

In October, our **math 5** students will be discovering the relationship of perimeter and area to volume. They will then determine the volume of rectangular prisms. They will finish the month by reading and writing decimals and explaining the place value of decimals in relationship to each other. The **math 5/6** students are moving past multiplication of fractions into the division of fractions.

In **literacy**, our fifth graders are using a variety of texts to determine two or more main ideas and to summarize the text. In Literature Circles, students will be working to read and discuss character development and identify the theme in an assigned text.

In **writing**, students are finishing their narrative writing of "Small Moment" topics (person, place, feelings, first times/last times/a time when an important lesson was learned). They will soon begin an informational research project related to the social studies unit.

Our first **science** unit is *Physical Science - States of Matter*. During this unit, the students will be identifying materials based on their properties, developing a testable question, making a hypothesis, and conducting an investigation.

Thank You!
