

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

September 2023 Newsletter

News and Notes

Welcome to an exciting year of kindergarten! We would like to introduce you all to the kindergarten team:

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- ❖ Please remember to check your child's folder daily for upcoming events and important information.
- ❖ We understand that birthdays are an exciting time for your child. Unfortunately, due to the increase in the number of food allergies, we can no longer accept edible birthday treats. If you wish to send in birthday goodies, please consider sending in stickers, erasers, or other small non-edible items.

ELA Standards

The students will...

- ❖ Begin to recognize that the title and illustrations provide meaning.
- ❖ Make predictions about a story.
- ❖ Identify the setting of a story.
- ❖ Recognize that spoken words can be represented by print.
- ❖ Develop an awareness of spaces between words.
- ❖ Begin to use correct lower case letter formation when writing.
- ❖ Develop an awareness of beginning capitalizations and punctuation.



Math Standards

This month we will be working on number and quantity. Please see the following math family letter regarding specific benchmarks. This paper also includes activities that you can do at home to support what is being taught at school.



Social Studies Standards



The students will ...

- ❖ Recognize that rules promote fairness, responsible behavior, and privacy.
- ❖ Identify reasons for school and classroom rules.
- ❖ Identify the flag as a US symbol and that saying the pledge is associated with being a citizen.

Science Standards

The students will...

- ❖ Learn that their five senses help them observe and describe the world around them.
- ❖ Discuss and record observations made using their senses.
- ❖ Observe and record the life cycle of the monarch caterpillar.



CCPS Curriculum Information

To find out more information about our curriculum, please click on the following links:

Math: <https://www.carrollk12.org/academics/curriculum-and-instruction/curriculum/elementary-curriculum/math/kindergarten>

ELA: <https://www.carrollk12.org/academics/curriculum-and-instruction/curriculum/elementary-curriculum/ela>

Science: <https://www.carrollk12.org/academics/curriculum-and-instruction/curriculum/elementary-curriculum/science/elementary-science-kindergarten>

Social Studies: <https://www.carrollk12.org/academics/curriculum-and-instruction/curriculum/elementary-curriculum/social-studies>

Home Activities

Each month we will list several activities which you can practice at home with your child. These activities may be: curriculum related, involve self-help skills, or will work on improving motor skills.

Remember to make learning FUN!

- ❖ Practice tying shoes.
- ❖ Practice fastening buttons, snaps, zippers of clothing, and zippers on backpacks.
- ❖ Play some rhyming games and read rhyming books.
- ❖ Take the letters of the alphabet and mix them up. See if your child can identify the letters out of order.
- ❖ Practice writing first names using an uppercase letter for the first letter ONLY!
- ❖ Practice cutting skills by cutting pictures from old magazines. Your child can glue the pictures on paper and you can assist them with writing words to label the pictures.

September Dates to Remember

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 No School Labor Day	5 First Day of School	6	7	8 PTA Ice Cream Social 6-7:30PM
11	12 PTA Meeting Media Center @ 6:00PM	13	14	15
18	19 Chick-fil-A Spirit Day 12-8pm Valid in Drive-thru only, mention "Spirit Day"	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

Foundations Level K - Unit 1

Dear Family,

Carroll County teachers are providing direct and explicit teaching about "how English works." The goal is for students to learn word patterns and apply them in reading and spelling.

This year we'll be using a program called Foundations[®] to teach some important basics of reading and spelling. Please refer to the chart below for the skills we will learn (or review) in Unit 1. Unit 1 will last approximately 12 weeks.

Skill	What is it?	How can you help at home?
Letter recognition (a-z)	Being able to name a letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have your child identify letter names. Read alphabet books. Go for a treasure hunt to find letters.
Letter formation	Correctly writing a letter	Practice tracing or writing letters.
Sound recognition (consonants and short vowels)	Being able to say the sound that a letter makes	<p>Have your child identify the sound that the letter makes. Make sure your child "clips" the consonant sounds instead of putting an "uh" on the end of a sound.</p> <p>Ex. The letter "t" says /t/ not "tuh."</p>
Print awareness	Understand that spoken words can be transferred to written print	<p>While reading a story with your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow the printed word with your finger. Indicate the left to right progression of words. Note punctuation (periods, question marks, etc.) between sentences with pauses.
Word awareness	To hear an individual word in a spoken sentence	Say a short sentence. Have your child count the number of words in the sentence.
Rhyming	Words that have the same ending sound (ex. cat and hat, weigh and hay)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read nursery rhymes and other stories that contain rhymes. For example: <i>Is Your Mama a Llama</i> and <i>The Cat in the Hat</i>. Give your child a word, and have your child give a word that rhymes.
Story retelling and comprehension	Understand what has been read	<p>Read with your child. Pause after a few pages and have your child tell what has happened in the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name the characters and tell how they feel. Predict what will happen next in the story. Tell something that you have learned. Ask your child "Where is the (name an object)?" and have them point to it in the picture.
Phonemic awareness skills	Identify beginning and final sounds in words	Say a word aloud and have your child tell the beginning or final sound.

Did you know?

Q is referred to as the "buddy letter" because **q** always has his buddy **u** right next to him in English words.

For additional practice activities, you may contact your child's teacher. Remember to make it FUN!

Sincerely,

The Kindergarten Team



KINDERGARTEN MATHEMATICS – Unit 1

Dear Parents,

During Unit 1, your children will use numbers to 10, including written numerals, to represent quantities and to solve quantitative problems, such as counting objects in a set; counting out a given number of objects; comparing sets or numerals; and modeling simple joining and separating situations with sets of objects, or eventually with equations such as $5 + 2 = 7$ and $7 - 2 = 5$.

INTRODUCING THE NUMBERS 0-10

Your child needs to:

- Count to 100 by ones and tens
- Count forward from a number other than 1
- Write the numbers 0-10 and represent an amount of object with a written numeral
- Count up to 10 objects one at a time, giving each object a number name
- Understand that the last number said names the total amount for a group of objects
- Understand that each successive number name refers to a quantity that is one larger
- Count to answer "how many?" questions about as many as 10 things arranged in a line, a rectangular array, or a circle, or a scattered configuration
- Count out a set of up to 10 objects
- Identify whether the number of objects in a one group is greater than, less than, or equal to the number of objects in another group
- Compare two numbers between 1 and 10 presented as written numerals
- Represent and solve addition and subtraction word problems and add and subtract within 10 (e.g. using objects or drawings to represent the problem).
- Separate a number into two parts and understand that there is a relationship between the parts and the whole for numbers 0-10 and record with a drawing or equation and understand that the values on each side of the equal sign are the same
- For any number from one to nine find the number that makes ten when added to the given number
- Begins to work towards goal of fluently adding and subtracting within 5 by applying knowledge of decomposition.

WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP

- Practice counting forward with your child to 100
- Practice counting forward starting with a number other than 1
- Practice putting number cards in order
- Count things around the house (steps, toys, food items...)
- Use a die to see if your child can name the number without counting the dots
- Practice writing the numbers up to 10
- Build sets representing a number 0-10 together using things around the house
- Practice adding and subtracting things around the house (i.e. 3 red grapes and 3 green grapes - how many grapes in all or start with 6 grapes eat two - how many are left)

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES

Add/Addition	Most
As many as	Number path
Compare	One less
Equal	One more
Fewer than	Part-part-whole
Five frame	Plus
Greater than	Put together
Join	Same
Least	Separate
Less/Less than	Subtract
More	Subtraction
More than	Take apart
	Ten frame

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND EXAMPLES FOR PARENTS

Ten frames:

- <http://video.carrollk12.org/view/YINGERSUBITIZE>
- <http://video.carrollk12.org/view/ROTHSCHILDUSINGTENFRAMES>

Decomposing:

- <http://video.carrollk12.org/view/KNIGHTDECOMPOSING>

Problem Solving:

- <http://video.carrollk12.org/view/GROFTPROBLEMSOLVING>

Addition and Subtraction:

- <http://video.carrollk12.org/view/ROTHSCHILDSOLVINGADDPROBLEMS>
- <http://video.carrollk12.org/view/ROTHSCHILDSOLVINGSUBTPROBLEMS>



Kindergarten Science

Interdependent Relationships and Ecosystems: Monarch Butterflies and Ladybugs

Dear Families,

Here is what your child is learning in kindergarten, during the study of Interdependent Relationships and Ecosystems with some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

Interdependent Relationships and Ecosystems: Monarch Butterflies and Ladybugs

Essential Questions:

- How are the needs of humans, plants and animals the same?
- How does the Monarch butterfly depend on milkweed?
- How can we help increase the number of Monarch butterflies?

In this unit students need to:

- Identify that Living things have specific needs in order to survive.
- Identify that in many cases, plants and animals depend on each other to meet their needs.
- Identify that there are ways to reduce the impact that humans have on the environment.
- Understand that all living things grow and change.

Key Vocabulary

Monarch butterfly- large, deep-orange butterfly, *Danaus plexippus*, with black and white markings

Nectar- the saccharine secretion of a plant, which attracts the insects or birds

Chrysalis - the hard-shelled pupa of a moth or butterfly

Habitat- the natural environment of an organism

Metamorphosis- a profound change in form from one stage to the next in the life of a living thing

Ways FAMILIES Can Help

- Read books about the life cycle of butterflies, as well as other living things
- Go on walks with your child to try and find Milkweed and Monarchs in the different stages during the fall
- Extend your child's knowledge by reading non-fiction books about other kinds of Butterflies

KINDERGARTEN SOCIAL STUDIES

Rules and Responsibilities

Dear Families,

Here is what your child is learning in Kindergarten, during our unit, "Rules and Responsibilities" with some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Children need to be able to:

- Discuss and explain why rules and social skills are important in the classroom and school
- Describe and demonstrate responsibilities of students in school
- Explain responsibilities we have as family members
- Identify roles of specific school members
- Express why we say the Pledge of Allegiance
- Identify the Statue of Liberty and explain its importance
- Identify important Americans and explain what they did/do
- Discuss why we have holidays for important Americans

KEY VOCABULARY

Rules - statements that tell you what you should or should not do in a specific situation

Responsibility - a duty or expectation to take care of something

Respect - a polite attitude shown toward people, animals, yourself, objects, or ideas

School Members: Principal, Assistant Principal, School Counselor, School Nurse, Custodians, Teachers, etc – people in a school who help students have a safe, happy, orderly place to learn

American Flag – the symbol that represents America

Pledge of Allegiance – a promise to be loyal to America

George Washington – the first President of the United States

Current President's Name – the leader of the United States

Martin Luther King, Jr. – an important leader in America who wanted all people to be treated with fairness and equality

WAYS FAMILIES CAN HELP

- Involve children in making rules for the family
- Involve children in making a chart of chores or responsibilities for family members
- Identify American flags in neighborhoods and the community
- Learn and use the names of school members to use during conversations about school
- Identify the current President when viewing the news, newspapers, internet
- Visit Washington, DC
- Visit your local library to check out books on Presidents, Flags, American symbols