



# 4K News

October 3, 2019

## Literacy:

### Reading:

This week, we read Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes and students ordered and counted the letters of their names and compared their answers to classmates' names in small groups. We will be revisiting Chrysanthemum again to really discuss the difference between letters and words.

Students have also been introduced to emergent readers and will continue to work with them throughout the year. Next week, we will be reading a story called "Counting Pumpkins". Students will be exposed to high frequency/sight words "I" and "see". Not only will we be working on different math learning targets but we will also practice many concepts of print, letter identification and other literacy targets. I encourage you and your child to revisit these readers at home for continued practice!

Every day we partake in a letter I.D./letter sound activity. This may be listening/moving to a song (ex. Workout to the Letter Sounds by Jack Hartmann), asking students to find objects in the room that start with a specific letter sound, emphasizing a student's beginning letter sound when calling children for dismissal, etc. This is for constant foundational literacy skills exposure!

### Writing:

Students have begun exploring the wooden pieces that we will use to create our uppercase letters (big line, little line, big curve, little curve).

They are continuing to work on other "readiness" skills for writing their names and other letters in the alphabet. Students are given the opportunity to work with a variety of fine motor materials and writing tools every day!

## Math:

Students have been assisting in displaying data on simple charts created as a whole group. For example, students graphed their favorite color apple after a red, yellow and green apple taste testing. We will be discussing the math vocabulary terms: *most/more*, *less/least* and *same* more throughout the coming months.

Students are beginning to work on counting and recognizing groups of objects to 5 (extension to 10). One game that they were introduced to is called "race to fill the cup". This game can be played at home too! Children work in pairs to take turns rolling numeral dice. Then students match that number to a number of any object (we used pompoms) to put in his or her cup. The first person to have a full cup is the winner.

Lastly, we have been listening to different songs that help us rote count to 10. A favorite song among the class is, Count to 10 by Jack Hartmann. You can also find this song on YouTube.

## Social/Emotional:

We've recently read a story during our play workshop mini-lesson about the "Turtle Technique". This technique is used when we become angry or upset. The steps include: 1. Something happens which makes us angry or upset. 2. We stop what we are doing and keep our bodies to ourselves. 3. Take three deep breaths. 4. Think of a solution to fix how we are feeling. *This strategy will be worked on all year long!*

Students also learned how to take a "hot cocoa breath". 1. Cup your hands in front of you (pretending to have a cup of hot chocolate). 2. Slowly breathe in (the yummy chocolate smell) through the nose. 3. Slowly breathe out of the mouth (to cool the hot chocolate down). I encourage you to practice this at home as well!

### Extra:

Thank you for placing your Scholastic Book Club Orders last month! If you are interested in purchasing any books this month, please go to: [scholastic.com](http://scholastic.com) and choose the book club link. Our classroom code is: **QZR4N**. I will submit our second class order on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

### QUICK REMINDER:

\*Please make sure to sign-up for a Fall Conference slot by Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Events:

1. **October 4<sup>th</sup>: Walk-A-Thon (2:15pm-340pm)**
2. **October 7<sup>th</sup>: National Stomp Out Bullying Day-Wear Blue!**
3. **October 14<sup>th</sup>: PTA Meeting**
4. **October 14<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: Fall Book Fair**
5. **October 15<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>: 4K Conference Dates**
6. **October 21<sup>st</sup>: Culver's Night**
7. **October 30<sup>th</sup>: 4K Field Trip to First Stage**
8. **October 30<sup>th</sup>: Sky Zone PTA Event (2pm-6pm)**

\*We will also begin PALS assessing within the next couple of weeks. I will send out more information on this shortly.