

## *Kindergarten Chronicles*

October 26, 2018

Our kindergartners had a very busy week! For Reader's Workshop, we started our second unit! The children continued to read familiar storybooks and focused on thinking about how the characters felt. We also discussed the importance of using sticky notes to label things in our books, such as feelings, what things look like, and what things are happening in the story. Lastly, we made our books "come to life" by asking and answering questions about the stories we read with our reading partners!

In Writer's Workshop, the children focused on writing about their object that they brought in for "Show and Tell". The children worked on slowly drawing their object so that it had a lot of specific details. The children also worked on writing labels, and phrases to help describe their object. Additionally, we discussed the importance of being brave spellers, and how the children can use different strategies to help spell difficult words. Please encourage your child to practice writing at home! If your child is drawing a picture, ask them to label the parts of the picture - "sun", "cloud", "flower", etc. If your child only writes the letter "s" for sun, or "sn", please remember that they are just beginning to learn how to spell and they should only record the sounds that they hear!

In Foundations, we worked on lowercase letters **d** and **s**. The children continued the routine of saying the letter, picture, sound for all letters but focusing on the d and s sound. They practiced making these letters in their notebooks and white boards. Our new sight words this week are: **like** and **on**.

In math we continued with Unit 2, "Counting and Comparing". This week we read the story, Chrysanthemum. The children made predictions about how many letters were in Chrysanthemum's name and realized that her name has 13 letters...what a long name! After reading this story, the children built their own name towers by taking one cube for each letter within their name. We also had the children compare their name towers to other children's name towers to see if their name was longer or shorter than their friends' names. Please continue to practice measuring different objects with your child at home. Be sure to use key math vocabulary words such as, shorter than, longer than, equal to, etc.

In science, we continued to dive deeper into our three different units. Mrs. Nestle's class focused on learning more about how sunlight slowly warms a surface over time. The children did an experiment and measured the temperature of a surface in the morning, and afternoon to see that the sunlight is strongest in the afternoon. Mrs. Sisson's class focused on learning that plants need water to grow.

They also learned more about how seeds change as they grow into plants. For one of their lessons, they observed their garlic plants in water and not in water to see which one grew more! Students in Ms. Kline's began to explore answering the question "How do we make a pinball move to a certain place? They learned all about the direction an object moves when a force is exerted on it and why it moves that way.

As always, we wish for you a wonderful weekend with your family!

The Kindergarten Team

**High Frequency Words:**

I, can, the, a, to, is, my, go, me, like, on

**Updates and Reminders:**

- The Monster Mash is this **Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm.**
- Our Spotlight Performance is **Wednesday, October 31st from 1:40 - 2:10pm.** All are welcome to attend!
- Don't forget that the school calendar as well as other important information can be found on the school website: [danverspublicschools.org/Highlands](http://danverspublicschools.org/Highlands)