

**Dear Parents,**

Your child will be participating in the following English Language Arts units of study this quarter:

**A Colorful Time with Rhythm and Rhyme****Tell a Story, 1-2-3****Reading Literature and Informational Text**

As beginning readers, students will be asked to identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book. They will learn about the structure of common types of texts, including storybooks or poems. Students will learn about key details and unknown words in a story by asking and answering questions and identifying characters, setting, and major events.

Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)

Students will learn about print as they follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page. They will learn that words are separated by spaces in print and work on recognizing and naming all upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet. Recognizing rhyming words will be a focus. Students will be expected to say the most common sound for consonant letters.

Writing

Students will share their opinions with others by drawing, dictating, and/or writing. For example, they might complete the sentence: My favorite book is _____ because _____. They will use drawing, dictating and writing to tell stories with more than one event, and include a reaction to the event. They will focus on sticking to one topic and adding details to improve their writing.

Listening and Speaking

When participating in discussions, students will listen to others and taking turns speaking as they describe familiar people, places, things, and events. Kindergartners will be expected to speak in a voice that can be heard and understood as they express their thoughts and feelings, and add details to their descriptions.

Language (Conventions of Standard English and Vocabulary)

As they listen to their teachers read kindergarten texts, students will learn and use new words and phrases. Students will use frequently occurring nouns and verbs as well as naming end punctuation. They will learn to spell by saying words slowly and writing down the sounds they hear.

Handwriting & Keyboarding

Students will learn to form basic manuscript strokes. With assistance, they will begin learning to print upper and lower case letters as well as their first and last names. Kindergartners will also begin learning basic keyboarding skills this quarter. They will practice using the mouse and begin identifying numbers and letters on the keyboard.