



Kindergarten Newsletter
October 16, 2009



Literacy:

We had a fun-filled week of FLAPPY, FLYING, BATS! At the beginning of the week we completed a K-W-L chart: what we **Know**, what we **Want** to know, and what we **Learned**. Our K-W-L chart was filled with tons of bat facts! We learned the differences between bats and birds and why bats are so special for our environment. We also learned that bats use echolocation to hunt for food and to navigate through the air. Although bats are scary looking mammals, we discovered that they are not so bad after all. Bats eat the pesky insects that eat farmer's crops and they are actually very calm and harmless animals.

We added two new sight words to our word wall this week, *out* and *with*. Look OUT for these words in the books you read together.

Please remember to help your child complete their October book report goal and return the pumpkin form to school in their M.O.O.S.E or Friday folder.

Treasure Book:

Our Treasure book this week was Stellaluna by Janell Cannon. Stellaluna was born as a fruit bat but experiences a troublesome day in her new life. While flying through the air following a heavy scent of ripe fruit, an owl spied her. Dodging and shrieking, Mother Bat tried to escape but the owl struck again and again, knocking Stellaluna into the air. Her baby wings were limp and useless and she ends up falling into a birds nest with three baby birds named Pip, Flitter, and Flap. Stellaluna teaches the birds to hang upside down like bats. Mother Bird does not like what she sees and tells Stellaluna to follow her house rules or she will have to find another place to live. Stellaluna continues to live with the birds and eat bugs until the four of them decide to fly for the first time ever! The three birds and Stellaluna flew for hours exercising their new wings until Stellaluna gets tired and drops into a tree. Stellaluna, remembering to follow Mother Birds ways, can only hang from a tree by her wings and not by her feet like all bats do. As she is hanging by her wings more bats gathered around to see the strange young bat who is behaving like a bird. Stellaluna told her story of eating bugs and sleeping at night! They couldn't believe what they heard! Stellaluna reunites with her long lost mother and learns

where to find the most delicious fruit and how to fly through the night sky. Stellanuna gets so excited over her new tricks she decides she must return to Pip, Flitter and Flap to share her new tricks. They all discover that birds cannot fly through the night and Stellanuna saves her three bird friends before they crash. "How can we be so different and feel so much alike?" mused Flitter. "I think this is quite a mystery," Flay chirped. "I agree," said Stellanuna. "But we're friends. And that's a fact."

Next week we will be reading the story Too Many Pumpkins. We will also complete science and math experiments that are related to pumpkins. The short three day week will be filled with oozy gooey pumpkin fun!

Math:

This week in math we continued with patterns, counting, recognizing our numbers, more and less than and writing our numbers. We will continue counting and writing our numbers next week when we begin our new unit on pumpkins!

Miscellaneous:

- **Wednesday, October 21, 2009 Kindergarten will be visiting East Dubuque's pumpkin patch. Please send \$4 with your child to cover the cost of admittance.**
- **River Ridge promotes a healthy school lunch. Please remember to pack your child a healthy lunch and any type of pop is prohibited.**
- **We are always looking for snack donations. If you have not yet donated, please do so. We appreciate the families who have already donated!**

Important dates to remember:

Oct. 20~Report cards

Oct . 21~ Visit to East Dubuque Pumpkin Patch

Oct. 22 & 23~ No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences

Oct. 30~ Village of Elizabeth Halloween 5:00-7:30pm

Have a "WONDER-FALL" Weekend!!

Mrs. Kelzer, Miss Redfearn & Mrs. Wurster