

# MRS. MCCARTHY'S NEWSLETTER

FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 24-28, 2017

## Curriculum

**Readers Workshop**— This week students will hear the nonfiction book Dolphins. Students will learn the vocabulary words describe, pointy, diet and playful. Students will practice the skill wondering about a nonfiction book. During independent reading time, students have been writing their wonderings down. Students are encouraged to find answers using resources such as getting a book from the library or asking other adults.

**Writers Workshop**— The sight words me and my will be introduced this week. Students will hear poems about food this week such as The Meal and Yellow Butter. Students will write their own poems about foods they enjoy. Lastly, we will learn about acrostic poems and students will write a poem using their own name!

**Math**— Students will work with teen numbers and practice seeing each teen number as a group of 10 and extra. We will also

work with partners of 10 and work together to create a showcase of all the partners.

**Theme**— This week we will be learning about the weather. We will discuss what severe weather is and learn about thunderstorms, tornadoes and the wind. We will talk about what people do in each type of weather.

## Need to Know

- ◆ May 19th—Early Release—Students are dismissed at noon.
- ◆ May 29th—No School—Memorial Day
- ◆ Friday, May 19th will be the last day students may check out books from the school library. All books should be returned on or before May 22nd. If a library book is lost, or damaged, please note the fine on the overdue slips sent home. You can write a check to Kennedy Elementary to cover the cost. We appreciate your attentiveness to this matter!
- ◆ All day field trip to the Como Zoo is May 26th. Permission slips and detailed information will be coming home soon! I am still in need of **two volunteers**. Please let me know if you are able to attend. Thank you!
- ◆ Book orders are due April 28th. Next month will be the last time to order books for this school year.
- ◆ Please make sure your child has tennis shoes for gym.

## Mrs. McCarthy's Corner

### Number Talks

Recently in our classroom we have been having "number talks". We do these talks three times a week for about 15 minutes each. We have many different materials we may use during a number talk such as a rekenrek, 10 or 20 frame, dot patterns or 100 chart. Students engage in conversation regarding their answer and how they arrived there. We also talk about strategies to get the answer such as counting on, counting all or grouping. Number talks focus solely on mental math and encourage students to talk about their thinking. As your kindergartener brings home math homework, have a conversation with them about their thinking and see if they can explain to you how they got the answer they did.