

# OCTOBER

## Newsletter

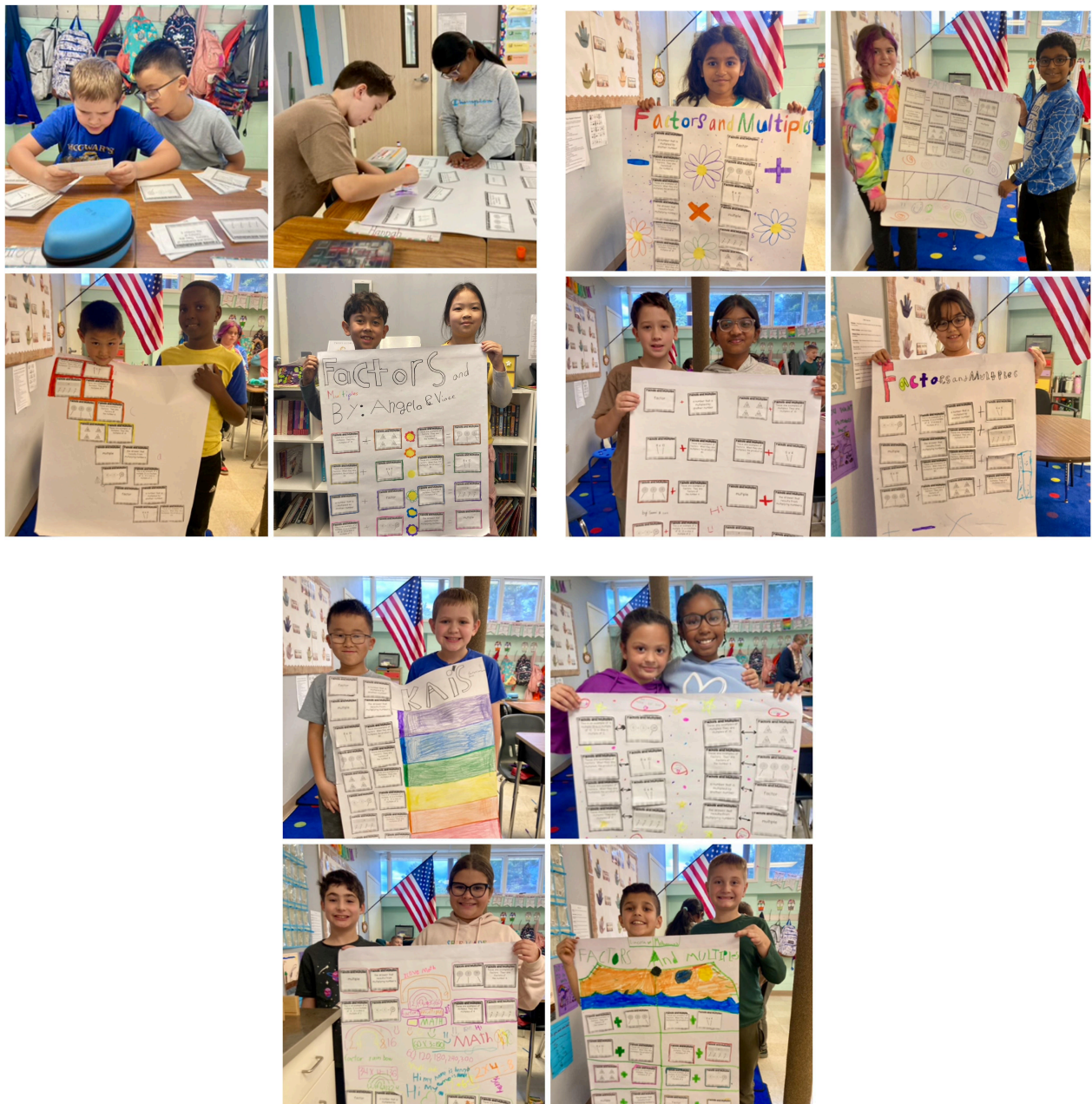
Dear Families,

October was a delightful month filled with lots more learning, the establishment of several routines, and continued community building activities. The children have enjoyed earning tickets and spending those tickets on experiences. Here you can see Kush teaching the class about Gandhi and Saiangi leading the group in creating a circuit during our morning meeting.



### Math

We finished our second unit on estimation, rounding, factors, multiples, prime and composite numbers, and multiplying using both array and area models. All of the children have an account on [www.prodigygame.com](http://www.prodigygame.com). Our class code is **2F08D8B**. Students can access their accounts from home for free. This is a great option for the weekly homework log.



## Reading

Reader's Workshop is in full swing! Students have begun writing weekly letters in their reader's notebooks. Each letter is written using the friendly letter format. We have learned about the parts of a friendly letter: heading, greeting, body, closing. These letters tell about each student's independent reading book. This month we have practiced writing letters that tell about the story elements and book genres. Each student has been assigned a day of the week to submit their letter. I respond with some reflections and questions for further thought, and the children address these in their next letter to me the following week.

Additionally, we have started our first round of literature circles. A literature circle is a weekly book club meeting where the students come together to talk about the book and the work they completed. During each meeting, the children discuss important parts in the assigned



section of reading, key vocabulary words, real world connections, and what they visualized. These are the books we are currently reading:



## Writing

This year we are using the Mystery Writing program. The students have enjoyed planning a podcast episode where they decide which animal they would rather be: an octopus or a parrot. The children gathered information from two sources, composed a rough draft, added powerful words, used transition words, and practiced editing. The final steps involved writing their final copy and recording their podcast episode. We will finish up this unit in the next week.

## Spelling

This month we began our weekly word study using a program called, *Words Their Way*. Students attend a focused mini lesson each Monday to learn about the spelling feature of the week. Then they practice sorting their words based on common characteristics. Throughout the week, the children review the meanings of each word and practice spelling them through various activities. Thank you, families, for your support in completing the spelling study guide at home.

## Science

We completed two science experiments this month. The children experimented with sugar cubes to understand how rocks change as they tumble down a mountain. Additionally, they learned how sedimentary rock is formed and how this type of rock preserves fossils from long ago.



The students enjoyed a lesson with Nurse Dunn about the importance of handwashing in keeping us all healthy. The blacklight revealed spots where bacteria still remained post-washing.





## Social Studies/Micro

The students have enjoyed learning about government officials and the roles these people play in our communities. Students received their voter registration cards and had the opportunity to vote for our mayor and deputy mayor as well as the president and vice president of MACS. Additionally, we enjoyed our first field trip of the year, a trip to the New Hampshire State House in Concord.







## Community Building

A fun time was had by all at the Fall Festival! Thank you, Ms. Greenaway, for organizing this event for our students and thank you to our many amazing parent volunteers!

