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**Second Grade News**

**September 20, 2013**

***Dates to Remember***

***Picture Day*** *9/23/13*

***Early Release*** *9/25/13 Dismiss @ 1:54 pm.*

***Bagel Day*** *9/25/13*

***Skating Party*** *9/26/13*

***Zelenock Spirit Day*** 9/27/13

### Birthdays

If you are interested in sending in a birthday treat for your child’s birthday, please let one of us know ahead of time so that we can adjust our schedule accordingly.

### Homework Folders

Please check your child’s homework folder every night. Please read with your child every night for 20 minutes.

.**Field Trip**

***October 22, 2013*** *Ann Arbor Hands On Science Museum*

**NWEA Practice Sites**

**Reading -** [http://www.sowashco.k12.mn.us/ro/Pages/studentlinks/map/reading.htm](https://by2prd0410.outlook.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=l0acSUe2v0ece6QXWmcPVwQAnsJ7gtAIGbaNdsLESavq2-Azr4EysDD8dSjhmDOVC6o67SNzQ4g.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.sowashco.k12.mn.us%2fro%2fPages%2fstudentlinks%2fmap%2freading.htm)

**Math -** [http://www.sowashco.k12.mn.us/ro/Pages/studentlinks/map/](https://by2prd0410.outlook.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=l0acSUe2v0ece6QXWmcPVwQAnsJ7gtAIGbaNdsLESavq2-Azr4EysDD8dSjhmDOVC6o67SNzQ4g.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.sowashco.k12.mn.us%2fro%2fPages%2fstudentlinks%2fmap%2f)

***Here’s What We Learned This Week***

**Math**

This week the students began Chapter 2 “Subtraction Facts and Strategies.” The children also began using their math journals. The focus with the journals is for students to not only solve a given problem, but to explain ***how*** the problem was solved in writing. We refer to these as **constructed responses.** Throughout the school year, your child will be writing constructed responses across the curriculum. Lastly, we will soon be starting addition timed tests. A letter will be coming home shortly explaining this. This is new to second grade this year and will be assessed on the report card. Please continue to practice the +/- facts at home. As with anything, the more practice your child has, the more confident they will be in their abilities. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**Word Study**

We have completed assessing the students for their individualized spelling groups. We are currently forming our groups. Word Study will begin the week of **September 30th.** Please look for your child’s words to come home each **Monday** (unless otherwise noted) and tested each **Friday.**

**Reading**

This week our focus was **comprehension.** We discussed that comprehension is understanding what was read. An easy way for you to check your child’s comprehension at home is to read 1-2 pages of text (you can read to them, or they can read to you) and then have your child respond “What happened in the story was……” Do this every 1-2 pages. If your child is having difficulty doing this, begin with short prompts such as, “What is the (character) doing in the story?” “What happened when…..” We will be doing this in class, so your child will be familiar with this reading strategy. Our guided reading groups will be starting very soon.

**Social Studies**

 This week we focused on our school community. We discussed the rules needed in our community, as well as the different roles in Rodgers School. We began to read non-fiction books on different community workers and are completing books on “Community Helpers.”

**Weekly Homework Agendas**

We will check and collect the *signed* Weekly Homework Agendas with the smiley faces each Monday. Please remember to discuss your child’s behavior and sign the bottom each Friday. Please leave them in your child’s homework folder for us to collect.

**Drop-off/Pick-up**

Thank you for your patience as we perfect our morning and afternoon procedures. Please make sure you advise your child’s teacher if there is to be change in the procedure. This is for the safety and protection of all children.