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September 21, 2013

 Dear Parents,

 This letter is to inform you that our class will begin their Math Minute drills next week,

 Monday.

 Math Minutes are addition drills in which students answer as many problems correctly

 as they can in 1 minute. Students will take the drills everyday. For the first week, all

 students will start with zero problems (addition problems where at least one of the

 addends is zero). If students pass they will move on to sums to ten, doubles, then

 the rest of the digits through 10; if not, they will continue to work on the same drill

 until they do pass.

Please know that this is not my method of *teaching* addition. In class, I do teach the

 concept of addition, and I use a variety of instructional methods. However, all children

 should eventually be able to recall basic facts quickly. A strong foundation in basic

 arithmetic is an absolute necessity for success in future mathematics courses!

 The new Michigan state standard expects 2nd grade students to know *from* *memory*

 all sums of two one-digit numbers. The 2nd grade teachers established the following

 benchmark goals: By November students should have passed 0’s, sums to ten, doubles,

 1’s, 2’s, and 3’s. By March, students should have passed 6’s. By the end of the year,

 students should have passed their 10’s.

 All of the 2nd grade teachers at Rodgers realize that this may take a lot of work for

 your child to be successful. You can help by purchasing or making addition flash cards,

 or making mock Math Minutes at home. There are also a variety of interactive

 quizzes on-line that you may find helpful.

 Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

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Mrs. Kiefer, Mrs. Leszczynski, Ms. Pierce, Mrs. Zelenock