



## October Newsletter

### A Super Second Grade Classroom

Every year, September seems to fly by. I can't believe I am typing the October newsletter already. We had a wonderful month learning about each other and our families. Thank you for all of your help and very hard work at home with the In the Spotlight sheets and responsibility books. The children were all smiles while sharing information about themselves, and it was fun to learn about our room 18 families.

Thank you very much for such great support at our virtual open house. Sharing the curriculum and classroom information is always a great way to start a successful school year. As you can see, the demands of second grade are quite challenging. However, by working together, we can make sure every child has a successful and positive experience.

Our classroom is becoming a great community of learners who work together and support each other. We begin our days with a morning meeting. During the morning meeting we greet each other in fun ways. Each morning students have the opportunity to share something with the class. Someone might have exciting news to tell us, or want to show us an award they recently earned. I discuss the importance of making eye contact with those who are speaking. We always read our news and announcements for the day, which is in the form of a friendly letter I write to the class each morning. While reading the letter together, we review many of our important second grade grammar skills. We may locate all of the statement sentences, or underline the nouns in each paragraph. Our morning letter is a nice way to revisit the different lessons that were taught in previous weeks.

In September, the children enjoyed learning about a special person in American history, Johnny Appleseed, whose birthday was on September 26th. We read books as a class about this special person. We also completed a comprehension sheet to practice how to restate a question.

Our year got off to a great start, and we couldn't have done it without all of your support. Thank you for all you have done to help our second grade year begin successfully!



**We have library book exchange every Tuesday. Please remember to return library books on Tuesdays so they can be exchanged for new ones.**

**Thank you!**

## The Second Grade Team



During the month of October we will begin our Earth's Features unit. Every second grade class will be working on assignments to learn about how land, water, and weather relate to one another in our world. The children tend to get very excited during our science lessons. We are all looking forward to the Earth's Features unit.



## Water Bottles and Snacks

I am encouraging the children to bring home their water bottles nightly for washing. If you fill the bottle at home, please seal it in a large baggy for transporting it to school. Thank you! We've had a few spills in backpacks. Your child can also fill his or her water bottle upon arriving at school.

Thank you for sending in healthy foods for your child to eat during our morning snack time.

## Media Center



The children may exchange their library books every Tuesday morning. We have a 25 minute lesson in the media center every Monday morning. During that time, Mr. Wright teaches the children important library skills. He plans units which support the instruction in our classroom. The children will be using a variety of resources to complete activities in the media center.



## Health

Thank you for helping your child study at home for our unit I health vocabulary assessment. I will continue to send home a set of vocabulary cards for the students to study for each health unit. The date of each assessment will be communicated with parents so you can help your child review the words at home. We will also review the words and definitions in class.

Our second unit in health is titled "My Family". It provides lessons in which the children can learn about different families, how they grow in their own families, how their senses help them grow in their families, and how they can positively relate with family members.





## Reading and Math



The children are enjoying their time working on guided reading lessons using leveled readers. We complete whole class lessons to reinforce all of our important second grade skills such as nouns, verbs, and complete sentences. We break into smaller reading groups to focus on vocabulary and comprehension.

While I meet with reading groups, the students use their independent time to complete reading and writing activities. It is a very busy time of day, and the children have to be very responsible with their work. I provide one-on-one help and meet with small groups of children during extra work times to help students who might need extra assistance with the challenging work of second grade.

Please continue to allow your child to read to you each night for at least 20 minutes. To reinforce learning, you can ask your child to retell the story in proper sequential order. This is a very important second grade skill. Also, asking the children the meanings of more challenging words will help increase vocabulary understanding. Thank you for your support at home.

In math last month, we worked very hard practicing our equations, solving word problems, and also taking our thinking to a higher level to write word problems. We will continue working extensively with word problems and equations during the month of October. The children will be expected to know their addition and subtraction math facts up to 20 by memory. We play games using our fact triangles and addition and subtraction flashcards to practice our skills as much as possible. The children also have math skill packets, which they work on daily. You can support us at home by allowing your child to practice his or her math facts daily. Subtraction facts are especially challenging for second graders at this time.



## Work At Home

We are now getting into a nice routine with our work. Homework is written in the students' agendas at the end of each school day. By now, the children know it is a daily responsibility to study spelling words and practice math facts. If a reading book is sent home, it needs to be brought back the next school day. The children can have the books longer if they need them, but they do need to be brought back and forth to school since they are often used in class. Math Homework and Remembering sheets are sent home for practice after we complete lessons in class. You can send those back for me to correct, but they are not mandatory assignments. Other study materials for social studies, science, and health, are sent home periodically for students to practice for assessments. Thank you for working very hard with your second grader at home each night. Please do not ever feel that assignments need to be returned by a specific date. I understand busy family schedules, and I will correct the work as it is returned. As always, if you ever have any questions about assignments, please contact me.



Please call Hillview at 686-3282 if your child will be absent or late to school.

Please call 686-3280 by 2:00 if you have a change in dismissal plans for the day.

Thank you!

This helps our office staff with their efficient record keeping.

Book orders are due the morning of

Friday, October 15th.

If you are sending your order to school, please write a check made out to the company on the form.

If you order online, our

**Class Activation Code is NQHP8.**

Thank you for your cooperation!



Happy October Birthday to...  
Braxton 22nd



Just a few things to reflect upon as we continue our second grade year!

Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.

-Lady Bird Johnson

Mankind owes to the child the best it has to offer.

-United Nations Declaration

A child is a being who gets almost as much fun out of a five-hundred-dollar set of swings as it does out of playing in a cardboard box or finding an earthworm.

-Anonymous

