

November 2008



Dear Parents,

Thank you for attending the Goal Setting Conferences last week. We enjoyed meeting with you and planning a successful year for your child. Second grade is keeping very busy!

During Math, we have been working on understanding addition and subtraction using a variety of strategies and number sense (understanding greater than and less than, number patterns, etc.) We will be working on measurement and shapes followed by solving addition and subtraction story problems.

In Social Studies, we will be beginning a unit titled “Our Government.” We are excited as it will closely tie into the upcoming election. During part of the month of November, our focus for the “long ago” period will be the Pilgrims. Students will learn about life in the days of the Pilgrims and about the lives of the Native American tribe, the Wampanoags. In Science, we are completing our unit on balance and motion. The children really seemed to enjoy all the hands on activities we did in class.

Please remember to read the homework directions to your child. We are noticing many incomplete assignments. Sometimes it appears that part of the directions have been overlooked. Children in second grade do need parental help with homework. The children should be able to complete the assignments independently or with little help from you, once the directions are clarified for them. Also, please remember the homework rules that state that all work must be done in pencil, unless otherwise stated, illustrations must be colored in, and all assignments should be completed neatly. Also, we would appreciate it if you could be sure that the work is stapled in the order it is assigned. This might require that you unstaple worksheets that were attached to the homework and restaple the assignments after completion. If you don't have a stapler at home, send the work paper clipped and your child can staple the packet together at school prior to turning it in.

We also want to make you aware that second grade has its own web page. Please go to Westwood's home page (www.iusd.org/wb) and then click on “staff” and then click on “second grade website.” We will be posting all newsletters on this page.

Thank you for providing your child with the necessary school supplies. At this time of year, many supplies need replenishing. Please check to see if your child needs any of the following:

Folder with pockets
Colored pencils
Eraser

Crayons
Working pencil sharpener that holds shavings (many blades are dull and no longer working)

Upcoming Events:

November 5	Parent Stonegate Info Night from 7-8 in the MPR
November 6	Picture Day
November 10	Veteran's Day holiday (No School)
November 11	Veteran's Day holiday (No School)
November 18	Make up Picture Day
November 19	Jog-a-thon
November 20	Second Grade Feast
November 27 and 28	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 5	Trimester ends
December 19	Report Cards go home
December 19	Modified Day/Dismissal for winter break

Thank you for your continued support. We are thankful for the wonderful students and parents with whom we have the privilege of working. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

Sincerely,

The Second Grade Team

