

February 6, 2019



Dear 2nd Grade Parents,

The Second Graders kicked off the New Year with a bang! They came back after Christmas ready to learn more! I was very impressed with their abilities to resume right back on track to our daily schedule! ☺

Religion-For the month of January we continued to learn more about the Holy Family, and we discussed how our families are like Jesus' family. Mrs. Petricca and I have also started preparing the children for their First Reconciliation. We have been talking about gratitude and forgiveness. We have also been learning the Act of Contrition. Please have your child continue to incorporate that prayer into their daily prayers! Also, to celebrate the beginning of a new year and to tie in our discussions about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the children discussed ways that we can be peaceful and good like God, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. We wrote about our dreams and made peace doves! The 2nd Graders also had a great time during Catholic Schools Week. In addition to all of our special activities throughout the week, the class also discussed and wrote about why they are so fortunate to attend a Catholic School. ☺

Math-In January, we began two new chapters on Place Value and Three-Digit Addition with and without regrouping. The children covered topics such as Hundreds, Tens, and Ones, Place Value to 1,000, Read and Write Numbers to 1,000, Count by 5s, 10s, and 100s, Compare Numbers to 1,000, Make a Hundred to Add, Add Hundreds, Mentally Add 10 or 100, Regroup Ones to Add, Regroup Tens to Add, Add Three-Digit Numbers, Rewrite Three-Digit Addition, and Solving Word Problems using Logical Reasoning and Guess, Check, and Revise. We also continue to incorporate effective Fluency Activities and Problem-Solving Strategies into our daily routine by starting our day off with a Math Problem of the Day. I am very impressed with the children's Math skills! They are doing very well in Math and are able to do so much more mentally than at the beginning of the year! I see less and less of the students using their fingers! Keep up the great work at home practicing their facts! This can be in the car, as the children are setting the table, and/or while they get ready for bed! ☺

Spelling/Phonics-We have been focusing on long e words, long o words, and compound words. The children continue to do very well on their Spelling tests. After their Spelling tests, I dictate three sentences. The children need to write the sentences, read the sentences at the end, and draw a picture for each afterwards. The children get very excited when they can spell new words by sounding them out and/or rhyming them with words we have done in class!! Keep up the good work by having your child study our words nightly! ☺

Science-In the New Year we listened to Snowmen at Night, a fictional story about what snowmen do at night. After that we wrote about what we would do if we were a snowman at night, and then we made snowmen out of marshmallows! The children also read the non-fictional story Where Do Polar Bears Live? and were fascinated with all of the information and facts about polar bears and the Arctic. We also talked about ways we can help protect God's creation by recycling, by not littering, by picking up trash, and by using less energy in our homes.

Social Studies-In January we read timelines for information and learned about some famous people in American History. The children were very interested in the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Annie Sullivan, and Helen Keller. We made peace doves and wrote about our dreams for the future. We also talked about always treating one another with respect and kindness. The children also enjoyed our discussions about Helen Keller and watching Disney's *The Miracle Worker*. The children were deeply concerned and intrigued about the life of Helen Keller and were so appreciative of how blessed they truly are in life with their ability to see and hear the world around them!

Reading and English Language Arts- I am very pleased with the children's Reading and Writing in 2nd Grade! We continue to work on strategies for decoding and comprehension. The children also enjoy our weekly stories, and they are doing very well on their tests. Please keep up the good work at home with the nightly vocabulary cards. I love to hear how they are reading with expression and fluency now! They are becoming more confident when they read aloud in class!

In ELA we worked on Compound Sentences, Quotation Marks, Days of the Week, Months of the Year, Holidays, Action Verbs, Nouns, Base Words, Prefixes, and Suffixes, Contractions, Capitalization, Punctuation, Statement, Questions, Commands, Exclamations, Past, Present, and Future Tense, Titles, Abbreviations, Compound Words, Opinion Writing, Explanatory Writing, and Cause and Effect. The class enjoys writing more on their own and reading in class to a partner. I love to see how they are able to do all of this more independently! In January the children also started adding writing pieces to their Creative Writing folders. The children are assigned one Creative Writing piece a week. They wrote a rough copy and a final copy each week. Each piece has been added to their folder, and we will continue to add to them each month. Your child's folder will be sent home in June. I know you will enjoy reading them just as much as I do! ☺

***Just a few friendly reminders...

~Mrs. Muffoletto will be sending out a Sign Up Genius for our Valentine's Day Party! It will be held on Thursday, February 14th from 9:30-10:30 am. All of the children are invited to pass out valentines to the whole class. Boys-Dominic, Beckett, Aiden, Mason, Jon, Jack, Ritish, and Dallas. Girls-Natalee, Madison, Blair, Adriana, Grace, Mariana, Britney, Christina, Lillian, Elise, and Laliana. ☺

~Scholastic Book Orders for February are due on Monday, February 11th!

~No School-February 18th-22nd

The other day one of the 2nd Graders commented how fast this year is going by. I was just thinking about that the other day. I know I am enjoying every second of it, and I hope your child is as well. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with your beautiful children each and every day! I hope you are all having a wonderful week and staying warm! ☺

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kelly Kotlik

