

# News From 2F!

## Friday September 23, 2011

Last night was our Open House and there was a great turn out! If you were not able to come and would like to come and see the classroom you are more than welcome. Don't forget to get a visitor's pass. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have about our routines, procedures, curriculum or discipline. Thank you.

Everyone is settling into our routine and have begun our reading and math programs. In our math program this week we jumped right into story problems! Lots of reading and reasoning going on. We are using proof drawings to help explain and show what our math thinking is when we solve the problems. I will always teach how to make the proof drawings along with the lesson. This math program teaches many different strategies and using the strategy that works is what counts. We have reviewed some math vocabulary this week too.....Math Mountains, Totals, and Partners. This helps us label what we are looking for in a story problem.

Next week we will have our Math workbooks coming home for homework. Please help your child learn to be responsible for their workbooks and folders. They need to be returned each day. I will ask students to call home if it is forgotten. Remember the red circled page is the only page to complete for homework unless otherwise noted on the page and children need to show their "proof drawings" with their work. Parents may help with reading the story problems, but please let your child do the math thinking. If there is something that is difficult, and you are not sure how to explain, please send in a note and I will help your child. Thank you again for your support with homework.

We will read our first story next week from our first theme. The focus in this theme is "Silly Stories". We will read "Dragon Gets By" by Dav Pilkey. Along with every story is a list of spelling words. The

spelling test will be sent home on Mondays, so please make sure your child reads these words orally every night and spells them. I have attached an article about helping your child with spelling. The spelling words each week will focus on a phonics lesson. The first list will review "short a and short i" words. There will always be some words that do not "follow the rule" and those are highlighted too. At different points we will have our "Reading-Writing Workshop" words in addition to our spelling list. We will work on these words in the classroom with our writing. There may also be spelling patterns your child needs to work on and these will be added as well. Spelling tests will most often be on Fridays and I give a dictation of the words in sentences that students will write. It is a great practice for listening, writing sentences, and using punctuation.

I am sending home a Scholastic News Book Order this week. This is always optional and I will send them out a few times throughout the year. Please make checks out to Scholastic and send in by Friday September 30th. Thank you. Have a great weekend!

Jennifer and Debbie

REMINDERS:

Monday and Wednesday GYM days! SNEAKERS!

LIBRARY BOOKS DUE BY TUESDAY....good habit to bring them in on Mondays!

No CANDY at school....please try to take candy out of lunchables! We do have peanut allergies in both second grade classes! Thank you!