

## Teacher's Message/Announcements

Dear Second Grade Families,

Happy Feast of the Annunciation and Happy Spring! We are thrilled to welcome warm weather and a new season in second grade. We are looking forward to new adventures with you and your spectacular second grader. Here is a sneak peek for April/May: a "Trashion Show," a Trading Post, a Poetry Garden Party, and Economics with Aliens! Oh, my!

A big congratulations is also in order to both groups as they have earned enough "gems" / points for a class reward. We will be reaching out soon with all of the exciting details.

Please note, those children who have already received their First Reconciliation will be provided time to confess their sins during this season of Lent on Tuesday, March 29. Time for an examination of conscience will be provided in class, but I encourage you to talk with your child, preparing their hearts and minds for the Sacrament.

God bless,

Miss Jones & Mrs. Robinson

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### **Reminders / Announcements:**

1. [2nd Grade Memories Photo Album](#)
2. No School on Monday, March 28 (Teacher Workday)
3. Reconciliation - Tuesday, March 29
4. Math Test - Thursday, March 31
5. Grammar Review Homework - Thursday, March 31
6. Grammar Test - Friday, April 1
7. No Spelling Homework Next Week (3/28-4/1)

### **Math**

The Praying Puppies and Holly Jollies spent the week learning how to regroup 3-digit subtraction with minuends that contained one or even two zeros! Our star second graders applied this new skill to problem solving, as well. Next week, we'll review for and take a test.

We're noticing that some of our second graders understand the algorithm for subtraction, but

make math fact computation errors. Please continue to help your child practice math facts 3-5 minutes DAILY (worksheets, orally, flash cards, etc.). We recommend practice with doubles, double +/-1, and facts that make 10 as good starting points. Reviewing Fact Families (example:  $3+7=10$ ,  $7+3=10$ ,  $10-7=3$ ,  $10-3=7$ ) is another great way to build automaticity.

### Literacy (Reading / Writing / Spelling)

The Holly Jollies and Praying Puppies have been hard at work learning about when to use, how to spell, and how to punctuate contractions. Next week, we will complete our unit, review, and take a test to showcase understanding.

In collaboration with Ms. Devlin, our sweet second graders designed puppets, props, and scenery to accompany adorable scripts written in our homeroom classes. Our cuties incorporated the JK and Kindergarten curriculums into their scripts by writing about the life cycle of a butterfly, reciting nursery rhymes, and retelling fairy tales. It was such a thrill to perform for JK (Holly Jollies) and Kindergarten (Jones)!

In reading, we are focusing on comprehension, both implicit and explicit, as well as retelling. Second graders are also applying their knowledge of root words, prefixes, and suffixes to decoding.

Please check folders for corrected spelling tests today. **Reminder that there is no spelling homework next week (3/28-4/1).**

### Science / Social Studies

We continue to celebrate the amazing women and girls the world over during Women's History Month through read alouds. This week, we learned all about Harriet Quimby (*The Daring Miss Quimby* by Suzanne Whitaker) who was the first woman in the United States to earn her pilot's license, the first woman to fly at night, and the first woman to pilot her own aircraft across the English Channel. We were also mesmerized by Mary Anning, who was the first Paleontologist (*Dinosaur Lady: The Daring Discoveries of Mary Anning, the First Paleontologist* by Linda Skeers), and a woman whose discoveries rocked the world of science. Even though Mary was never given the credit she deserved, she never gave up, making discoveries (the Ichthyosaurus, Plesiosaurus, and Pterodactylus macronyx to name a few!) that reshaped scientific beliefs about the natural world. Finally, we turned our attention to Clara Lemlich (*Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909* by Michelle Markel), who came to America with no English and had to trade education for long hours laboring in a sewing factory. Clara never accepted that girls should be treated poorly and paid so little to do factory work, and fought back, leading the largest walkout of women workers in the country's history. The Praying Puppies and Holly Jollies are so inspired by the biographies of people who dared to dream!

The Holly Jollies and Praying Puppies are fascinated by magnets! They loved experimenting with different types of magnets as they explored the concepts of repel and attract. We'll continue with this unit next week!

### Religion

"I too do not know the weight of a Mass," were the words spoken by the old widow in the story, "The Weight of a Mass" that the children heard this Monday in Religion. This beautiful faith-filled fairy tale spoke to the hearts of the beauty of the prayer of the Eucharist as we discussed how there is nothing greater than the Mass. On Tuesday, we reflected on how exciting it is to give someone a wonderful gift, learning that Jesus is so excited to share the Gift of Himself in the Eucharist. The children were very reverent and thoughtful asking questions about the Sacrament as we continue to prepare for First Communion.

Next week, the children will be given the opportunity to attend the Sacrament of

Reconciliation, if they have already done so. They will be led in an examination of conscience before confession, and then we will spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration for prayer and penance. On Friday, the children will be praying the Stations of the Cross with their 5th Grade Faith Buddies! Second Grade couldn't be more excited! Finally, we will continue our First Communion preparation with a deep dive into the words, actions, and meaning of the Sacrament.