

## Teacher's Message/Announcements

Dear Second Grade Families,

We had a fantastic week with your students! We hope you have a restful long weekend and look forward to seeing your students again on Tuesday. Please read the below announcements to see what's coming up!

Take care

Ms. Jones and Mrs. Pilipowskyj

Announcements:

- Red folders come home every Friday. This week, you will find very little, if anything in them. Please review the papers sent home and return the **empty folder** the following week.
- Anticipate that math homework every school night in your child's blue folder. Spelling homework will start next week. As always, your child should be reading every night.
- **Performance Series testing for second grade is September 8th and 9th.** Please make sure your child has had a good breakfast and is on time for school on those days to help them be as successful as possible!
- We are outside for recess twice a day and some days for lunch. If your child wants a hat and towel to make outside time cooler, please feel free to send one to keep in their lockers.
- If you have not completed Ms. Jones' [2nd Grade Sacrament form](#) please complete it as soon as possible.
  - If you are planning on having your child receive first Sacraments at St. Thomas Aquinas, your family must be registered at the parish for them to participate. For any questions, you can email Caroline Mangels at [cre@stauva.org](mailto:cre@stauva.org)
- **Back to School Night is Thursday, September 9.** Please join one of our Sessions virtually by using the links below:
  - Session 1 (6:50 pm - 7:10 pm) [meet.google.com/ahc-tthg-jby](https://meet.google.com/ahc-tthg-jby)
  - Session 2 (7:15 pm - 7:35 pm) [meet.google.com/mji-vofi-eeo](https://meet.google.com/mji-vofi-eeo)
  - Session 3 (7:40 pm - 8:00 pm) [meet.google.com/fpn-kftk-bsu](https://meet.google.com/fpn-kftk-bsu)

### Math

This week we continued to work on math routines and how to work in small groups. Our first major unit is money and we are focusing on naming coins, identifying value, and determining sums of groups of coins. We will be continuing to build on math routines, work in small groups, and assess background knowledge this week. **We will tentatively have our first math test on money on Friday.**

### Reading

This week we worked on building stamina in reading and started to build up ideas for writing time. In second grade, we use the Daily 5 structure that heavily emphasizes stamina, independence, and choice. By the end of next week, your students will be able to choose when and what they read and write about! We will be testing for fluency using the DIBELS assessment starting to conference with individual and small groups of students in the coming weeks.

### Writing

Next week we set up our writer's notebook and generate other ideas for writing. We will discuss steps for writing independently and practice writing a story.

### Science / Social Studies

This week we talked about what good scientists do and went to the STEM lab for our first grade-level lab. We are reviewing the steps of the scientific method and how we use the five senses to make observations about how objects, people, and animals interact with the world.

### Religion

This week we learned all about our patron Saint of 2nd grade, St. Therese of Lisieux and made a Saint card about her. We also practiced reverence when praying and visiting the chapel. Students did an *incredible* job as they practiced prayer through drawing while visiting the chapel on Wednesday!

Next week we will look at the previous Sunday's Gospel reading and answer the question "How do we know God?"

### Spelling

This week we worked on building up our "work work" bank. Word work is a Daily 5 term that refers to working on spelling words. Your child is learning different spelling activities that they will use to practice their leveled spelling words independently. Next week, we will use a grade-wide sight word list to practice our work work options. We will have our first spelling test on leveled words the following week. This is a change from what was originally stated!