

April 8, 2008

Dear Second Grade Parents,

Spring has arrived bringing the joyful sounds of our favorite songbirds. The sun's rays are warmer and our days longer.

Your child has a very exciting occasion coming up this weekend, April 12 & 13. Receiving Holy Communion for the first time is a memorable experience bringing your family closer to Jesus. Congratulations and Blessings to your family!

We will be giving the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills the week of April 21-25. This is an important opportunity to discover strengths and weaknesses in academic mastery. Early bedtimes and a healthy breakfast will help your child be rested and ready to think carefully. Please try not to schedule appointments on these days.

Our next unit in Math is called Whole-Number Operations and Number Stories. We will be working on number patterns, computation, solving story problems, and data analysis. We are developing readiness for multiplication and division operations. Knowing **addition** and **subtraction facts** through 18 are very important. **Please keep practicing at home.** Extra practice before the ITBS will be helpful.

We are finishing up our reading theme called "Amazing Animals" by reading the story The Great Ballgame. Our stories have included fiction, non-fiction, and folktales. The next theme in our reading anthology is called "Family Time". We will continue to work on Reading Strategies and Comprehension skills. The skills include making judgements and generalizations, following directions, and putting events into correct sequential order.

We will extend our knowledge of verbs to include present and past tenses. Our writing experiences will focus on voice, keeping to the point, combining sentences, and using quotation marks.

We will strengthen our informational skills by working on understanding and using timelines, gaining a knowledge of the parts of a book, and using reference sources.

In Social Studies we are discovering more about how our country is governed. We will identify the functions of government, the characteristics of good citizenship, and how public officials are selected. We will also identify a few of our historical figures who have influenced our community, state, and country.

We are looking forward to our "**Lunch with Parents**" on Friday, April 18. Please mark your calendar now so you can attend. Hope to see you at this fun and delicious event.

Our School Art Show will be held on the same day as the Parent Lunch. Be sure to save some time to walk through the art display in the TC gym. The students are very proud of their projects. You will enjoy the show.

Have a wonderful Spring !

JoAnn Adelman