

Weekly 2nd Grade Newsletter

Mr. Sotutu - Grace Elementary

September 2, 2009

Upcoming Events

- Labor Day (no school) - 9/7/09
- Friday School - 9/11/09
- Spud Harvest Break - 9/18-10/4/09 (school resumes 10/5)



Other Info

- On the back of this newsletter, I have put a table showing how students are doing on the AR and Math-in-a-Minute programs. I will continue to do this through out the rest of the school year.
- Today we are about **24%** through with the 2nd quarter of the school year, so students should be at about at least **24%** of their AR goal.
- The headphones that came with our MP3 players don't seem too durable and are the "ear bud" style. **If you have a set of headphones that you could send for your student to use while he or she is at "Listen to Reading", that would be great.**
- Please send an old, **clean** sock to school with your student, if you have not already done so. It will be used as an eraser when we are writing with dry erase markers. Thank you.

Daily 4

Your student may have mentioned to you a program called "Daily 3" that we do at school. Next week will be start doing "Daily 4". This is a routine that involves four different reading and writing activities that students participate in everyday. The activities are "Read to Self", "Read to Someone", "Spelling/ Word Work", and "Listen to Reading". The last of the four, "Listen to Reading" will be introduced next week.

The students will participate in each of these activities, for about 25 minutes, independently or with a partner, while other students may be working on the other activities. The students choose when they complete each activity, but they will do each one everyday.

Read to Self

During this activity, students sit and read books independently. They may also take AR tests or check out library books during this time.

Read to Someone

During this activity, students sit next to a partner and share a book with them. Students choose their own partner for this activity.

Spelling/Word Work

During this activity, students work with the week's spelling words. They work in their spelling practice books, write on small whiteboards, make letters and words with pipe cleaners or clay, and/or find new words that they want to be able to spell.

Listen to Reading

During this activity, students listen to books being read on MP3 players, through headphones, and follow along in books. They may also take AR tests and check out library books during this time.

While the students are working on these activities, I work with small groups, confer with individual students, and help students where needed.

This is a great way for students to work at their own paces and get help where they need it. The decision making also helps them take ownership of their learning and, from the comments I hear, they enjoy doing it.