Dear Families,

Thank you for coming to conferences to discuss your child! It's always a treat to get to interact and learn from each other as a team supporting these great second graders.

An event that is important to the students is happening on Friday – our first Reading Celebration! It will be held at 1:00 in the MultiPurpose Room. We are looking for volunteers to donate nut-free healthy snacks (all four classes will attend, plus families that are able), and simple decorations such as balloons or streamers. Also, anyone at all who could come set up the food on the back tables, and put up the streamers, etc., beginning at 1:40, would be welcome. We will be teaching at that time, so won’t be able to set up. A few children from each room will be giving a brief 30-second book talk on the stage with their class, and each child in the class will get to do a book talk once this year. We look forward to hearing Mohamed, Charlie, Bella, Charlotte, Miles, Seowoo, Maggie, and Quinn this week!

Soon, Unit 4 in math begins. It provides opportunities for more and more addition and subtraction – even getting into the double digits! Strategies for developing mental arithmetic skills are a focus, and to that end, the students are also introduced to rounding and mentally estimating in the form of what is termed a “ballpark estimate,” which means to round up or down to the nearest 10. There will also be many graphic organizers used to help students visualize patterns and follow into extending the rules. The unit ends with work on pencil–and–paper strategies. If you are interested, the website http://everydaymath.uchicago.edu/parents/2nd–grade/em–at–home/unit_4/ has further information.

On Monday we take our first busing field trip to the Ordway Theater to see a live performance by the Grammy Award winning Okee Dokee Brothers, who sing about nature and the joy of the outdoors. You might want to help your child understand the difference between a live show and a film, and how behavior and participation is different than a movie theater. Should be a great time.

Literacy continues with lots of shared reading and work on Small Moment Stories. We’re exploring an app called Seesaw. It’s a closed social media app, in which we can share things with just our classmates – nobody else can access it. However, within, we can share pictures, drawing, writing, video, and give constructive feedback on others’ work. A login page was sent home last week, but be patient, as I need to preview each request and approve it before you can get in. You will only see your student’s page, but they love to receive comments from you as we add more.

General Information:

- Specialist classes: S, M, AI, PE, S
- 11/18 Ordway Theater 10:00 The Okee Dokee Brothers
- 11/22 Reading Celebration 12:45
- 11/28 – 29 No School
- 12/11 Public Library
- 12/13 Spirit Day Mis Match Day
- 12/21 – 1/5/20 No School Winter Break
- The weekly newsletter can be found on the school website: https://www.spps.org/domain/237

Best, Ms. Lee and Mr. Lor mao.lee@spps.org