***Mrs. D’Aprix’s Second Grade News***

*Week of September 16, 2019*

*Saint Kateri School Mission Statement*

*We at Saint Kateri School strive to continue to develop each child’s relationship with God by providing a Christ-centered Catholic academic education focused on the Gospel message of love, responsibility and service to others.*

**Second Grade Scientists**

Second Grade is all about exploring! We will **wonder** about many topics, and **practice many methods** for finding answers. We will **ask** **questions**, **predict, investigate, compare, measure** and **study**. We will **pose hypotheses**, and discover ways to **test our theories**. No matter what the topic, second grade scientists will be ready to dive into the world of **scientific inquiry**!

**Reading**

We **love** reading, and we read and write as often as possible! We did a book walk of our second grade reading textbook from the Scott-Foresman series “**Reading Street**”. We noticed that our reading book contains many stories and illustrations from **award-winning authors/illustrators** of children’s literature. We have begun to read our first story, **“*Iris and Walter*”**. This week we are exploring a variety of ways to interact with the text in our book. Next week, we will have more **individualized reading practice**.

Some of our favorite read-aloud books this week were **The Very Best of Friends** (Margaret Wild), **The Sandwich Swap**

(Rania Al Abdullah), **Red: A Crayon’s Story** (Michael Hall) and **The Bad Seed** (Jory John). Ask your child to tell you about his/her personal favorite!

**Homework**

Homework is an opportunity for students to practice what has been taught in school. The recommended daily amount of homework is **10 minutes per grade level**. We have been easing into our homework schedule. In the next week or so, second grade students should be spending about 20-25 minutes a night on homework. **Please check your child’s planner daily and initial when your child has completed her/his homework.** Your child will have homework most nights from Monday through Thursday. If an exercise or project is assigned on a Friday, it will not typically be due on the following Monday. If there are any questions or concerns about homework, please do not hesitate to send a note or an email.

**Parent Volunteers**

If you would like to help out in our class or chaperone any of our field trips, please remember that you must have completed the **CASE** **(Creating a Safe Environment)** training. **CASE** certification is valid for **three years**, so if you’ve taken it in the past, please be sure that you are current. **CASE** training is available online at ec.dor.org. (Parish: St Kateri Tekakwitha; Username: IT357; Password: initial) Please print a copy of both the quiz results and the completion certificate and bring to the faith formation office.

**Label All Belongings**

Please label all of your child’s belongings with her/his name, including coats, hats, mittens, boots, backpacks and lunch boxes. **It is especially important to label Saint Kateri apparel** … many of our students have the same clothing items in the same size!

**Scholastic Book Orders**

As you know, the **Scholastic Book Club** is an awesome (and fairly inexpensive) way to build a home library for your child! **September book orders are due now.** You may **order online at scholastic.com** using our class code **P9PYN.** If you prefer, you may fill out the order form and return it to school by **Monday, September 23**. As always, participation in the book club is completely optional.

**Wednesday Folders**

Our family information folders will be distributed on Wednesdays. **Please remove all papers from the folder, sign the front and return to school on Thursdays.** Thanks so much!

**Lunch Update and Reminders**

**Mr. Kingsley** and **Ms. Ritzen** are sharing lunch duty with our class this year. **Please remember to send a cloth napkin or placemat for lunch and snack.** Placemats help keep our desks clean and minimize contamination for those with food allergies. If your child’s lunch or snack requires a **spoon or fork**, please send in those utensils from home.

**Spirit Days**

Spirit Days are typically on the **first Wednesday** of each month**.** On **Spirit Day,** students may wear **Walkathon shirts** with the Saint Kateri uniform pants, shorts, or skorts.

**Clubs for Second Graders!**

**German Club** and **Lego League** are two wonderful extra-curricular opportunities for Saint Kateri second graders. For more information, please contact the school office.

**Classroom Contact List**

Our class list with phone numbers and email addresses is attached for families to proofread. **Please check to see that your information is correct.** If any updates are needed, I will send out a revised list.

**General Reminders**

**Scholastic Book Order Code: P9PYN**

**Monday, Sept 23 …** Milk Service begins

**Tuesday, Oct 1 …** School Mass 8:45

**Tuesday, Oct 1 …** Hot Lunch begins

**Wednesday, Oct 9 …** Walkathon

**Friday, Oct 11 …** Superintendent’s Day

**Monday, Oct 14 …** Columbus Day Holiday