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

*Week of September 30, 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 Readers and Writers**

On most days, as part of the **daily homework assignment**, your student is asked to read for at least **ten minutes**. To fulfill the requirements of this homework assignment, your child may **whisper-read** or **read silently**, you may **read aloud** **to your child**, your child may **read aloud to you**, you may **read out loud together**, you may **take turns reading** … or any combination of the above. The purpose of this homework is to have your child **practice reading every day**. As with any skill, **the more your child reads, the better s/he will become at reading**. This will also give you and your child the chance to interact together with a story … and to give you a glimpse of what your child is interested in reading. We have discussed how to choose a **“just-right” book**, one in which there are only **two or three words** **on a page that are challenging**. Of course, as part of the homework, your student may choose to read an **“easy” book for fun**, or you may read a **high-interest challenging book together**.

Research has shown that the **greatest predictor of reading success is more opportunities to read**! Some families may choose to go to the **public library** to help

students find additional books related to their interests.

In the spring, our class will be taking a **field trip** to the **Irondequoit Public Library**. Your student will need a **library card** to check out books on this trip. These books will be related to our **final quarter animal project**. If your child does not already have a library card, now would be the ideal time to get one.

**Thoughts About Homework**

At SKS, second grade students are assigned homework **most Mondays through Thursdays.** As previously noted, homework should take your student about **20 minutes** each night.Please be aware that **homework is not optional.** Some students have said that they cannot do their homework on a particular night because they have another activity planned. Our class has discussed that homework still needs to be completed **even if it is a dance/karate/soccer night.** That being said, in an unusual circumstance, a family may not be able to help a student complete homework. In that type of situation, please **send a note** **to school** explaining why a child was unable to complete the homework. Your support with this will help your student learn to balance a variety of responsibilities … a valuable asset as s/he progresses through school!

**Word Study Reminders**

**Word Study** homework is designed to help your student **practice, read and write** a variety of common English language **spelling patterns**. An **adult at home** should be helping with the word study homework. In a typical week, the homework will be as follows:

**Monday:** Students sort words and read them out loud to a family member.

**Tuesday:** Students write words in categories, using ***blue*** for **consonants** and ***red*** for **vowels**.

**Wednesday:** Students choose two words from each category and **write interesting sentences** using proper **spelling** and **punctuation**.

**Thursday:** Students write the words in correct categories as someone reads to them.

**Friday:** Spelling test in school.

As always, **thank you for your support** with your child’s reading and word study homework!

**Homeroom Parents**

This year, our second grade class is very lucky to have five room parent volunteers to share our fun … thanks so much to **Ms. Alyssa Poluch, Mrs. Monica O’Brien, Ms. Jen Reulbach, Mrs. Laura Owens** and **Ms. Diana Estrella**. As mentioned on Curriculum Night, we have some very **special activities** and **parties** planned for this year. Our room parents may contact you throughout the school year to contribute to some of these events. At other times we may set up a **Sign-Up Genius**. Please note … **party donations are always optional!** Look for a note to be sent home shortly regarding our **first class party** … on **Halloween!** It’s going to be ***boo-tiful***!

**Parent Volunteer Reminder**

As mentioned previously,if you would like to **help out in our class or chaperone** any of our **field trips or parties**,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 your **certification is** **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.**

**General Reminders**

**Scholastic Book Order Code: P9PYN**

**October 9-16 …** online orders for November hot lunches

**Tuesday, Oct 8** … Quiet Mass, Grades 2/5

**Wednesday, Oct 9 …** Walkathon (wear **Spirit Shirts** and **comfortable shoes**; bring labeled **water bottle**)

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

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

**Wednesday, Oct 17 …** School Picture Day