September 2018

Dear Parents,

Today your student is bringing home the second grade math binder to study with you. Every time your child completes a math page, the page is put into this binder for weekly review.

When the binder comes home (typically on a Wednesday or on the night before a chapter test), please spend some time reviewing the math concepts with your child. Ask your student to tell you how s/he solved some of the problems presented on each page. If you notice that your child is unsure of a concept or a strategy, **please help him or her practice** using pencil and paper, flash cards, math board games and/or digital resources.

**It is extremely important that your child master second grade math concepts.** These concepts are the building blocks for all of the math your student will be learning in the upper grades.

**It is also very, very helpful for your child to have a solid understanding of addition and subtraction facts up to 20.** Please use regular flash card practice and/or math games to help your student memorize the basic facts. In second grade, students learn addition and subtraction with **regrouping**. It is so much easier for students to **“borrow”** and **“carry over”** when they do not have to stop and count to solve basic addition and subtraction problems.

In second grade, we emphasize **how much fun math can be** … it is like solving a puzzle or playing a game. Students are taught to look for patterns, and to use a variety of strategies when presented with a problem to solve. We also sing and dance to use movement to aid memorization. As a result, second grade students often love math class!

Thank you for your support in helping your child feel confident when doing math! ☺

Mrs. Susan D’Aprix

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