**Second Grade News**

**From the classes of Mrs. Bautch and Mrs. Slade**

**10-1-15**

Math

 This week, the children learned about the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and how knowledge of addition facts can be helpful when solving subtraction problems. Using fact families, they are discovering missing addends and noting patterns in various math problems. They are also continuing to work toward fluently knowing their addition and subtraction math facts using mental strategies.

Our newest focus is on solving word problems that involve two steps. The children need to identify what information is important and to decide which part to solve first. Then they use the rest of the information to solve the second part. They are learning that to make sense of word problems they need to follow these steps:

**understand – plan – solve – check**

# Language Arts

Our focus story this week is an expository text titled “Meet the Artists”. An expository text is a kind of informational text. It gives facts and information about something, can have text features such as photos and captions, and may be an article in a newspaper or magazine.

 The children are working on the skill of asking and answering questions while they read. They are also noting key details and are practicing reading high-frequency words.

# Book Order

Please take time to look over the book order. If you would like to order, please do so by Tuesday, October 6. Thanks!

# Literature

We have been continuing to enjoy fables. The second graders have been hearing stories from the book *The Rabbit and the Turtle* by Eric Carle. We continue to talk about the characteristics of fables. The children have learned that fables are fictional, teach a lesson, and usually have animals that speak and act like people.

# Handwriting

We are continuing our formal instruction in handwriting. Our classes will continue to use the ez Write method of handwriting. As always, please encourage your child to print neatly.

Health

We are completing our study of nutrition. The children have enjoyed learning about the food groups through the characters of Little D the Dragon, Sir Milkford the Scholar, King Henry the Egg, Queen Anna Banana, Princess Peapod, Prince Waffle, and Lady Holly the Cow. We are also discussing first aid tips and stranger safety.

# PAKRAT Book Bags

 We hope you are enjoying the PAKRAT book bags that your child has been bringing home. No books will be sent home over the weekend, and all books are due tomorrow. Your child will again be bringing books home next week. PAKRAT stands for “Parents and Kids Reading Aloud Together.” Enjoy this special reading time. ☺