

## SECOND GRADE NEWS

The students in second grade have been learning how to add and subtract two digit numbers. We will soon learn about plane shapes, solid figures, and fractions in geometry.

We are now having daily One Minute Math facts tests. The students have one minute to complete 30 subtraction problems from ten. Please practice with flashcards at home to help your child memorize these facts.

We've learned about many historical Americans in Social Studies. Harriet Tubman was a slave who escaped and led more than 300 people to freedom in the North. Martin Luther King, Jr. wanted all people to be treated fairly. He led peaceful marches and made famous speeches. Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white person, and after one year, the law was changed to allow all people the right to sit anywhere on the bus. The students will soon learn about how Abraham Lincoln helped to end slavery in America and how George Washington was our first president.

The second graders will start reading a Magic Tree House book, Civil War on Sunday, by Mary Pope Osborne next week. Since we've learned about slavery in Social Studies, this book will help us to understand how terrible the Civil War was for America. The students are very motivated to read this Magic Tree House chapter book. Revolutionary War on Wednesday will be our next Magic Tree House book to read in February.

All of the students have been very successful with their weekly Spelling tests. We are now spelling words with long vowel sounds.

We are learning about proper nouns, plural nouns, pronouns, and possessive nouns to show ownership in Language Arts. The students will soon be learning about verbs.

The second graders are studying contractions in Phonics. We will soon learn about endings of words (-s, -es, -ing, and -ed) and suffixes (-ful, -less, -ness, -ly, -er, -est, and -y).

Our Science lessons have been about the parts of a plant, how plants live in their habitats, how seeds scatter, and how plants are grouped. The class is learning about animals with backbones (mammals, birds, fish,

reptiles, and amphibians). Our next Science chapter is about how plants and animals live together and how animals adapt to different kinds of environments.