



## Second Grade News

October 9, 2009

**Home Links** I appreciate the time you spend going over the math concepts we have learned in school. The children should be able to explain to you what the lesson was about that day. Home Links are designed to be done with a parent. Addition and subtraction fact triangles came home this week as a Home Link. The program suggests practicing the facts for 10 minutes each day for two weeks or until they are mastered. Please keep them in a safe place to review as needed. Also, please work with your child if he/she still struggles with the doubles facts and doubles +1. I want them to be mastered by the end of October. Thank you for your help. Please send **30 pennies** in a plastic bag, if you have not done so yet.

**Curriculum Update** In science we just ended a unit on plants and the next unit is on animals. We try to do several experiments with each unit to create a hands on learning experience. Our unit in reading ties in very well to science, since we are reading about animals.

We are finishing Unit 1 on Communities in Social Studies. We took a walk around town a few weeks ago and located buildings in our rural community. The children were also interested in finding out what Arena's community was like 100 years ago. Ask them how many hotels were once in Arena? Our next unit is All About Earth.

**Upcoming Dates** No School-Friday, October 30

**A/R Goals** The children have set A/R reading goals for the first quarter. These goals included which level, points, and average correct they want to meet. Many of the them will reach those goals with help from you at home. I try to have each child take their A/R books home each night. They are to read it and be ready to take an A/R test the next day. With your help they will make great gains. Thank you!

**Spelling** We are working with a new spelling program called Sitton Spelling. It is designed to individualize the words that each student needs work on. Thank you for working with your child on the take home activities and practicing their individual list of words. Please keep those words handy and continue to review. Spelling assessment will be done in their daily writing.

**Fall Party** We will be having a small Fall celebration on Thursday, October 29 in the afternoon. The children **may** bring costumes to put on before the party if they wish. With our new district proper nutrition guidelines, we are encouraged to have only two snacks for holiday parties. Non-food items such as pencils or stickers are welcome and you don't need to sign up. Please sign and return the attached snack note if you are interesting in sending a snack. Thank you!

We are off to a great start and I am having so much fun teaching your child. Please let me know if you ever have any questions. My email address is [jportz@rvschools.org](mailto:jportz@rvschools.org).