



**Saint Francis of Assisi School**  
**850 Washington Street**  
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From the desk of Mrs. Lord

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**Saint Francis of Assisi Mission Statement**

We are a Catholic community of faith striving to follow Jesus, pledging each day to do our best by imitating St. Francis of Assisi as "instruments of peace." Our goal is to maintain a safe and healthy environment and to be academically prepared for this technological age.

## **GRADE 2 NEWS**



### **Important Dates**

**June 3-** Field Day

**June 14-18** - Noon dismissals

**June 18-** Last school day

### **Academics**



We have been working hard in math on addition and subtraction of large numbers with regrouping. It would be helpful to keep reviewing basic math facts during the summer so they will not have to be relearned in Sept. The concept of multiplication will be introduced shortly. Manipulatives will be used to convey the concept. In a problem such as  $4 \times 3$ , the children understand that means 4 groups of 3 or  $3+3+3+3$ . They will learn that  $4 \times 3$  (for example) will give you the same answer as  $3 \times 4$ .

In reading classes, we have spent more time on comprehension, now that the

children's reading skills have grown. They have been asked to summarize what they have read, sequence the parts of the story, and recognize the main characters, setting, problem, and solution. Because the children are developing readers, they need to realize the importance of staying focused when reading. It is also important that they use any pictures as cues and try to predict what might happen next. When your child reads aloud to you, remind them to stop and reread the sentence if a word does not make sense. It is helpful if they learn to self-correct.

I would recommend that each student read often during the summer. Reading will help the children increase their vocabulary, improve writing skills, further develop problem solving skills, and increase fluency and comprehension. If your child has an interest in rocks, sports, volcanoes, dancing...there are books that will catch their interest. There are so many short chapter book series now available at the library, as well, for Grades 2-4. I think your child's transition to Grade 3 will be helped if

they continue reading, as a fun activity, throughout the summer.

Our weekly reading to Pre-K has been beneficial to both my students and Pre-K students. Pre-K children have become better listeners, enjoyed many stories, and have become friends with some “big” kids. My students have learned to read and write for a specific audience, choose books for their audience, read with expression, and be patient. They have used some of the same skills in reading that I have modeled (vocabulary, picture cues, questions, etc.) It has been a fun and learning experience.

Many of the children are writing with more ease as we come to the end of the Grade 2 year. Writing is becoming more natural. We have recently learned about writing a letter and will continue to practice this form of writing. Some of your children may enjoy keeping a journal during the summer to write about their vacation adventures.

My summer suggestions mentioned above are offered to review, reinforce, and enhance what has been taught.

In Spelling, Grade 2 will continue to be given a weekly list of words. In Math, I will be continuing to teach new concepts and review concepts that have been taught. I will be giving quizzes/tests after reviews. There is no specific final exam/or date.

In Reading and Writing, there will be



continued assessment of the students’ progress. My plan is to continue teaching and reviewing until the last school day.

### Thank you

As the school year comes to a close, it is important that you know how much I have enjoyed working with your children. Your support and communication has helped me immensely. Your children have grown so much. We have all worked hard and had a lot of fun as well. I hope they take with them all the important academic skills they have learned, as well as developed work habits, social interaction skills, and communication skills. In Religion they have learned about the Mass, Sacraments, God’s love for them, forgiveness, and the importance of family and friendship. It is their job now to live what they have learned, at home and school, with the continued guidance and support from family. I wish the best for each of my students for an enjoyable summer and a successful 2010-2011 school year. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with your children. I have learned much from them!

