Dear Parents, August 25, 2013

 **Week 3:** We welcome many parents into our classroom as we learn about communities and what our parents do in the community. The children will be asking questions and taking notes. Then we will write about what we learned. Thank you so much to the all the families that volunteered to come in as we had so many I had to turn some away based on scheduling. I will continue to say it, you guys are amazing. Thanks so much for your positive comments and support. Those parents that are coming in I sent home a letter for you with your child today in their folders.

 A big THANK YOU to the Vattikuti Family for donating a rolling cart to the classroom. Now it doesn’t take three children to take the lunches over anymore. Yeah! Thank you to the many other families that inquired and offered as well.

 **Homework:** This week we will start Wordly Wise homework. This is our vocabulary program for the Renaissance program. Second graders need to get through book 4 but will be starting with book 3 and 1st graders will start in book 2 and get half way through book 3 by the end of the year. The work book came home today and I ask that it comes back and forth every day as I will check and grade this for completion. Please assist your child as it may be difficult and is very rigorous**. I will be doing Lesson 1a-d with them this week and they will start with 2a-d at home with you this week, as well. They are going to get to practice with me then go home and do it with you. Again, the students will all start on lesson 2 in their book we are doing 1 in small groups this week only.** Hopefully, this will help them at night doing a similar lesson in class and make them more confident at home.

**READING:** Please have your child read nightly. (I notice none of these children need to be reminded to read and beg to get to my library.) For reading, I expect 20/20 which is either 20 pages or 20 minutes. Let them pick a book that they enjoy. The week of the 3rd I will start sending home a reading web on one side and math on the other side. Complete the web throughout the week and that paper will be due the same week on Friday. They should read the same book Monday through Friday to complete the web with, preferably a chapter book. There will be only one web for one book for details to be added to nightly after they read. Math will be facts practice and word problem practice.

Homework will remain consistent (spelling, wordly wise, math and reading.) That way you always know what they need to work on. BUT, I will send home random assignments based on what we are doing in class as well, always check the folders and backpacks. Again, I don’t need to see spelling homework, Wordly Wise comes back and forth daily, and math and reading I will send on Mondays (starting Tuesday the 3rd) and it is due the same week on Friday. I don’t expect your child sitting doing homework for more than an hour a night. I know how hard we work in class and they need some down time as well. If you have concerns about too much or too little homework call me or email we can talk. Let’s see how the next two weeks go before we make an opinion.

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **26**HomeworkWordlyWiseSpellingReading 20/20**Poem –compare a tree to something else (similes) use words to describe how the tree is like the other object. Illustrate the poem when done writing it.** (Write neatly) | **27**HomeworkWordly WiseSpellingReading 20/20Tree Poem DUE | **28**HomeworkWordly WiseSpellingReading 20/20 | **29**HomeworkWordly WiseSpelling Reading 20/20 | **30**Spelling/ Wordly wise test**Weather Weekend Project** |
| 2No School | 3. Extra! Extra! dueHomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/ | 4.HomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/20 | 5HomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/20 | 6.Spelling/Wordly Wise TestMath/Web due |

This week in class we will be learning about community and clouds for social studies and science. We will finish The Red Balloon and our paper mache’ activity. We will take our interest surveys this week and hopefully as they get more independent in the weeks to come they can begin those projects. We will have our first day of computer labs this week on Wednesday. The kids are very excited. We visited the library last week and now we will go at our regular scheduled time on Mondays. They may check out 2 books at each visit as long as they return the books from the week before. These may or may not be the books your child chooses to read for homework. That is up to them. As we begin research projects they will need to get more specific books based on their interest projects.

**REMINDER:** Please make sure your child wears appropriate shoes to school on Thursday and Friday we have P.E. and your child will sit out if they do not have tennis shoes on. This is a school wide policy to keep your child safe during P.E. time.