



# Brainy BUNCH News



Volume 1

September 11, 2008

## 3 Weeks in 2nd Grade

Our first three weeks of school went very well! I feel very fortunate to have such a great group of second graders! A few of the things we have done since school started:

\*Read lots of books. Some of our favorites were: *Second Grade Rules*, *Amber Brown*, *Amelia's Notebook*, and *The Black Lagoon Series*.

\*Our first Pocket Day was on September 8. Pocket Day is a second grade tradition at Gullett. Its purpose is to teach math concepts and skills such as estimating, collecting and representing data, and calculating large groups of numbers.

\*A science activity showed us that sponges soak up water like our brains soak up knowledge. I always begin the school year with a short study of our brain and how we learn. I've found it to be a good way to set the tone for learning.

## Tie-Dye T-Shirts

Another second grade tradition is to tie-dye shirts for field trips and sports day. All students need to bring a white t-shirt to school by Monday, September 22. The shirt does not need to be new, but please make sure it is a little large so your child will be able to wear it all year and wear it over other clothes. 100% cotton is preferable.

## Back To School Night

Thursday, September 18, 2008

6:00 - 7:00 K-2

7:00 - 7:30 PTA meeting

7:30 - 8:30 3-5

## Book Orders

Our first book order of the year was sent home on Monday. If you would like to order books the last day to order this month is Monday, September 15. You may also order online at:

<http://parents.scholastic.com/parent/ordering/login.jsp> Our class user name is thebrainybunch and the password is geckos.

## Grades in Second Grade

Please remember that grades reflect not only intelligence and ability, but also effort and performance. Number grades (1, 2, 3, 4 as in first grade) are given on assignments that count towards report card grades. Grades have been explained to students as follows:

- 4 Wow! Beyond expectations!
- 3+ Excellent work!
- 3 Good work - meets expectations.
- 3- Almost meets expectations.
- 2 Does not meet expectations.
- 1 Needs improvement.

Assignments that do not count towards report card grades are checked for completion and/or accuracy and usually are not given number grades.