



Summer, 2011

Dear Second Grade Parents and Students,

Welcome second grade students and families! My name is Mrs. Nicole Crail and I am honored to be your child's teacher this year! I trust you are having a great summer vacation and are enjoying time with your family and friends.

I have been affiliated with Desert Christian Academy for the past two and a half years and have loved every bit of it! I have substituted in preschool and elementary classes, as well as taught my own first and third grade classrooms and truly enjoy teaching in a Christian school setting at DCA. When I began teaching five years ago in Idaho, I taught two years of fifth grade in the public school system also.

I look forward to meeting each of you and getting the new year started. The second grade curriculum builds very closely on the foundation that was laid in your first grade year. Students who have been reviewing their addition and subtraction facts as well as reading during summer will be well prepared for second grade!

Our theme for our second grade year together is "SONsational Second Graders," and our theme verse is Isaiah 60:1, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee."

**SUMMER READING:** Our summer reading book is George Washington and the General's Dog by Frank Murphy, ISBN # 0-375-81015-3. You should finish reading this book over the summer and bring it with you on the first day of school. It is available at any local bookstore or online, but we are not selling it at school. We will work with this book for the first three weeks of school, so each student will need their own copy, please.

**SUMMER ENRICHMENT:** It would be beneficial to have your child practice writing in manuscript to make sure they remember how to form each letter correctly, review their addition and subtraction math facts, and continue reading over the remainder of summer in preparation for second grade.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES & BOOKS:** It has been fun shopping for all of your school supplies and I will have them waiting for you in your desk on the first day of school along with your books. Please do not bring extra supplies, notebooks, etc. as we have limited space and extra things are often a source of distraction to the children. You will need to supply only a sturdy backpack and lunchbox. Please also plan to send a fresh water bottle with a sports-style top to class everyday, especially during August and September when the weather is so hot. It is important that the children stay hydrated, so they can focus and stay on task.

**SCHOOL UNIFORMS:** Please remember to purchase all necessary school uniforms in a timely manner. July and August will be a peak period, as many families will be buying new uniforms.

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:** Our first day of school is Monday, August 22, 2011. We will begin by meeting in the gym for an assembly with Mrs. Ferris at 8:10 AM, and then we'll head to our classroom, which is 2B. I invite the second grade parents to walk your child to our classroom and help them get situated in their new desk. This should take 5-10 minutes. Children often feel a little nervous on the first day, so this helps smooth the way for a good first day. (Even teachers feel a bit nervous! ☺)



**BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT:** Back-to-School Night for elementary students is Thursday, August 25, 2011. I look forward to meeting with parents that evening, which is already in our first week of school. Please make appropriate childcare arrangements.

**LABOR DAY:** Please note we will be recognizing Labor Day so there is no school on Monday, September 5.

This has been an exciting summer preparing our classroom for the fall. I can't wait for school to start and hope that you are excited too! See you on the first day of school.

Keep the "SON" in your eyes,

*Mrs. Crail*