

Dear Parents of Soon-to-be-Second-Graders,

I wanted to thank all of you for your support through this strangest of years. While I was stretched out of my comfort zone of a hands-on, low tech style of teaching, you expressed understanding. It was a fun year and I thoroughly enjoyed spending it with your children.

When you return the supplies that were sent home, please include: books, math pieces, cubes, and any squishy seats. Your child should have extra papers in various folders that can be considered summer homework. Feel free to blame me if you want them to complete anything: "Ms. Austin says she wants to see this in September."

Mrs. Price and I put together a little gift to be picked up with your child's report card and art portfolio. It is a clipboard with monogrammed pencils and:

- A First Grade Wordle that includes everyone's names
- Summertime Bingo Board which has my favorite suggestion of slo-mo recording of butterflies on your phone. (Most activities can be done without an adult.)
- A list of authors and series to explore
- A First Grade Word Search
- Suggestions for working with a beginning reader
- Folded paper that lists questions to ask during reading (can be used as a bookmark).

I hope you all enjoy your summer break. Feel free to allow your child to text me photos and short videos of their creations or even reading! I would love to hear from them.

Best wishes,

Paula Austin