

# **Back to School!**

## **2P Newsletter**

**September 2009**

**Dear Parents:**

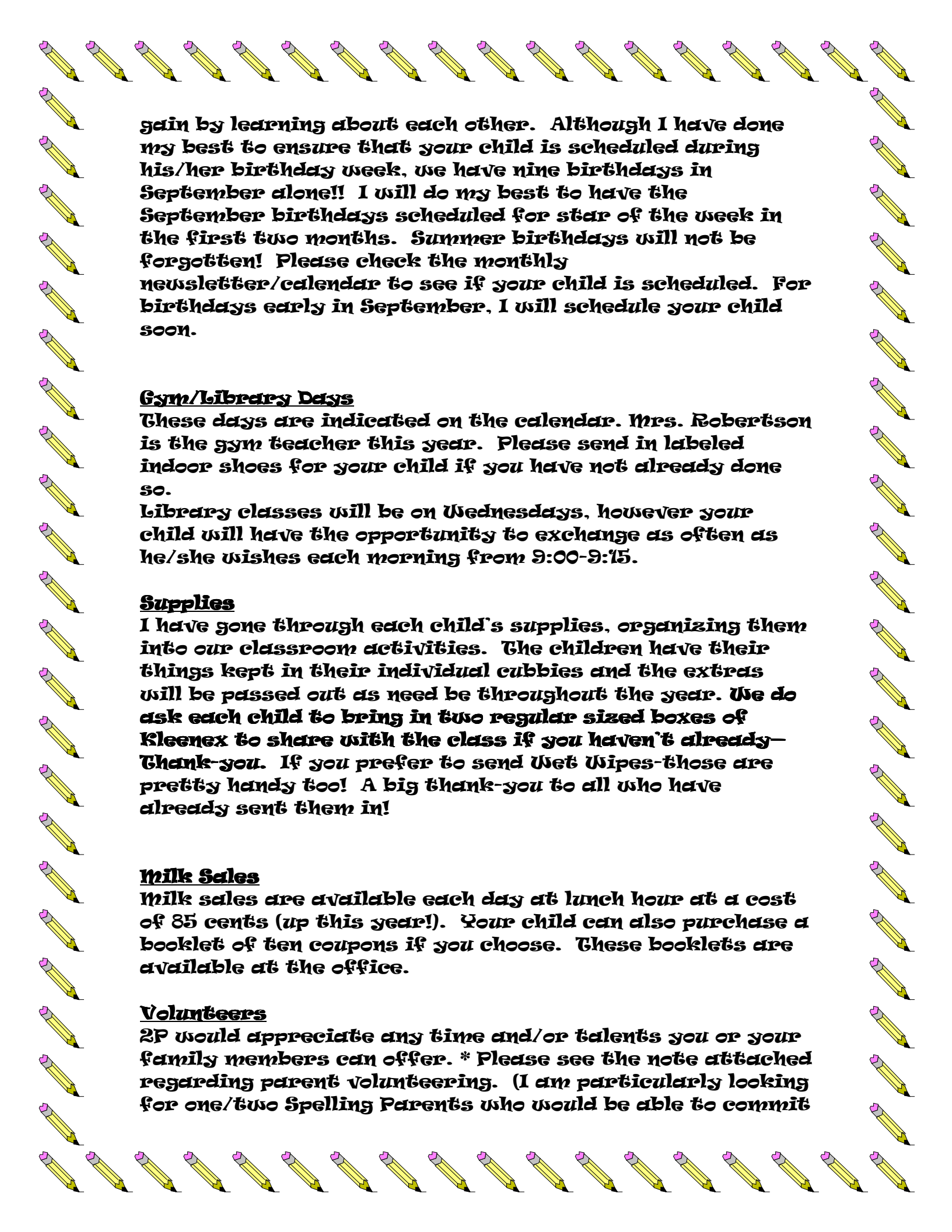
**Welcome to a new school year at St. Joseph's! I feel so lucky to be your child's teacher this year and I am looking forward to getting to know mom's and dad's better over the coming months. We have 21 children in our class this year and they have been busy making new friends. This will be the first of 2P's monthly newsletters, and I hope the following information will be of help to you.**

### **Monthly Newsletters**

**At the start of each month you will receive a class newsletter to inform you of upcoming events in our class as well as a calendar of special days. The Parent Volunteer schedule will be included in this calendar. Attached to each month's newsletter, you will find a Scholastic book order form to give your family an opportunity to order books each month if you so choose. Please send in your order, and payment (cheques made out to Scholastic, please) in a sealed envelope marked "Book order". This month's order is due Friday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Star of the Week**

**Your child will have one week throughout the year where he/she will have the opportunity to be "Star of the Week" That week our star is invited to bring in pictures from home along with any special items they would like to share with the class and/or put up on our class bulletin board for display. Items they are encouraged to share include pictures, stories, collections and especially creations! In doing this, the children have a chance to**



gain by learning about each other. Although I have done my best to ensure that your child is scheduled during his/her birthday week, we have nine birthdays in September alone!! I will do my best to have the September birthdays scheduled for star of the week in the first two months. Summer birthdays will not be forgotten! Please check the monthly newsletter/calendar to see if your child is scheduled. For birthdays early in September, I will schedule your child soon.

### **Gym/Library Days**

These days are indicated on the calendar. Mrs. Robertson is the gym teacher this year. Please send in labeled indoor shoes for your child if you have not already done so.

Library classes will be on Wednesdays, however your child will have the opportunity to exchange as often as he/she wishes each morning from 9:00-9:15.

### **Supplies**

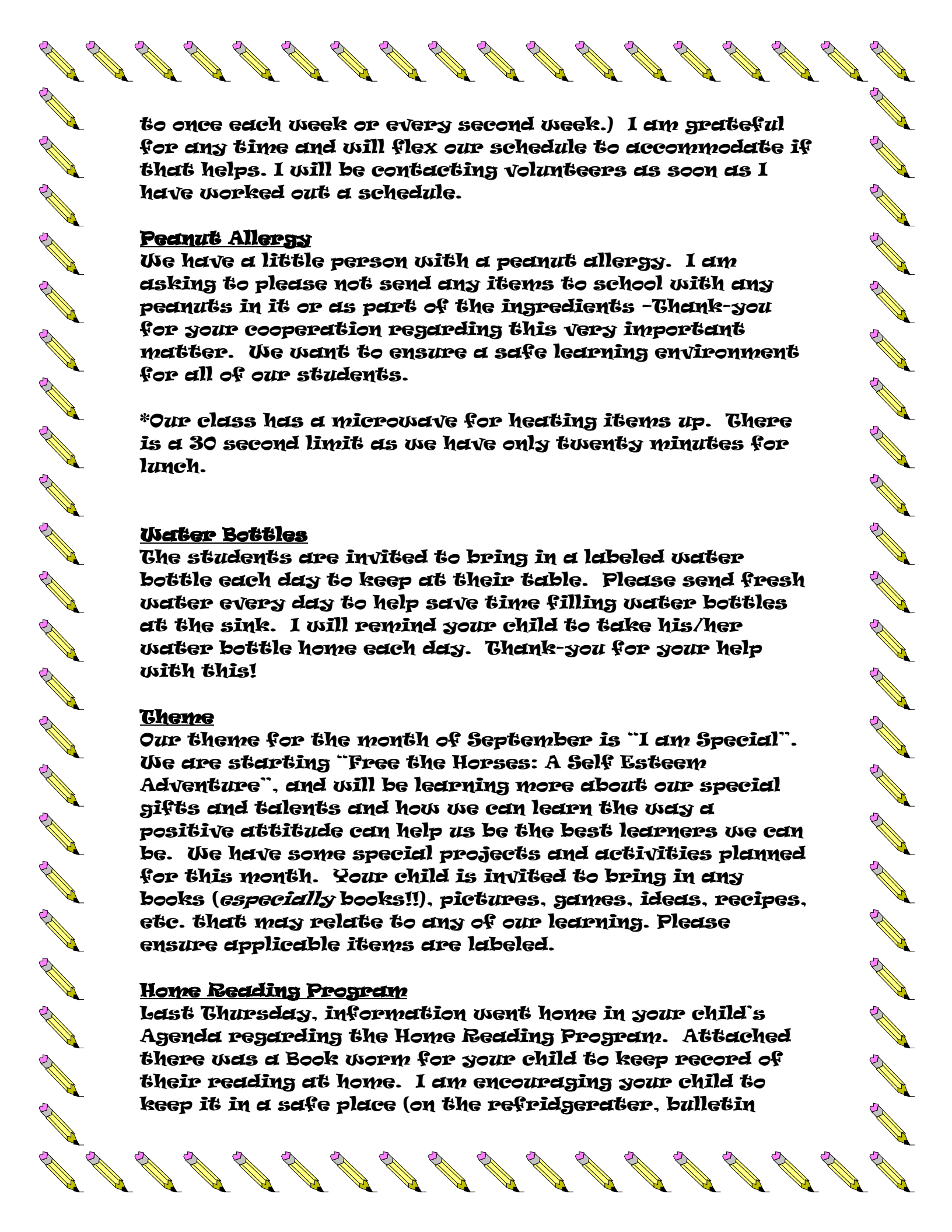
I have gone through each child's supplies, organizing them into our classroom activities. The children have their things kept in their individual cubbies and the extras will be passed out as need be throughout the year. We do ask each child to bring in two regular sized boxes of Kleenex to share with the class if you haven't already—Thank-you. If you prefer to send Wet Wipes—those are pretty handy too! A big thank-you to all who have already sent them in!

### **Milk Sales**

Milk sales are available each day at lunch hour at a cost of 85 cents (up this year!). Your child can also purchase a booklet of ten coupons if you choose. These booklets are available at the office.

### **Volunteers**

2P would appreciate any time and/or talents you or your family members can offer. \* Please see the note attached regarding parent volunteering. (I am particularly looking for one/two Spelling Parents who would be able to commit



to once each week or every second week.) I am grateful for any time and will flex our schedule to accommodate if that helps. I will be contacting volunteers as soon as I have worked out a schedule.

### **Peanut Allergy**

We have a little person with a peanut allergy. I am asking to please not send any items to school with any peanuts in it or as part of the ingredients -Thank-you for your cooperation regarding this very important matter. We want to ensure a safe learning environment for all of our students.

\*Our class has a microwave for heating items up. There is a 30 second limit as we have only twenty minutes for lunch.

### **Water Bottles**

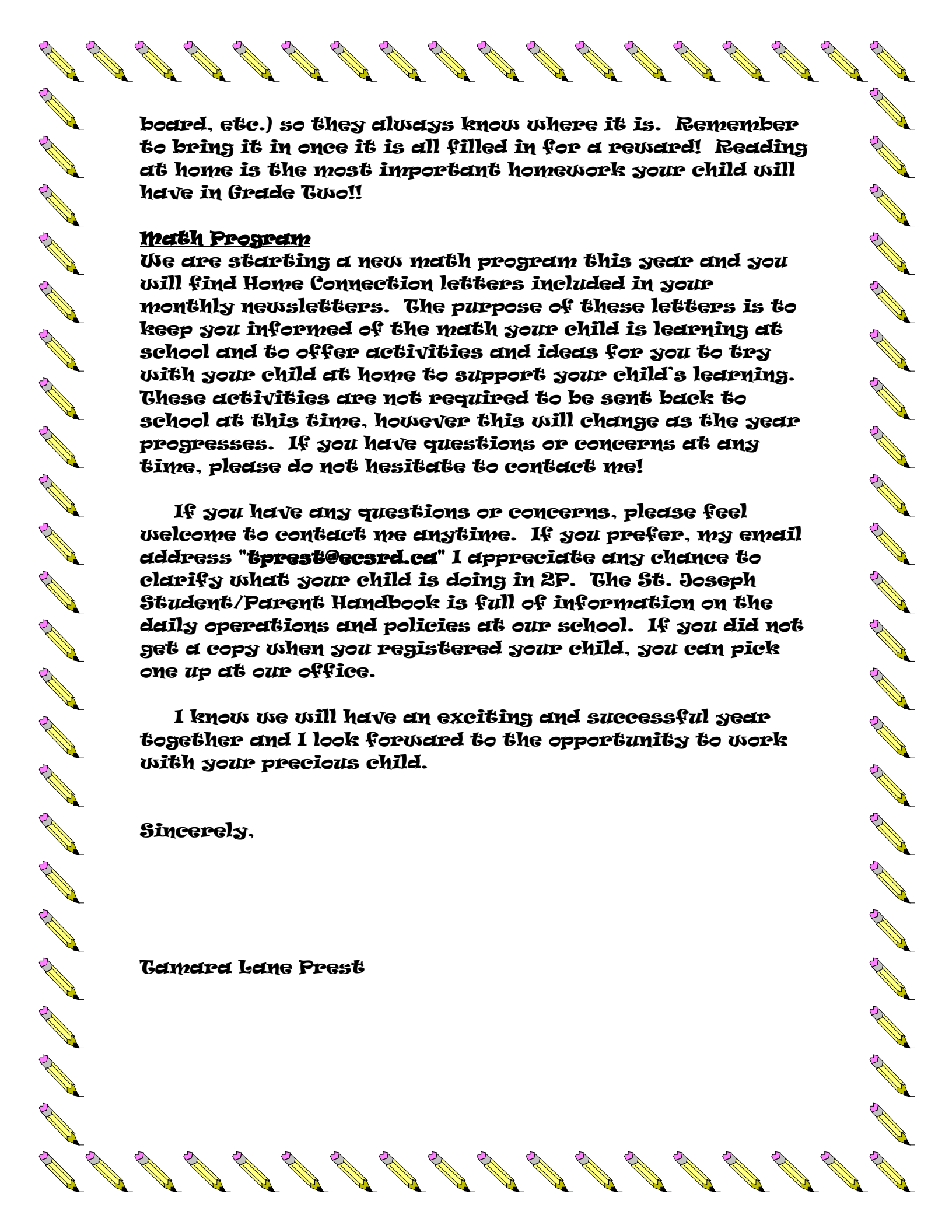
The students are invited to bring in a labeled water bottle each day to keep at their table. Please send fresh water every day to help save time filling water bottles at the sink. I will remind your child to take his/her water bottle home each day. Thank-you for your help with this!

### **Theme**

Our theme for the month of September is "I am Special". We are starting "Free the Horses: A Self Esteem Adventure", and will be learning more about our special gifts and talents and how we can learn the way a positive attitude can help us be the best learners we can be. We have some special projects and activities planned for this month. Your child is invited to bring in any books (especially books!!), pictures, games, ideas, recipes, etc. that may relate to any of our learning. Please ensure applicable items are labeled.

### **Home Reading Program**

Last Thursday, information went home in your child's Agenda regarding the Home Reading Program. Attached there was a Book worm for your child to keep record of their reading at home. I am encouraging your child to keep it in a safe place (on the refrigerator, bulletin



board, etc.) so they always know where it is. Remember to bring it in once it is all filled in for a reward! Reading at home is the most important homework your child will have in Grade Two!!

### **Math Program**

We are starting a new math program this year and you will find Home Connection letters included in your monthly newsletters. The purpose of these letters is to keep you informed of the math your child is learning at school and to offer activities and ideas for you to try with your child at home to support your child's learning. These activities are not required to be sent back to school at this time, however this will change as the year progresses. If you have questions or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel welcome to contact me anytime. If you prefer, my email address "[tprest@ccsrd.ca](mailto:tprest@ccsrd.ca)" I appreciate any chance to clarify what your child is doing in 2P. The St. Joseph Student/Parent Handbook is full of information on the daily operations and policies at our school. If you did not get a copy when you registered your child, you can pick one up at our office.

I know we will have an exciting and successful year together and I look forward to the opportunity to work with your precious child.

Sincerely,

Tamara Lane Prest