**Mrs. Slocum’s Room**

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**September 12, 2011**

**Aloha News**

**Daily Specials:**

The Daily Specials are based on an ABCD Rotation, beginning with “A” on the first day of school. If school is cancelled, the first day back will be the next letter in sequence (following the last school day).

 **“A” Media**

 **“B” Music**

 **“C” Gym**

 **“D” Technology**

**Please bring gym shoes on WEDNESDAY this week.**

**Thank You…Thank You...**

**Thank you SO MUCH for the donations of Clorox wipes and Kleenex, as well as for getting your child the supplies he/she needs. I neglected to mention that students will also need a small PENCIL BOX to store their belongings in their cubbies.**

**Send in those BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION you’ve been collecting all summer! We’re competing in a contest to collect the most Box Tops!**

Monday Mail Folders:

Please remember that various notes, newsletters, and school work will come home every Mondays in a WHITE folder. The papers stay at home but the folder needs to be returned to school the following day (Tuesday).

**The Daily Five**

**You may have heard your child talking about “building stamina” and “fluency” while talking about The Daily Five. “The Daily Five” is the structure we’re using for Language Arts and it’s off to a great start! We’ve added an extra minute every day and today, the timer was set at 7 minutes!! Every day your child will be silently reading to himself/herself for several different blocks of time, with strategy lessons in between. By the end of the week I hope to introduce “Read to Someone”, following the same routine of slowly adding time each day, training student’s muscle memory. We’ll slowly continue to build up time, until the duration is eventually 30-40 minutes, for 4-5 different blocks of time. Ask your child to explain the reading strategies we learned last week: Check for Understanding, Cross-Checking, Tune In To Interesting New Words, and Back Up and Reread. Today, your child will be learning how to choose books that are a “Good-Fit” for his/her reading level.**

**Math Review**

Our first unit of Everyday Math reviews basic concepts taught in first grade. Last week we worked on numbers in sequence and telling time. This week, we’ll continue to work on telling time, counting coins, tally marks, and number grids.

**What’s Up in Social Studies?**

The focus of Second Grade Social Studies is “Local Communities”. The first unit is titled “What is a Community?” Students will be investigating the focus question, “What is a community and why do families live in communities?”

Last week we learned about families and basic needs. This week we’ll be learning about our community and we’ll compare the common characteristics of different communities. We’ll also investigate the role of the government in our community.