**Grade 2 Unit 1 Family Letter: Number Sense and Place Value**

Dear Second Grade Families,

**Our Focus**

In Unit 1, your child will explore numbers within 1,000. Students will understand that digits have different values based on their placement within a number. They will develop number sense by using pictorial models to compose and decompose numbers. Students will be able to describe and compare numbers using place value, skip counting and exploring the concepts of odd and even.

**Instructional Approach**

Place value means that each position in a number has a different value associated with it, that is, 362 is three 100s, six 10s, and two 1s. Often, we teach children about place value by asking them to think about, the difference between the 2 in 12 and the 2 in 24. However, children learn more about place value by solving problems that involve collections of ones, tens and hundreds. When children learn about place value, they begin to understand that groups of 10 can be created and counted just like units of one. Concrete models and pictorial representations are used to help students develop a strong understanding of numbers and their value.

**Family Support** You can help your child in several ways.

* Count within 1000 using skip counting strategies
* Ask your child to compare two 3-digit numbers using <,>, or =
* Explore and discuss the key terms in the box below:

Sincerely,

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| **digit** : number 0 - 9  **place value:** the value of a digit’s location in a numeral  **standard form**: a number written using digits and place value (368)  **expanded notation**: a way to write a number by showing the value of each individual digit forming the number (300 + 60 + 8)  **word form**: a way to write a number using words (three hundred sixty-eight)  **compose:** to combine parts to create a whole(3 hundreds + 6 tens + 8 ones = 368)  **decompose**: to break a whole into parts (368 = 300 + 60 +8 or 3 hundreds + 6 tens + 8 ones)  **odd number:** a number that cannot be divided (split) into two equal parts  **even number**: a number that can be divided (split) into two equal parts |

The Second Grade Math Team