



Grade 1-2

November 16, 2007

Dear First and Second Grade Families,

We are pleased to announce that our “Post Office” unit has officially started. To launch the study, one of our Writer’s Workshop mini lessons focused on the letter writing process. We modeled how to write a letter and discussed proper letter formatting. Children learned where to put the date, heading, and proper punctuation in their letters. Next, children went off to write their own letter to a friend or family member. In their letters children shared information about themselves, asked questions and ended their letters with words such as *Love*, *All the best* and *Sincerely*. The children did a fantastic job writing their letters and seemed incredibly excited to mail them. Finally the children addressed their own envelopes, and as a class we discussed the importance of writing in our best handwriting so that the mail carrier could read where to send our letters.

On our field trip to the local Mill Valley Post Office the children experience first hand what it is like to stand in line at the post office. They counted 41 cents for a stamp, bought a stamp, processed their letter and received a receipt for their transaction from the post office clerk. After mailing their letters, the children were given a guided tour by our local post master Jim. We learned how letters are processed, sorted and delivered to our homes. The children noticed that sorting was an important job at the post office. We were all very surprised to learn that the post office has a locked safe where they keep stamps and other important documents. The post office looked like a complex place. The children asked wonderful questions like, “How long will it take for my letter to get to my friend’s house?” and “What are the different jobs at the post office?” We have had an informative start to our new study.

When we return from our Thanksgiving break we will begin to transform the first and second grade classroom into the “RMDS Post Office”. This Post Office unit will be a fantastic way to integrate reading, writing, math, social studies, geography, art and life skills into a fun and engaging study. We will keep you ‘posted’ on our developments in the weeks to come.

Have an extraordinary and relaxing weekend,
Luisa and Amy

lpinto@ringmountian.org

acopland@ringmountain.org

P.S. The Homework coming home this weekend is not due back until after Thanksgiving break, Wednesday, November 28th, 2007.

Preschool, Pre-K 215A Blackfield Drive Tiburon, CA 94920 (415) 381-8181

K-8 70 Lomita Dr. Mill Valley, CA 94941 (415) 381-8183 Fax (415) 381-8484