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Author visits, reads to Rejoice second graders

By **Josh Burton**
Managing Editor
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Second grade students at Rejoice Christian Schools were able to meet and hear from an award-winning author/illustrator.

Philip C. Stead, the Caldecott Award winner, visited RCS North Campus last week. He was the Tulsa City-County Library Books to Treasure recipient.

Stead was honored by the system and had the chance to visit three schools. He is author/illustrator of several books.

"Our school was selected to receive one of those three visits. Books to Treasure gives all second graders a copy of the award winner's books each year," said Cheryl Golightly, RCS North Campus librarian. "Our students' copies of *A Home For Bird* were then autographed yesterday by Mr. Stead, as well as copies of his other books that are in the RCS Library."

Students appeared to get a lot out of Stead's visit, she said.

"These students are still talking about this visit, which has caused students in other grades to have an interest," Golightly said. "I am sure I will be reading these books to all of the grade levels in the weeks to come."

Students paid attention during Stead's visit, she said.

"Mr. Stead was one of the most engaging authors I have witnessed at an event like this one," Golightly said. "These students were with him intently throughout the presentation and could have spent much more time with him."

Students also got a lot out of this visit, she said.

"Seeing, hearing and meeting a real author is a magical experience for children at this age," Golightly said. "They then learn to associate the written story with real life experiences, and in



JOSH BURTON/OWASSO REPORTER
 Author/Illustrator Philip Stead visited Rejoice Christian's North Campus last week.

this case, even the illustrations."

This visit was coordination between the several, she said.

"We would love to express our appreciation to the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation that sponsors this annual event and to our favorite public library, The Owasso Library, for recommending us for this honor," Golightly said.



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