



Dear Second Grade Families,

I hope you are doing well and having a lovely summer with friends and family. I hope you are enjoying some time outdoors. I wanted to include some of the planning pieces for the upcoming school year. Certain categories are reviews from last year, but I have included them as reminders for the upcoming school year.

Supplies:

Please keep in mind that all school supplies should be simple (no media images), sturdy and labeled with your child's name. Please attach a label or piece of masking tape with your child's name written in permanent marker so that we can locate things if they are lost. The second graders will need:

1. Water bottle
2. Indoor shoes which will be left at school (sturdy & secure on foot / appropriate for daily movement, no open toes, no loose slip-ons).
3. 1 plain /solid cardboard shoe box, no larger than cubby size, which is 9 1/2 " wide x 7" tall x 11 1/2 " deep. Michael's has these for about \$2.00.
4. A labeled change of clothes (underwear, pants, shirt, socks).
5. A labeled painting smock (this can be an apron, or a T-shirt that can just go over the child's clothing).
6. Labeled rain gear - including boots, a raincoat, and rain boots.
7. A facial mask to be worn in the classroom and to be replaced or refreshed when needed.

Arrival and Dismissal:

Throughout the year, school begins at 8:00 am. It is distracting for the class and unsettling for the child to enter the room later than 8:00 am. In addition, during those first twenty minutes of the day, your child has a wonderful opportunity to engage with his or her classmates, play a short game, possibly do a class chore, and get mentally prepared to start the school day. I trust and appreciate that you will do your best to arrive on time. Also, throughout the year, from Mondays through Fridays, the children will be dismissed at 3:30.

School Attire:

The children should come to school in clothes and shoes which are comfortable, and which will allow them to move freely during circle exercises and outdoor play. Comfortable shoes are essential so that your child can safely move and benefit from all movement exercises. There is a detailed description of the dress code in the Parent Handbook, but essentially clothing with media pictures or large writing is not permitted. This is essential so that we can continuously create an environment in the classroom which will be ideal for learning without distractions. Thank you for your cooperation in this important area.

Parent Evening Dates:

Throughout the school year, we will have several parent evenings. Your involvement is crucial to your child's success and to the strengthening of our class community. Important educational topics such as curriculum, class practices, emotional and social health in the classroom, media, school policies, and other relevant topics will be discussed. Thank you for making an effort to attend. These are our meeting dates (all from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM):

Tuesday, September 22 7:00 pm

Tuesday, January 12 7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 13 7:00 pm

Second Grade Block Schedule:

Throughout the year, the second graders will rotate through 4 weeklong blocks for language arts and math. We will go into further detail as to the content of each block in parent meetings over the course of the year. This the second-grade block plan for the year, 2020-2021.

Language Arts: September 8- October 9

During our first language arts block, the second graders will study the saint stories and the Golden legends of people from various parts of the world that have lived extraordinary lives. As the children study the lives of sages, they will practice creating their own compositions orally as they retell stories. The second graders will continue to strengthen their skills in recalling and summarizing stories. Through daily composition work, the children will become more comfortable with writing and spelling. They will work with upper- and lower-case letters, learning to match letters and sounds. In this block, there will be a more detailed introduction to grammar and punctuation, and phonics will be presented.

Math: October 12- November 13

In the first mathematics block, the children will use rhythmic movement, recitation, manipulatives, and stories to deepen their understanding and application of the four processes. The children will work with word problems to strengthen their ability to add, subtract, multiply and divide number sentences. Place value will be introduced and practiced. Vertical equations will be introduced as well. The children will work on differentiating odd and even numbers.

Language Arts: November 16- December 22

During the second language arts block, the second graders will continue to study the saint stories and the Golden legends. These stories will continue to inspire the children, and draw forth feelings of compassion, love, and wisdom. The second graders will also hear fables that will paint pictures of the various personalities of animals that come into conflict at times and gather learning along the way. The children will become more capable in creating 1-2 sentence compositions independently. New word families will be practiced over the course of this block in order to strengthen phonemic awareness. During main lessons, the children will practice recitation of poetry, tongue twisters, riddles and alliteration.

Math: January 4- January 29

During the second math block, the second graders will be introduced to new concepts that will be deepened through math daily practice. The second graders will be practicing addition and subtraction with 2-3-digit numbers. Place value into the thousands will be introduced and reinforced through imaginative stories and activities. The second graders will learn to carry during addition. They will also practice the 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, and 11 times table, as well patterns in these times tables. Movement exercises will help to reinforce the patterns in various times tables.

Language Arts: February 1- March 5

During the third language arts block, the second graders will continue to study fables, and nature stories to learn about how various animal characters experience and learn from one another in nature. The second graders will practice writing compositions independently. Reading will be practiced with guidance on decoding and encoding strategies emphasized. Cursive writing will be introduced and practiced. The children will continue to practice tongue twisters, alliterative verses, and poems to strengthen their awareness of vowel and consonant sounds.

Math: March 8- April 9

During the fourth math block, the second graders will learn to add and subtract three-digit numbers. The children will also learn place value to the millions. They will work with word problems on a daily basis to continue to build fluency in solving problems and applying the four processes appropriately. In practicing the times tables, the second graders will discover relationships and additional patterns between different tables. Odd and even numbers will continue to be practiced and reinforced.

Language Arts:

Play: April 12- May 14

The second graders will practice their second-grade play through daily recitation and practice in choral speaking. Speech exercises and warmups will accompany all of our daily play practices.

Math: May 17- June 11

Throughout the fifth math block, the children will discover the relationships between numbers and the ways that they can be regrouped. The children will also learn two-digit addition and subtraction. During this block, the children will practice vertical column mathematics with three-digit numbers as well. Regrouping will also be introduced and practiced extensively throughout the block.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer.

Warmly,
Miss Glikzman

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