

Parent Newsletter

back to School



Second Grade

September 2019



Each month, you will receive a Parent Newsletter. This is one way for us to communicate what is happening in the classrooms and throughout the school. Typically, this newsletter will include The Common Core State Standards we are addressing during the month and an update on school events.

Instructional Focus

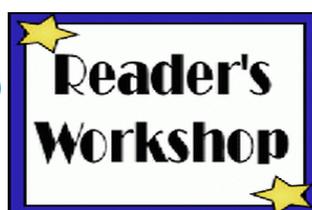
A collaborative and coordinated school-wide initiative is for all teachers to use continued strategic assessments in instruction to ensure that all students can monitor their own understanding and clearly articulate the characteristics of high quality work. All students will:

- Be engaged in all learning lessons and activities that will consist of multiple entry points for various types of learners .
- Create goals and monitor their learning through the use of rubrics and checklists
- Participate in rigorous learning activities that will assess their knowledge and understanding of the content or skills taught.
- Lead peer conversations in partnerships, small groups, or in a whole class setting.
- Provide rubric specific feedback to themselves and their peers.
- Receive rubric specific feedback about their work from their peers and teachers

Assessment, Goal Setting, and The Common Core State Standards



Throughout the year students will be given assessments in all subject areas. Teachers will examine the assessments and grade it. Feedback will be shared with each student. Students will then use this feedback in order to create goals and plans for reaching their goals. Throughout the units, students will work with their peers and teachers in order to reach their goals. They will monitor their progress by using rubrics and checklists. Students will use these tools in order to provide rubric specific feedback to their peers. Throughout the units, students will receive feedback from their teachers and peers. Each student will have goal setting sheets where they record their goals and specific plans for reaching their goals.



Readers Workshop

In this unit, “Second Grade Reading Growth Spurt” second grade students will learn the rituals and routines of the reading workshop. They will learn to become flexible word solvers, by using multiple strategies to solve unknown words such as, using meaning first to make a good guess and then using the print (visual/graphophonic information) to crosscheck. Students will build their stamina by reading for longer periods of time. Second grade students will understand relationships between characters through the events and challenges in a story. They will identify points of view of characters and understand the authors’ intentions. The priority standards that will be addressed during this unit is:

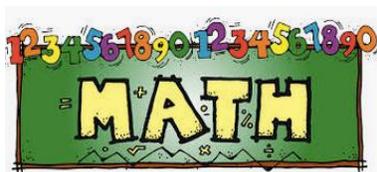
- Develop and answer questions to demonstrate an understanding of key ideas and details in a text.
- Identify a main topic or central idea and retell key details in a text; summarize portions of a text.



Writers Workshop

In this unit, “Revving Up Writing Muscles” and “Lessons from the Masters”, second grade students will compose personal narratives. Second grade students will learn that one way they can write meaningful, beautiful stories is to study the craft of mentor authors. Second grade students will learn to choose an idea, plan their writing, and add drama to bring more detail and life to their story. Students will also learn how to revise, edit and publish their narrative stories. The priority standard that will be addressed during this unit is:

- Write narratives which recount real or imagined experiences or a short sequence of events, including details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings; use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.



We are excited to implement a new mathematics program this year called enVision $math$ 2.0 Common Core. This program, is a comprehensive mathematics curriculum aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Students will learn mathematics through project-based learning and visual learning strategies. In the first topic, students will be focusing on addition and subtraction within 20. They will use strategies such as counting on, counting back, doubles, near doubles and making 10. The priority standard that will be addressed during this unit is:

- Fluently add and subtract within 20 using mental strategies using all the sums of two one-digit numbers.



In the Amplify science program, students will learn about plant and animal relationships. Students will plan and conduct investigations to figure out what plants need to grow and ways that many plants rely on animals to disperse their seeds. Students will use mathematical thinking and concepts of proportion and quantity to make sense of their measurements and other data. They will construct scientific explanations about how the parts of the Bengali forest work together as a system.



In Passport to Social Studies curriculum, the first unit students will study is “Our Communities Geography.” Students will answer the essential question “How does geography influence where people live and why?” In this unit, second grade students will learn all about New York City, including the features of an urban community, modes of transportation, the diversity in NYC, and the cultural institutions that exist in NYC.

Important Dates

September 30– October 1: Rosh Hashanah– school is closed

October 9: Yom Kippur– school is closed

October 14: Columbus Day– school is closed

