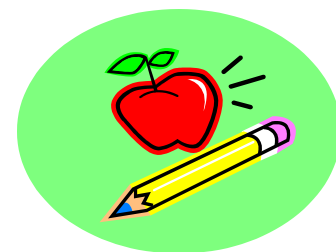




The Second Grade Scoop!!!!

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Important Upcoming Dates:

- Sept. 6, 2010 ~ No School—Labor Day
- Sept. 7, 2010 ~ mClass Reading testing begins
- Sept. 9, 2010 ~ No School—Rosh Hashanah
- Sept. 14, 2010 ~ No School—Election Day
- Sep. 16, 2010 ~ Field Trip to Brookside Gardens
- Sep. 22, 2010 Back to School Night
- Sep. 24, 2010 Welcome Back Picnic



Welcome to Second Grade!!!!!!

We are looking forward to working with you and your child during the upcoming school year. During the first month of school, your child will encounter new surroundings, friends, experiences, skills, and challenges. This is an exciting time and both parents and teachers will be present throughout. One of our main goals is to foster good work-study skills in our students. With the combined effort of both home and school, we hope to reach this goal.

Expectations

To create the best possible learning environment, please discuss the following with your child: Arrive at school by 9:10 a.m.

Bring necessary materials to school

Follow directions

Keep hands, feet, and objects to oneself

Get permission/pass to leave the classroom

Raise your hand to speak

Focus on staying on task to complete all assignments

It would be beneficial for you to take the time to discuss each school day with your child, ask questions about the day, and offer positive reinforcement to your child. Review all work and notices brought home by your child each day. Your constant interest will play an important part in your child's learning success.

Please feel free to contact us at anytime. The best way to reach us is through email. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response. For matters concerning immediate attention, please call us at the school.

Thank you! And we're looking forward to a fantastic year!

Susanne Fioritto ~ Susanne_R_Fioritto@mcpsmd.org

Leah Griffin-Bailey ~ Leah_M_Bailey@mcpsmd.org

Francine Gugerty ~ Francine_A_Gugerty@mcpsmd.org



Important Reminders and Information

Inside this issue:

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|---------|---|--|
| Reading | 2 | Please understand that due to a variety of circumstances, including teacher absences, teachers may not receive your communication by email in a timely manner. Therefore all information pertaining to your child's change of dismissal plans such play dates, after school activities, doctor's appointment, etc, MUST come in to school in the form of a note signed and dated by you that morning. Recurring activities must have a daily note as well. The teachers appreciate your cooperation in the matter. |
| Writing | 2 | |

Please mark all clothing with your child's first and last names —particularly jackets, sweaters and lunchboxes.



The Second Grade Scoop!!!!

Reading

We begin the year with reviewing the very important reading strategies that all readers use to become better readers. We will learn about before, during, and after reading strategies. The following are the strategies:

Before reading: determine a purpose for reading, select a text to meet the purpose, preview the text, think about what you know about the subject, make predictions based on background knowledge.

During reading: stop and think about what you have read so far, ask your self if the reading makes sense, stop and use strategies to fix what is not making sense

After reading: review your purpose for reading and check to see if you achieved your purpose, check to think about what you remember from what you have read, revisit text to think about the story or what you have learned, revisit the text to clarify your understanding, respond to your reading through discussion and/or writing.

When reading with your child, have him or her tell you about some of the strategies he/she used while reading.

We will also make connections when reading. Students will make connections to their prior knowledge, to their own experiences, and to other texts in order to understand the story.

During the first few weeks of school, we will also focus on choosing appropriate books during independent reading time. The students will learn the five finger test in order to help them with choosing a good book. Have your child demonstrate using the five finger test in order to determine if the book they choose is an appropriate book for them to read independently. We will have a copy of the five finger test for Back to School Night.

Writing

Our second grade authors will follow the steps of the writing process this year as they publish a variety of writing intents. The steps of the writing process are: Prewriting, drafting, revising and editing, publishing. We will begin with writing personal narratives based on a small moment in their lives.

While the authors go through the writing process to write about a small moment in their lives, they will ask themselves the following questions in order to make their writing their best:

What is my reason for composing this writing?

How can I make my writing clear for my reader?

What steps do I follow to produce the best writing piece that I can?

How does rehearsal with a partner help me generate ideas for writing topics?

Essential Questions:

- What before, during and after reading strategies can I use to help me understand what I read?
- What strategies can I use to help me when I read?
- How do I decide what I will read?
- What kind of information can I gain from reading?

