

2nd Grade News

November 4, 2011

Reading

We are continuing our focus on non-fiction text features, such as Table of Contents, glossary, index, and captions. Also, students are working on asking before, during, and after reading questions to help determine the author's purpose for writing the non-fiction text. Please encourage your child to read non-fiction text at home, and to explain what information they have learned from each text feature.

Math

We are excited to begin exploring new math concepts in the second quarter! For the first few weeks, we will be focusing on various computation strategies for adding and subtracting one- and two-digit numbers. Along with pencil-and-paper computation, students are also focusing on mental math strategies for solving such problems.

We are placing a large emphasis on a deeper understanding of numbers and operations, rather than traditional rote-memorization of math facts. Please encourage your child to explain how he or she has arrived at his or her answer when completing math homework!

Social Studies

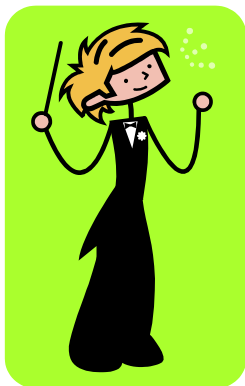
In Social Studies, we are beginning a focus on both physical and human geography. Students are learning about the seven continents and five oceans, as well as their distinguishing physical and human features.

Science

Students are classifying objects based on their observable properties. They are explaining strategies used to classify objects and giving reasons for the classification.

Writing

For the next few weeks, our writing focus will be on creating "All-About" books. Students will create writing pieces about topics they have a lot of knowledge about. Ultimately, students will publish their own "All-About" book, complete with a Table of Contents, heading, and diagrams.



UPCOMING FIELD TRIP: Tuesday, November 15, 2011
Strathmore Hall, National Philharmonic

- Please make sure that your child brings a **bag lunch** to school and that all of the contents are **disposable**.
- Students will eat lunch at school before the trip at 10:30.
- We plan to leave at 11:10 and return at 1:50.
- You may send a small snack for your child to eat when we return.
- Encourage your child to wear an outfit appropriate for this event.