

# Second Grade News

Cloverly Elementary School  
Leading the Way to Excellence!

February and March 2011

We hope everyone had a wonderful start to the new year! We certainly did here in second grade. We had a great end to the second quarter and are looking forward to the content, activities, and experiences we will have in the third quarter!

## Reading

As we end the second quarter, we can see that your children have grown in their reading level and ability to comprehend both orally and in writing. This gives us the opportunity to rearrange groups and teachers to best meet your child's needs. We will let you know if your child will be switching teachers in reading.

We will begin the quarter reading literary texts and will continue to focus on developing student's understanding of story structure, story elements, series of events, and rhythm and rhyme. We will switch to informational texts toward the end of the quarter, focusing on vocabulary development and asking and answering questions. In small group instruction, we will be working hard on using support and specific examples from the text in our answers to comprehension questions. This would be a great skill to practice at home with your child!

## Writing

The storytelling project is finally finished! Your children have been recording their podcasts and have made a PowerPoint page for their folktale. We will send out information for accessing these as soon as they are up on the school website!

This quarter in writing, we will be working on opinion writing. Your child will have many experiences with forming an opinion and then supporting it with reasons. He or she will also be given opportunities to revise writing for voice, sentence fluency, use of linking words, and organization.

Some dates to remember are:

- February 14: Valentine's Day Parties
- February 20: President's Day- No School
- February 24: Primary Show : 1:30 at school and 7:00 at BCMS
- March 2: Early Release
- March 29: 3rd Marking Period Ends
- March 30: No School for Students

March 30—April 9 No School: Spring Break!



## Math

The main focus this quarter in math will be on measurement. Students will be measuring objects to the nearest centimeter, meter, inch, foot, and yard. They will also be discovering the relationship between the size of objects. Addition and subtraction will be used to help students find this relationship. Circling back to addition and subtraction will give us an opportunity to help students build on what they have already learned, and take it a step further to 3-digit addition and subtraction comparison word problems. The measurement unit will end with the study of time. Students will practice telling time to the nearest 5 minutes and will also work on elapsed time.



We will frequently be testing students on their addition and subtraction facts, as well as fact families. Please continue to help your child practice these at home!

## Social Studies

We will begin the quarter by exploring how technology affects daily life and how things change over time. We will specifically be learning about changes with transportation and communication. After that, we will move to economics. Your child will be learning about goods and services and the production process. We will even be making an assembly line in our classroom to produce a good! Your child will be starting to gain an understanding of how to make informed decisions based on economics.

## Science and Engineering

This quarter, science is centered around the idea that things change over time. Students will observe the moon using a daily moon journal, as well as the sun and the stars to gain an understanding of how space changes over time. Please help your child remember that they need to observe the moon 5 times a week and record their observations in their moon journal. We will be discussing the changes they see in the moon over time. Additionally, your child will plant a seed that they will observe over time. The growing of the plant and the changes that happen in space will be connected toward the fourth quarter.

We will also be exploring the survival of plants and animals in unfamiliar habitats and will be observing minute organisms and their habitats. We will even be observing brine shrimp! Science this quarter will be exciting as it is all about observation and exploration! We can't wait.

## Other Information:

Your child will be taking the Terra Nova (TN2) test in April. You will be seeing practice for the skills needed to take this assessment in homework. Please make sure to review homework with your children when possible! More information about the TN2 will be provided as we get closer to April.



**Happy Valentine's Day!**