

# Second Grade Newsletter

## January/ February 2012

### Dates to remember:

- January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup> – No school for students
- February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Party

### Reading

In reading the students will be learning the general characteristics of folktales, including tall tales and fairy tales. They will compare various folktales from diverse cultures. When studying tall tales students will compare the text to a biography.

**TN2 Practice:** During reading instruction the students will begin preparing for the Terra Nova 2 test, which they will be taking during the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be using this time to help children not only prepare for the test but also improve their critical thinking and comprehension skills. Please be sure to not schedule any activities, appointments, and/or vacations on these days.

**Parent Tip:** Continue to read with your child. Make sure to ask questions that allow your child to explain why events happened in the story.

### Writing

The children have worked hard the last month writing to inform. They have completed informative writing about different places they have been. They will begin writing about how different service workers are important to our community. We will also focus on writing friendly letters.

The students have worked on being descriptive in their writing, implementing power verbs and interesting adjectives.

Students will also begin learning how to write in cursive. They will learn how to form the letters in class.

**TN2 Practice:** During our writing block we will be reviewing grammar and punctuation skills. Biweekly we will assess different skills the students have learned in first and second grade. Homework will be sent home in place of handwriting to reinforce what the children have been learning.

**Parent Tip:** Have your child write a friendly letter to a relative using the correct letter format.

## Math

The on grade level groups will continue to work on: subtraction with regrouping, identifying missing numbers, adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers, creating fact families, and using a variety of strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems. The following unit will focus on fractions.

Students working on third grade objectives will continue to work on strategies for mastering multiplication and division facts. The upcoming unit will focus on geometry. In class the students will be making a Geometry Glossary to help them learn the vocabulary related to that unit. Please review the vocabulary words with your child

**\*\*\*Students in third grade level classes should continue practicing the basic division, subtraction, and multiplication facts from 0-12. Students in on grade level classes need to continue studying addition and subtraction basic facts.\*\*\***

**Parent Tip:** Use everyday opportunities to practice counting money, and use money to add and subtract with regrouping. Help your child practice telling time by fifteen minute intervals.

## Science

Our Balancing and Weighing science kits have arrived. Children are working with a variety of balances to learn how weight, position of weights, and position of fulcrums affect balance.

## Social Studies

The second unit in social studies introduces economic concepts to help students learn the economic decision making process and its consequences. The children are being introduced to the difference between goods and services. They will also learn the difference between needs and wants.

**Parent Tip:** Have your child identify items in your household as needed or wanted goods.

**School Supplies:** Be sure to ask your child what school supplies he/she needs to have replenished. Some students need to bring in new glue sticks, pencils, and pencil sharpeners.

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**I have received and read the January/February Newsletter.**

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Child's Name

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Parent Signature