

# SECOND GRADE

## JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe we have closed out the year 2023 and are welcoming the new year already! 2024 will certainly be a busy and exciting time for our BMES scholars as we gear up and begin the second half of our journey, preparing for new learning experiences and completing Marking Period 2 this month. This January, students will be taking the Benchmark Reading District Assessment as well as the MAP-P Math Assessment as mid-year measures of their academic growth and progress at this time in the school year. We will be keeping families informed of dates of testing.

We hope you were able to spend some quality time together over winter break and are ready to return to class. We appreciate all you do to assist our scholars.

Sincerely,

The Second Grade Team

### **BENCHMARK READING & WRITING**

In the first week of the month, students will be wrapping up Benchmark Unit 3: *Plants & Animals in their Habitats*, and in the following weeks will be introduced to our new unit, Unit 4: *Many Characters, Many Points of View*. Students will be generating ideas to the essential question: *How can a story change depending on who tells it?* Students will be reading and comparing select fictional stories that prompt their understanding of different characters' points of view, and how the way it is conveyed in a story, influences a reader's understanding of the events being told. Students will be exploring new vocabulary and familiarizing themselves with English terms and expressions. They will gain practice with answering multiple-choice questions as well as written-response questions that will indicate their general knowledge and ability to analyze a story using text-evidence and inferences.

### **HD WORD:**

### **REALLY GREAT READING**

In HD Word (Really Great Reading), students are continuing to read and memorize the vowel teams of the long vowel sounds, r-controlled vowels, and will also be introduced to the "other" vowel phonemes. They use this phonetic knowledge to decode multi-syllabic words. They are gaining practice with reading words that require them to "flex" the vowel sound to a schwa, and also with reading and memorizing the spelling of common sight words.

They apply their learning during lessons on RGR Playgrounds (on computer) as well as during small group instruction using various tools for strengthening phonemic awareness and reading fluency.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

#### **January 3**

EBB Winter Session Begins

#### **January 15**

Holiday - Schools and Offices Closed

#### **January 18**

Class Yearbook Picture

#### **January 22**

Winter Concert 6:30 PM

#### **January 29**

No School for Students

#### **January 30**

MP 3 Begins

### **EUREKA MATH**

In Eureka Math, scholars will continue with Module 4: Addition and Subtraction within 200 with Word Problems to 100. This module focuses on sums and differences, strategies for composing tens and hundreds, and strategies for decomposing tens and hundreds. The End of Module 4 assessment will take place at the end of the month, just as the marking period ends.

Module 4 is an important unit for our second graders. The strategies they learn to use for addition and subtraction will prepare them for success in math through the years.

### **SCIENCE**

In science, we are continuing our study of Earth and Space to examine landforms found on Earth. Students will also participate in engineering practices through hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) activities and experiments. This unit introduces types of landforms, bodies of water, and their characteristics.