

Travilah Elementary School

Second Grade News!



December
2012



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Parents, thank you for your continued support of your child and our team. The second grade teachers have seen a great deal of growth in our students since August. Your daily efforts to go over graded papers and to check for completed homework sends a message to your child of the importance of school. We greatly appreciate your support.

return to school. Students using extended absences should take reading materials and a journal to record their experiences along with them on their trip. Teachers are not responsible for providing resources ahead of time, but will support missed instruction upon the student's return to school.



Don't Forget:

Please remember to send a healthy snack with your child everyday. Healthy snacks include fruit, cheese, popcorn, and crackers. The teachers do not provide snacks for the students. We would love donations of sanitizer wipes for the classroom.

Missing Assignments:

In accordance with MCPS policy, all work that is missed due to extended absences will be completed upon the student's

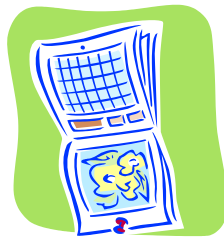
Before Reading Strategies

Students should be demonstrating the following skills before reading a particular text.

- Determine the purpose for reading.
- Use background knowledge and preview the text to make predictions and ask questions.

Dates to Remember!

- December 7 - Imagination Stage Field Trip
- December 14 - Mad Science In House Field Trip about Matter
- December 21 - Making Gingerbread Houses and Writing About "How To Make a Gingerbread House"
- December 24 to January 1st- Winter Break...Enjoy!



Curriculum Highlights

Reading

In December, classes will continue reading non-fiction books. We will work on understanding the main idea of a text and restating important information. Students will work on strategies to be successful in reading expository text. They will examine the purpose of text features, learn strategies to determine the importance of information, and learn how to summarize information, focusing on the key points. Graphic organizers are a helpful system for students to remember what they read and apply their reading. We will be moving into reading folktales from different countries and storytelling strategies. Vocabulary skills will be enriched through Jr. Great Books, folktales and our guided reading books.



Writing

Students will be working on writing to inform. These paragraphs will include a topic sentence, details, and a conclusion sentence. Students are encouraged to check their work for punctuation, spelling, and determining if it makes sense. BCR's are brief constructed response which help students respond in a format that increases comprehension. We will be focusing on personal narratives, as we recount personal experiences, sequencing the events in order. Reading and writing are integrated in many activities throughout the day.



Math

In math, we will be learning about strategies to identify odd and even numbers. We will also continue to learn how to solve addition and subtraction problems using manipulatives, drawings, number lines, and place value strategies. We will learn math vocabulary about addition and subtraction to help write about our mathematical thinking.

Math Vocabulary

3	+	4	=	7
addend		addend		sum or total
10	-	7	=	3
minuend		subtrahend		difference

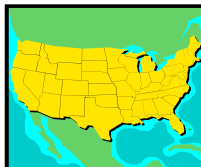


Have your child review their basic math facts every night!

Science and Social Studies

In science, we will continue to classify objects by observable properties.

In social studies, we will continue to work on map skills. The children will learn about geographical features of the United States.



Language Arts and Spelling

In language arts, we are learning to recognize pronouns. Some examples of pronouns are he, she, him, her, we, they, them, and it. We are also working on possessive nouns, which are nouns that show ownership. An example is the monkey's bananas. Verbs and adjectives are an important component integrated in our writing.

For spelling, we are working on long vowel sounds. We will also work on word endings and adding endings to words.