



2nd Grade News

September 12th– September 16th

This Thursday is our Open House from 6:40-7:25. I will be giving a short presentation about some of our classroom routines and procedures and you will also get to look around the room and admire some of your child's work. I encourage all of you to come out and see what we've been up to! I will also post the PowerPoint presentation on the class blog for anyone who is unable to attend.

It's hard to believe, but Progress Reports go home this Friday! Remember, a progress report is designed to show you the type of progress that your child has been making, but it is not a final grade. We are only half way through the first 9 weeks of school so there is still plenty of time for growth! If you have a question/ concern about your child's grades, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Congratulations to last week's Principal's Award winner, Aidan!

Important Dates

Thursday, September 15th
Open House @ 6:40

Friday, September 16th–
Progress Reports

Wednesday, September 28th
Donuts with Dad

Reading/ Language Arts

This week in reading we are going to focus on identifying the main idea in informational texts. We will use a pizza metaphor to differentiate between the whole main idea and a main idea "slice." Each paragraph or section of the text has its own focus, but they all relate back to the overall main idea. This can be one of the trickiest comprehension skills in 2nd grade. Many students can easily tell you details from a text, but most have a difficult time determining the main idea. As you are reading at home, help your child identify the main idea. If your child keeps pointing out details, guide him/her to the main idea by asking "What do all these details have in common?". When we write a main idea, we always write it as a sentence (topic + point).

For phonics, we will continue learning about the "magic e" at the end of words. We will also learn about the hard g (goat) and soft g (giant) sounds.

In writing, we will be creating our own informational texts based on what we learned about American symbols. We will also learn how to write friendly letters.

Math

We begin Chapter 2 in math this week.

This chapter continues to focus on place value, but with larger numbers. We will begin by modeling how we can bundle 10 tens to make 1 hundred. This lays an important foundation for the concept of regrouping. Later in the week, we will work on writing 3-digit numbers in a variety of ways: standard form, expanded-form, base-10 models, and word form.

Science & Social Studies

In science, we are beginning a new unit on rocks and soil. We will observe different types of rocks and compare, contrast, and classify them based on their properties (size, color, texture, shape, etc.)

Constitution Week kicks off this Friday and runs through next week. We will learn about this very important document and discuss what it means to our country. There is a fun *Schoolhouse Rock!* video (remember those?) about the Preamble that we will watch. The students LOVE the song and you can watch it for free on YouTube.