



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

December 5<sup>th</sup> - December 9<sup>th</sup>

This Thursday night from 6:00-8:00 is Science Night here at Bay Meadows! 5<sup>th</sup> grade will display and present their Science Fair Projects and The Orlando Science Center will have a series of hands-on science activities set-up for the children to explore. There will also be pizza and soda for sale so you can enjoy an easy dinner out. This is one of my favorite family events of the year! Hope to see you there!

## Important Dates

Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> -  
Science Night

Ready Diagnostic Testing  
Thurs., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>-Mon., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Holiday Party  
Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
10:30-12:00

## Reading/ Language Arts

This week we will begin reading an informational text about trees. The text features several diagrams, so we will focus on how this special text feature adds to our understanding of the text. We will discuss how we can gather new information from a diagram that is not included in the words, or how a diagram can help clarify and deepen what we already read. If you come across a diagram in one of your informational texts at home, try asking these questions: *What is this diagram about? How would you use this diagram to locate information? How does this diagram make information easier to find and understand?*

Our phonics skill this week will be vowel digraphs that make the long-o sound: *oa* and *ow*.

In writing, we will work on identifying and capitalizing proper nouns, including holidays, product names, and geographic names

## Math

This week we will focus on solving word problems, including two-step word problems that involve both 2-digit addition and 2-digit subtraction. We are trying to break the habit of seeing numbers in a word problem and quickly throwing them into an equation. Instead, we should be analyzing the problem and really thinking about the situation that is being presented in order to form a plan to solve the problem.

## Science & Social Studies

In social studies, we have been working on our Native American unit. The students are rotating to each of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms to learn about different Native American groups, including the Iroquois, Inuit, Hopi, Sioux, and Pueblo. Next time you are at the library with your child, check-out some of the high-quality and beautiful Native American children's literature. Some of my favorite books include *The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush*, *The Mud Pony*, *The Rough-Face Girl* and *Arrow to the Sun*.