



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

January 9<sup>th</sup> - January 13<sup>th</sup>

The Computer Lab will be closed for the next few weeks due to MAP testing. We will be unable to check out books and it will also delay our STAR testing to get our new AR levels.

This Thursday night is Bay Meadows Spirit Night at the Chick-Fil-A on Sand Lake Road. Come out with your family and support one of our strongest Partners in Education, as well as our school!

This Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> is our field trip to Sea World! We will leave around 9:30 and return around 2:45. Please send your child to school wearing his/her gray "Team 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade" shirt, sneakers, and sunscreen. If your child is bringing a lunch from home, please make sure that it does not need to be refrigerated and is completely disposable. **Please do NOT send your child with any spending money or electronics.**

Friday is also Report Card day. Please email me if you are interested in scheduling a conference.

This weekend will be a 3-day weekend due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday.

## Important Dates

Mon, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>- Tues, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>-  
MAP Testing

Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>-  
Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>-  
Sea World Field Trip & Report Cards

Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>-  
MLK, Jr. Day- No School

Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>-  
Curriculum Night

## Reading/ Language Arts

This week we will focus on how characters respond to major events and challenges in a story. As we read, we will look for cause-and-effect relationships that illustrate how major events influence the main character. We will identify specific challenges, as well as the "turning point" for the character. Here are some questions you can ask your child at home:

- How does the main character behave at the beginning, middle, and end of the story?
- Why does the main character's behavior change from the beginning to the end of the story?
- What event is the turning point of the story, when the main character does something or understands something that helps solve the problem?

Our phonics skills will continue from last week. We will work on compound words and words with the schwa vowel sound (along, happen, dragon). A schwa sound occurs in 2 syllable words where one syllable is softer and the vowel doesn't make the long sound or the short sound.

In writing, we will begin drafting our mystery stories.

## Math

Last week we started adding 3-digit numbers. We broke the concept down into small chunks using multiple strategies so the students really mastered each step. I was so impressed with how easily the students transferred their knowledge from 2-digit addition over to 3-digit addition. This week we will begin working on subtracting 3-digit numbers, which is always more difficult, especially when you have to regroup twice.

## Science & Social Studies

Over the next couple of weeks in social studies we will study different kinds of maps: thematic, political, and physical. We will also learn how to use important map features, such as map scales, map keys, compass roses, cardinal directions, and intermediate directions. See what different types of maps you can find at home and label any map features you see.