



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

May 1<sup>st</sup> - May 5<sup>th</sup>

We FINALLY have access to the Computer Lab again after weeks of closures due to testing. We will take the final STAR test of the year to determine new AR book levels. Even though AR has not been pushed as much this year, the STAR test helps the students know which dot color books are “good fits” for them. Students are also still encouraged to take AR quizzes and accumulate as many points as possible while passing quizzes with 80% or higher.

## Important Dates

Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> -  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Day

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> and  
Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> -  
MAP Testing

## Reading/ Language Arts

For the last month of school, we will be doing an informational research unit on rollercoasters and other Orlando attractions! This unit will allow us to review and apply all of the informational reading standards we have covered this year in a fun and relevant way. When reading aloud at home, here are some questions you can ask to discuss the organization and purpose of a non-fiction text :

- *Is the author's purpose to describe people, events, and concepts; to give steps in a process; or to describe how to do something?*
- *How do the pictures, text features, and words work together to help you understand the main topic?*
- *When you “add up” the section headings, what do you learn? How do they build on one another to give you information about the main topic?*

For phonics, we will review ways to make the long-*e* and long-*o* sounds. We will also learn about the final stable syllable -*le* (candle, fable).

In writing, we will work on expanding simple sentences.

## Math

We have moved from solid figures to polygons. We've been busy classifying polygons according to their attributes (vertices, sides, angles), as well as identifying some shapes that are NOT polygons. This week, we will incorporate fractions into our study of shapes. We will explore how we can divide shapes into equal parts and what we call these equal parts (half, thirds, fourths, etc.). By dividing shapes, the students develop a concrete understanding that fractions are a part of a whole, and therefore smaller than the number 1. You can reinforce this skill at home at dinnertime by discussing how you divide one meal into equal parts. You can work together to determine which fraction of the meal each person is eating.

## Science & Social Studies

We actually had a great learning opportunity presented to us last week that aligns perfectly with our social studies unit! Dr. Bixler asked our class to come up with a service learning project to benefit our community. This has to be completely student-driven, so the kids decided they wanted to raise money for The Coalition For the Homeless of Central Florida by having a lemonade stand at our school! We have been working hard to plan out the details and still have a lot of work ahead of us, but the kids are SO motivated! I am so impressed by their giving spirits and creative ideas. We can't wait to share our plan with you!