



2nd Grade News

September 25th- September 29th

This Wednesday, September 27th, at 4:00 in the cafeteria, we will have our monthly School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting. During this meeting, a guest speaker from OCPS' School Choice Office will be sharing potential educational program offerings at Bay Meadows for the following school year. You do not need to be a member of SAC to attend.

Open House was been moved to this Thursday, September 28th from 5:30-6:15. I will be giving a 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. There will also be a short PTA meeting in the cafeteria immediately following our Open House from 6:20-6:35.

After receiving waivers for 4 of the hurricane days, OCPS only has to make up 2 days: Friday, October 27th and Monday, November 20th.

Congratulations to last week's Principal's Award winner, Zaria (carried over from last week due to the hurricane)!

Important Dates

Thursday, September 27th-
SAC Meeting @ 4:00

Thursday, September 28th-
Open House- 2nd Grade 5:30-6:15

Tuesday, October 3rd-
Hearing Screening

Wednesday, October 19th-
No Early Release
Full Day of School
(Dismissal @ 3:00)

Reading/ Language Arts

This week we are kicking off our first unit on informational texts! We will begin by focusing 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). Check the blog for some main idea resources!

For phonics, we will focus on consonant blends with *r*, *l*, *s* (break, flip, stand).

In writing, we will be creating our own informational texts based on what we learned from a Helen Keller biography.

Math

This week we are beginning our second unit in math, which is all about 2-digit addition. In order to emphasize the concepts behind 2-digit addition, we introduce the students to many different strategies, some of which might seem a little foreign to you. In the end, each student usually finds one strategy that works for him/her, but being exposed to, and practicing all of the strategies builds a strong foundation of the concept itself. When students understand the why in math, the steps are more likely to "stick."

Science & Social Studies

In science, we will continue learning about matter! We will perform experiments to help us define the characteristics of the 3 states of matter and identify objects and materials as solids, liquids, or gases.

In social studies, we will learn about locating various places in our community and state.