



MONTCLAIR KIMBERLEY ACADEMY

Dear Second Grade Families,

We are very happy to welcome your child to second grade! It is an exciting year of growth and we are thrilled to be part of their journey at MKA. We are ready to form a strong parent/teacher partnership with you and look forward to working together.

As September approaches, we want to get to know your child before the start of the year. Once your child receives his or her teacher placement letter, please email your child's teacher a few thoughts on how would you describe your child: What are their hobbies and interests? How do you see them learning their best? The first weeks of school will be filled with more opportunities to continue these conversations as we get to know your children as people and learners.

We will be providing all necessary school supplies; however, the following list contains some items your child will need for their year. **Please label all items** with your child's name so they can be identified.

- **Backpack:** we request that students use a backpack without wheels, as wheeled backpacks do not fit into their lockers. Please note our request that you do *not* send in items to decorate a child's locker. Lockers are to hold jackets, backpacks, and other necessary items, and this will help our students avoid distractions.
- **Reusable water bottle:** This will be kept on your child's desk throughout the year. We will send them home to be washed regularly.
- **Sneakers:** Students go outside for recess every day, weather and temperature permitting. Sneakers are required for P.E. class and recommended for daily recess times.
- **Change of clothes:** Please send in an extra pair of labeled, Code of Attire clothes in a sealed plastic bag for your child to have handy in his or her locker. Some days, students may get wet and/or gritty as they explore in the Outdoor Classroom.
- **Family photo:** Teachers will display each child's family photo in the classroom as part of our yearlong study of communities and as a way for students to share about their identities.

A note about birthday celebrations in second grade:

Birthdays are important milestones for young students. In second grade, our students celebrate their special days with a class rendition of the birthday song, sharing a food treat with classmates during lunch, and taking a brief birthday walk around school to share any remaining food treats with faculty and staff. *All families must contact our nurse Candice Carlson (ccarlson@mka.org) regarding food sensitivities and other dietary needs prior to sending in birthday food treats.*

We appreciate the time you are taking to help us get off to a great start and look forward to working with all of your children this year. Enjoy the remaining days of summer with your family!

Sincerely,

The Second Grade Team

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