

2nd Grade Newsletter November

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Hello second grade parents!

Reading

Reading Mastery 2 (Mrs. Duesterhaus)

The children should continue to read every night aloud at home. If your child has an error while reading, please tell them the word, then have them go back and reread the sentence in which the error occurred. This will help to eliminate what I call "front-end guessing" – the child looks at the first part of the word and says a different word which is similar (those/these, that/this, et cetera). They have been working hard and we are all proud of what they have accomplished so far!

Reading Mastery 3 (Mrs. Sonntag)

Your children have been working hard, and I am proud of their progress!

Nightly Reading Aloud: Please continue to have your child read aloud to you every night. If they make an error, tell them the correct word, then have them re-read the entire sentence. In addition, please ensure your child's finger is under each word as they read. If they struggle with this, try modeling it: You read a few sentences while their finger follows along under your words. Stop reading if their finger isn't tracking with you.

Homework: As a second-quarter expectation, students must correctly spell words on homework only if the word is provided in a word bank or in the question itself. This encourages them to slow down and review the materials carefully. Also, our stories contain many facts. If your child struggles to remember repeated facts, help them create a "fact bookmark." They can keep this in their book to use during homework, which will help them memorize the facts over time.

Math

Saxon 2 (Mrs. Sonntag)

The children are doing well, but the math facts are getting harder. Please continue practicing at home, with an emphasis on the *new* facts. We find that making and using flashcards is the most effective way to memorize them.

At Home Skills Check: Please take a moment to check if your child has mastered the following skills. They should be able to:

- Count even numbers (2-20) forward and backward without hesitation.
- Count odd numbers (1-21) forward and backward without hesitation.
- Name the days of the week (and identify which are weekdays vs. weekend days).
- Recite the months of the year in order.

If your child struggles with any of these areas, please make them a part of your daily practice.

Thank you for checking and signing the fact homework each day!

Saxon 3 (Mrs. Duesterhaus)

The children should continue to study their facts and practice counting by 7's to 70 and 12's to 120. The facts remain the key to a trouble free math experience. If your child does not get 20-25 correct on a fact test, please continue to study those facts with your child. Also, your child should be writing their homework neatly. If I cannot tell what number it is, I have to mark it wrong. Please help reinforce this at home. Thank you.



Classroom Newsletter

NOVEMBER

Our core virtue this month is compassion.

Spanish

Students will review the vocabulary for immediate family members, and expand to extended family. We learn about Mirabel's family tree from Encanto to keep things consistent. Students will practice using the phrase "have/don't have." November and December students will learn the traditional song *Pimpollo de canela* from Puerto Rico.

Spelling

Spelling is progressing nicely. Please practice words as necessary.

Science

The children will learn about electricity and magnetism.

History/Geography

In November, we study the War of 1812. The children learn about the causes and different sides of the war, about the British impressments of American sailors, some biographical information about President James Madison and his wife Dolley, historical information about the oldest commissioned battleship in the naval fleet today The U.S.S. Constitution and how it got the nickname "Old Ironsides," the Battle of New Orleans and Andrew Jackson's involvement and end the month learning about Francis Scott Key and the origins of the Star Spangled Banner. We will be discussing the current and previous versions of the U.S. flag.

Literature

The Literature for this month is comprised of poetry that includes Smart by Shel Silverstein, Who Has Seen the Wind? by Christina Rossetti and Windy Nights by Robert Louis Stevenson. Our November sayings are Cold Feet and Easier Said Than Done.

