

# 2ND GRADE NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY

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### NOTES FOR PARENTS

In second grade, we work on teaching and building student responsibility.

One very important part of that is the assignment notebook. Daily signatures from an adult are required. The assignment notebook is a communication tool between school and home. We check notebook signatures first thing every day and talk to the children about responsibility as part of the teaching process.

If your child is having trouble in this area, please work with them to develop an improvement plan. We stress that it is the child's responsibility to present the book to you, not the parent's responsibility to "just sign it."

### VALENTINES PARTY

Each second grade class will be having a Valentine's Day party on Friday, February 13. If your child decides to bring Valentine's, please make sure your child brings one for each person in his/her class. Students may include one small, inexpensive prize per Valentine card such as a pencil, small set of stickers; however this is not required. Food items are not allowed.

### READING

**Reading Mastery 2** – Keep practicing with your child every night. Please check the corrected homework sheets with your son/daughter so that they can learn from previous errors. As you have seen, questions spiral back for comprehension. I know finger pointing can be a struggle, but it really does lessen errors when the children point directly underneath the word they are reading. This alleviates changing/adding/deleting words while reading. Please help your child by reinforcing this habit at home. Most students are making progress. Thank you for all you do! It really makes a difference with what your

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### Reading Cont.

**Reading Mastery 3** – The students are progressing well. Thank you for reading each night with your child, As your child reads, please watch that their finger is under each word as they practice. This will help them eliminate errors, especially the kind where they omit or misread small words such as and. Some students are having a bit of trouble with the check-outs now that they are 125 words. Nightly reading will help this. I think they are all working very hard!

### Spelling

Second graders are more than half way through the book and most all students are doing very well. Mastery of material with the program is 85% or better and most children are at or above that mark.

### Math

**Saxon Math Level 2** – Second graders are more than half way through the program and most students are doing very well. The work is getting harder so I am reminding the kids to complete work and read directions carefully. Concepts coming up are subtracting 2-digit numbers, counting quarters, rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and using dollar signs with money.

Please keep practicing those addition and subtraction facts! We will learn the subtraction facts the same way we learned the addition facts and subtraction is usually more challenging for the children.

**Saxon Math Level 3** – Students should know how to count by 3's to 30, 7's to 70, and 12's to 120. Before the end of the month, they should be able to count by 4's to 40. You can begin working on their multiplication Facts (x0, x1, x7 and x10). If your child did not reach 25 on a fact assessment, keep practicing those facts until your child knows the facts without counting. Check your child's returned work and help them learn from any errors. Any extra time on facts is really helpful for them right now.

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### Literature

We will be reading the following stories: Beauty and the Beast, The Emperor's New Clothes and The Fisherman and His Wife. Our sayings are Don't Judge a book by its cover, and Two heads are better than one.

### History/Geography

This month is all about immigration and citizenship. The students learn about America, the "land of opportunity" and why people from other countries wanted to come here. They will study about Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. We will learn the meaning of "E Pluribus Unum" and end the month with a study of citizenship and what it means to be a citizen of our nation.

### Science

This month we begin our unit titled Exploring Land and Water.

### Spanish

We will discuss our daily routines including reflexive verbs. We will practice vocabulary related to hygiene and will review places in the house.