

# 2nd Grade Newsletter

## May/June

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### Reminders

**IReady Math test:**  
Wednesday, May 6th  
8:10 - 9:30

If possible, please do not make appointments at this time. Thank you

### Reading

**Reading Mastery 2** – We will be finishing our Reading Mastery 3 Book D and if we have time we will then start reading *Stuart Little* by E.B. White. I will be introducing them to some chapter book series to get them interested in reading over the summer. Any reading they can do over the summer months will greatly benefit them. Thank you for your continued support and reading with them every evening. I have seen strides in their reading this year!

**Reading Mastery 3** – We will be finishing Reading Mastery 3 by Mid-May. The last lesson is a play, which we will use to work on prosody. Hopefully, at the end of the quarter, we will have an opportunity to "taste" *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. I highly recommend that students read this book over the summer.



### Math

**Saxon Math 2** – Several children are having difficulty with the new skills we are learning. This is due to the fact that Saxon introduces many challenging skills in the last 6 weeks of the program. If your child is having difficulty, please look over homework and give them extra practice with the concept by making up a few of the same type of problems. Many children still aren't firm with facts and are still using their fingers to count. Please help your child to memorize the facts by practicing more. Mastery of facts is essential to success in math.

**Saxon Math 3** – There are some students struggling with multiplication facts. I would suggest making or buying flashcards and learning two facts super-fast. Then add another card and learn three of the cards super-fast. Keep adding 1 card until all of the facts become automatic. There are a few students that are really struggling with some of the concepts taught. We always suggest parents look for ways to keep math skills sharp over the summer. There are many natural ways to enrich skills and have fun as well! I will send a link for learning count by's with a song that seems to work really well.

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### Spelling

**Spelling Mastery B** – We continue to plug along with the difficult words and spelling rules taught at the end of this book. Please continue to review any words they may be struggling with. We will finish the level by the end of the school year. A review of these words will begin the next level of the spelling program in the fall.

### History/Geography

We will continue our unit on Ancient Greece along with the Greek Gods. We end May with learning about modern Japan.. The students will immerse themselves in the “land of the rising sun.” They will learn about the 4 major islands, Mt. Fuji and Tokyo. We will study some of the traditional crafts and costumes and finally learn about some of the holidays that Japanese people celebrate. Finally, we will end the year with a short geography unit on The America’s.

### Literature

This month we will read the Tongue-Cut Sparrow which is a tale from Japan. We will read the poems Seashell by Federico Garcia Lorca and Smart by Shel Silverstein. Our sayings for the month are “Don’t judge a book by its cover” and “Two heads are better than one.”

### Science

This month we will be continuing learning about Organisms and Their Habitats

### Spanish

Students will read the Spanish book Capibara con botas, which covers high frequency words in Spanish, information about animals in the Amazon rainforest, the water cycle, Ecuador, and The Galapagos Islands.

### An end of year note

It has been a fun year filled with hard work, learning and so much maturing both physically and mentally. We are so proud of what the students have learned and accomplished. Your children have come to us with a joy of learning and it has been beautiful to watch them grow. Thank you for sharing your child with us this year! Have a wonderful summer break!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Duesterhaus & Mrs. Sonntag

