

Dear Parents,

The Curriculum Night provided us with a great opportunity to share information with you on the second grade curriculum. We will be posting a newsletter on the second grade website at the beginning of each month to provide further details related to our curriculum and monthly events.

The first unit of study in reading has been realistic fiction. The children have been learning about the story elements (characters, setting, problem, events and solution). They have also, been practicing how to retell the beginning, middle and end of a story. The students have been enjoying, listening to and reading many realistic fiction stories and using strategies to become better readers. These strategies include making prediction, ask questions, pause during your reading to clarify understanding and summarize the story at the end of reading. I am amazed at how well the children are doing so far in their reading.

Our writing assignments are integrated with all curriculum contents. The children have been instructed on the differences between narrative and expository types of writing. We have been writing sentences and discussing that each sentence has a who/what and do/describing part. We are also reinforcing that each sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with punctuation.

In math the students are working on adding and subtracting numbers within 20. They are being taught strategies to help them develop fluency with their basic math facts. Some strategies include; counting on, making a ten, showing a bar diagram, counting back with a number line and doubles. A large part of being successful in math is having a solid sense of math facts. Please practice facts through 20 at home.

In science, the children are studying Landforms and Bodies of water. We will be doing experiments to observe how wind and water affect the earth's surface.

Second grade will be celebrating Halloween in different ways. You may receive a call to send in a special nonfood treat! There will also be several opportunities to help out in the classroom. If you are interested in volunteering, please make sure that you have filled out a CORI release form in the Center/Sylvester School office within the last 3 years. It does take a week to get the release back. We would hate to have you miss out on any fun in the classroom!

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Barlit