Quarter Two Newsletter
Second Grade Team

Language Arts

Reading/Writing:
Our reading and writing program consists of individual, small group and large group instruction. Students will read books of their own choosing on a daily basis, and listen to an accomplished reader read aloud. They will participate in guided reading lessons which are teacher directed activities followed by independent reading. Students will participate in weekly reading and writing conferences. They will write daily on a variety of topics and are encouraged to practice self-editing and correction skills. Punctuation and capitalization skills are also utilized daily. Students will continue to use what they know about letters and sounds to spell in their daily writing and will begin to use resources such as the Quick Word Writing Dictionary. Students are expected to write in complete sentences using correct capitalization and punctuation. They are learning to reread and check their writing for “two thumbs up” sentences (they put a thumb up for the capital letter at the beginning and they put a thumb up for the period at the end).

Handwriting:
Students are continually encouraged to use good penmanship. We will continue to practice using correct spacing and letter formation.

Mathematics

Students will work to learn the following skills:
- Recognize that the symbol = in an equation indicates equivalent quantities
- Recognize that the symbol ≠ in an equation indicates quantities are not equivalent
- Model the concept of equality using concrete materials, pictorial models, and equations
- Solve problems in which the sum or difference is on the left or right side of an equation
- Use a variety of strategies to add and subtract two whole numbers (sums to 20)
- Add three or more one-digit addends whose sum is 20 or less
- Write the related facts for a given addition or subtraction fact (e.g., given 3 + 4 = 7, write 7 - 4 = 3 and 7 - 3 = 4)
- Solve addition and subtraction story problems (sums to 20)
- Create story problems from given addition and subtraction equations (sums to 20)
- Identify whether an answer to an addition or subtraction fact is reasonable based on benchmark numbers or known facts
- Draw line of symmetry in a figure
- Identify and create figures with at least one line of symmetry
- Identify, describe, compare, and contrast plane (flat) shapes and solid (three dimensional) shapes
- Identify, create, and extend a wide variety of patterns
- Create and solve one- and two-step addition and subtraction problems, using data from simple tables, picture graphs, and bar graphs
- Recognize and describe related facts and the inverse relationship of addition and subtraction
- Identify, create, and extend a wide variety of patterns
- Solve problems by completing numerical sentences involving facts for addition and subtraction. Create story problems, using the numerical sentences

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**Science**

We will explore the concepts of life science including life processes and living systems. We will study the Earth’s patterns, cycles and changes to learn what meteorologists do. As we learn about weather, we will practice skills of the scientific process: observe, predict, form questions, measure, collect data, communicate observations, etc. Our Science program is integrated into other content areas such as language arts through the use of trade books and writing.

**Social Studies**

During Quarter 2 in Social Studies, we discuss how the people and events of the past have influenced the present. We will focus specifically on American Indian Tribes. We integrate the study of American Indians into a unit on map skills and economics. Students will read maps and understand the impact of geography on culture. We will also learn about the structure of government in the past and present. Students will explore economic concepts. We will also learn about the history of the following holidays: Veterans’ Day, Thanksgiving, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Our Social Studies program is integrated into other content areas such as language arts through the use of trade books and writing.

**Quarter 2 Upcoming Events**

- **November 7 & 8**: Student Holidays & Parent Teacher Conferences
- **November 11**: Veteran’s Day Celebrations
- **November 17**: FBES Primary Thanksgiving Day Lunch
- **November 17**: Report Cards Go Home
- **November 23**: 2 hour early release for students
- **November 24-25**: Thanksgiving Break
- **December 15**: Interim Progress Reports Go Home
- **December 19 - January 2**: Winter Break
- **January 16**: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- **January 20**: Inauguration Day Holiday
- **February 3**: Quarter 2 ends - 2 hour early release for students
- **February 6**: Student Holiday

**Home/School Connections & Reminders**

- Every student should read at home for at least 15 - 20 minutes each night. Parents are encouraged to read with their children. Please remember to have your child complete the reading log calendar in his/her go home folder.
- Please consider paying for your child’s lunch weekly to avoid lost money. Also help your child memorize his/her lunch number.
- Please complete, sign, and return Thursday Folder items on Friday.
- It is a great idea to have your child keep an extra jacket or sweater in his/her backpack. Also, keeping an extra set of clothes in there is very helpful.
- We are trying to finalize our payment to Scholastic News and the bill is past due. If you haven’t done so already, please send in $5.80 to pay for this resource. This magazine supplements our curriculum and is an integral part of our instruction.
- To enrich and enhance your child’s learning experiences at home, don’t forget to access our Portaportal page on the school website; this list provides links to websites you may find useful.