



# Second-Grade Curriculum Night

Ms. Mitchell

\*\*Please be sure to sign up for a November parent/teacher/student conference! (in the foyer)\*\*

## **Balanced Literacy: Harcourt Series and S.O.A.R. (guided reading)**

- PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CHILD READS ALOUD EVERY DAY
- Basal: phonics and literature-based series
- S.O.A.R. time: small-group on-level instruction: leveled books will be “dissected” in class, then taken home to be read to an adult (these books will/should appear to be very easily read due to the extensive work done in class that day)
- If a book comes home that is long or challenging (including the reading textbook), please feel free to read with your child—ie. child reads a page, you read a page, child reads a page, and so on.

## **Math:**

- Addition/Subtraction facts to 18 MUST be memorized
- Weekly mad minutes progress will be noted on each report card
- patterning, graphing, geometry, fractions, measurement, place value, money, time, 2/3-digit addition and subtraction with trading (borrowing/carrying)
- Daily Oral Math (with geography and analogy)
- PLEASE REVIEW MATH CONCEPTS IN EVERYDAY LIFE (even, and especially, once we've completed the concept in class)
- There are great math-fact “drilling” websites out there. Simply Google “second-grade math facts,” and you'll find great sites to aid in that memorization that is so challenging. If you don't have the internet, flashcards are the best bet. I've attached a list of a few of the sites I found when Googling.

## **Communications: Language/Writing**

- 6+1 Traits of Writing
- D.O.L. (Daily Oral Language) Friday quizzes
- Concentration on: correct sentence/paragraph structure, parts of speech, clarity of thoughts
- Spelling is an integrated part of written communication. Once the words have been studied/tested in class, it is expected they will be spelled correctly in all written writing. Words are tested/retested week after week, rather than having a Friday test in which the words are never evaluated again.
- PLEASE AIM TO HAVE YOUR CHILD WRITE **EVERY** DAY (One sentence per day to start out with will have an enormous effect—I'm happy to help you with child-friendly writing ideas.)



## Parent/Teacher/Student partnership

- Students are requested to attend our November conference (sign up in the front foyer)
- Problem-solving at this age will be amazing. Provide/create opportunities and then marvel at your child's thinking abilities.
- Homework-student accountability
- Please clean out child's take-home folder and review class work as it comes home each day (look for any "Complete and/or Correct Work and Return" notes)
- Weekly Note-weekly communication and homework

## Etc. Etc. Etc.

- Itasca Public Library has copies of all text and workbooks
- Extension opportunities: Heightened expectations for children who have shown ability to extend classroom activities. There are ongoing/curricular connections throughout the year. TAG is formally identified beginning in third grade.
- RtI (Response to Intervention): further information is attached
- Birthdays/invitations (only distribute at school if there is one for every member of our class or one for each child of same gender) Summer birthdays will be celebrated when the child is Star of the Day (I will be sure to send a note home informing you as it approaches).
- Birthday treats: goodie bags, pencils, stickers, etc. are BEST. Food is highly discouraged due to food allergies/sensitivities; if sent in must be individually wrapped with ingredients listed and will be sent home with children.
- voice mail: 773-1232 ext. 3016
- e-mail: [pmitchell@itasca.k12.il.us](mailto:pmitchell@itasca.k12.il.us)
- Written notes/e-mail: the easiest/fastest form of communication
- Benson's website: [www.itasca.com/school/benson/index.htm](http://www.itasca.com/school/benson/index.htm)

## Specials Schedule:

- Monday: library (books due each Monday)
- Tuesday: music and gym
- Wednesday: gym and computers
- Thursday: art
- Friday: music and computers

"When we love something it is of value to us, and when something is of value to us, we spend time with it, time enjoying it and time taking care of it...So it is when we love children."

--M. Scott Peck