



Grade 2 Newsletter

September Recap

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The students have adjusted well coming back to school to a different classroom, friends, and teachers. Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Please contact us if you are in need of extra materials to support further learning at home or with questions.

Reading/Writing

MyView is the program we are using for our reading instruction. Our first unit is all about different places. Students have been reading stories about communities, how different places make us feel, and how new places can help us change and grow. Each unit is divided into five weeks. We will work on comprehension and vocabulary skills each week while we read a variety of different informational and literary stories.

Our phonics program is called *Phonics to Reading*. This is the same program first grade used last year. Students will learn a new focus pattern each cycle. They will work on reading and writing words that include this pattern, and will improve their fluency by reading decodable passages. The grammar lessons students have learned so far are correct sentence formation such as capital letters, punctuation, subject and predicates.

Our first formal writing project is a personal narrative called "Ouch Stories". Students interacted with a story called "Maddy's Ouch" where a child experienced an injury. Following this, students brainstormed times they were hurt or sick. Students learned about the elements of a strong personal narrative including adding specific details about when the story happened, where the story took place, and what happened leading up to the "ouch" moment. Students are now focusing on one central idea and writing their full story making sure to include a clear beginning, middle, and end.

Science

Our first science unit was called *Engineering Design Process*. Students learned about using the design process to explore and define a problem by asking questions, making observations, and gathering information. They used the information they gathered to develop and test solutions to find the best solution to a specific problem. Students enjoyed a hands-on experience with this while trying to build the longest chain possible.

Social Studies

Students have been exploring maps, globes, and different ways of describing locations in our first social studies unit. Here are some topics the class has been learning about:

- Many kinds of maps and globes help us locate places on Earth.
- Grid maps, map legends, directional indicators, and map scales help us find places and objects on maps.
- Urban, suburban, and rural land are each used differently.

Math

Students recently finished our first math topic: *Addition and Subtraction within 20*. During this topic, students learned several strategies for finding sums and differences. Some of the strategies included counting on, counting back, making ten, using doubles ($6+6=12$) and near doubles ($6+7=13$), and using the relationship between addition and subtraction. Your child should be able to show you a math mountain and include the partners (addends) and total (sum).

In our current topic, students have been practicing adding tens and ones to a number. They will be learning a variety of different strategies to add two digit numbers including using a hundreds chart, using an open number line, and breaking apart numbers to add.

Health/ Guidance

In our first Health unit, students learned about avoiding danger, including fire safety. Mr. Stritchko, our guidance counselor, also visited each classroom in September for a Guidance lesson to help students learn more about their feelings and how to deal with anger and frustration in a healthy way.

How Can You Help Your Child?

At this point, your child should be able to:

- ***Add doubles facts ($4+4$, $8+8$, etc. up to $10+10$)***
- ***Add ten to a number ($10+6$, $10+9$, $3+10$)***
- ***Tell what two numbers make a 10 ($7+3$, $4+6$, etc.)***
- ***Count by 2s, 5s, 10s, and 100s***
- ***Read with your child for 10-15 minutes each night.***

Upcoming Dates:

- Benchmark Testing Week: September 29th-October 3rd
- Picture Retake Day: Tuesday, September 30th
- Eats with Eagles: Friday, October 3rd
- Homecoming Week: October 6th-10th (more info to come)
- No School: Monday, October 13th (Staff Development)
- No CCLC: Thursday, October 30th
- No School: Friday, October 31st