

August , 2026



Welcome to Second Grade!

Dear Families,

We hope you are having a relaxing and fun-filled summer! We are! As we enjoy these sunny days, the new school year is just around the corner. This year, your child will have two teachers sharing the reins: **Laflin**, who will teach the first semester, and **Miss Bella**, who will take over for the second semester. This unique setup allows Miss Bella to spend precious time with her newborn (making her a proud mom of four!) and lets Laflin transition into retired life this winter. We have been working closely together to ensure a seamless, stable, and education-filled year for your students!

Meet Laflin (1st Semester) claflin@oisd.org

Hello! Most people call me by my last name, **Laflin** (a habit since my teens), though I happily answer to Catherine as well. It just might take me a minute to register! ☺ I have been teaching at OISD for over 25 years in many different roles. However, elementary education was my original interest when I first began my university studies in Education. I am really thrilled to wrap up my public school career right here in second grade! I feel incredibly lucky to share this year—and your amazing children—with Miss Bella.

Meet Miss Bella (2nd Semester) bellanigretto@oisd.org



Year-Long Considerations:



Important Folders: These folders come home and return to school **every day**. They are our main tool for paper communication.



Seesaw: Please **join our Seesaw classroom!** We will use this app for quick text updates and as a way for students to share their hard work with you.



Water Bottles: Please send your child with a spill-proof water bottle every day. There are no drinking fountains in the school.



Homework: Stays the same all year (more later).



Daily Snacks: Optional (you know your child's needs). Please: Easy to eat, no prep, healthy! They can take their snacks outside to eat during our morning or afternoon recesses.



Birthdays & Celebrations: If you would like to send in a treat, please let us know in advance. We host all celebrations on **Fridays during end-of-the-day choice time**. This gives us a longer, more relaxed block to celebrate and easily provides alternative activities for students who do not participate.

...and last but not least: the **first day of school is August , with a noon dismissal!**

Sincerely,

Laflin and Bella