



Welcome to the second act of second grade! In the past 5 months, your children have grown a great deal in their skill sets, in so many areas, and we are very proud of their progress. Be reminded that your child will take an end of year Reading test for promotion to third grade. Therefore, it is imperative that you make reading at home a priority, if you want to ensure your child's success. Teachers will keep you informed with updates on your child's progress.

MULTICULTURAL CALENDAR

January is Caribbean Heritage month. There will be sharing and discussions taking place, as well as research and projects. Likewise, the same will apply as we honor Dr. MLK.

MATH

This month's learning goals focus on the standards which include double digit subtraction using regrouping, and addition with three-digit numbers. The use of manipulatives, dice games, white boards and interactive computer games provide the students with drill and practice, in a fun, engaging way. They especially look forward a rousing, competitive game of KAHOOT! on laptop cart day.

We continue to stress that the students complete a minimum of 45 minutes each week on I Ready lessons, in order to prepare them for their final diagnostic test at the end of second grade.

READING and LANGUAGE ARTS

Our ELA goals for the month all deal with literature; story structure, character's point of view, and the rhythm of words within a story. Graphic organizers, foldables, and creative projects will serve as our assessments, as well as cold reads for each standard. We continue to use mentor sentences from published picture books for grammar lessons, to provide students with authentic samples of an author's craft. In addition, these read-aloud books also expose the students to language and word choice for them to imitate within their own writing. Just as with Math, it is crucial that your child continue to do 45 minutes of I Ready lessons each week in order to progress on their individual learning path. Helpful hints: (1) Encourage your child to read AR books (hard copies or on e-books) and take tests to earn points. (2) Ask your child to verbally restate the character, setting, problem, events, and solution for every story they read or listen to. (3) Reading to, and with your child is still an invaluable learning experience.

SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Our content areas include the study of Earth structures, systems, and patterns in Science, and developing our geography skills in social studies. We will engage in hands-on activities to understand how different soils compare in their water retention, sprout seeds, and observe, measure, and record their growth over time, gather weather data, and make and fly kites. In addition, we will revisit our study of rocks and fossils. In learning about our place on the planet, we will work on projects to increase our understanding of neighborhood, city, state, country, and continent. Likewise, we will work with globes to locate various cities, states, etc...Finally, we will create our own 3D globes as a culminating activity.