

## Second Grade News and Events

Mrs. Furgiuele, Miss Kuhn, Miss Reed, and Mrs. Yinger

April 24, 2015

### Literacy (Reading and Writing Workshop)

**Comparisons in Poetry During Writing Workshop:** During Reading Workshop, we continued to explore different types of poems. The students have been studying mask poems, poems with alliteration, and similes and metaphors. The second graders have begun using these poetic devices in their writing. Some similes used in student poems recently include “a book as funny as a clown,” and “snow as fluffy as a cloud.” The students are excited about creating an anthology of poems as their final poetry project.

**Comparing and Contrasting Ideas/Books in Reading Workshop:** Our young readers have been studying books and creating Venn Diagrams to compare and contrast characters, events, settings and even nonfiction information. We explored different versions of fairy tales including Cinderella, and The Persian Cinderella. The second graders were surprised to discover that The Persian Cinderella was named Setthera, and she lost a diamond anklet instead of a glass slipper.

#### Weekly Literacy Tips:

**Reading:** “How is the main character in the story similar to or different from a supporting character in the book?”

**Writing:** “Try to use a simile or metaphor in your poem to make a comparison”

### Math

**Money Madness:** The second graders were assessed on Topic 14 this week. Look for these assessments on adding, subtracting, and estimating money to come home soon! We encourage you to continue to build on these skills at home.

Following our assessments this week, the boys and girls began Topic 15 which explores measurement concepts. Our young learners will be investigating different units of measure,

and learning how to use a variety of measurement tools. We will also discuss why certain measurement units are better than others when it comes to measuring shorter and longer distances. We encourage you to discuss measurement at home and have your child measure different items around the house. It can be difficult for our young learners to properly align rulers when beginning to measure.

Don't forget to have your child work on his/her fact fluency by creating a weekly routine of practicing math facts! Visit [www.xtramath.org](http://www.xtramath.org) to help fine tune those fact fluency skills.

## News Extras

**Willis Trip:** The second graders will be going to Willis on May 11, 13, 14, and 15 in the morning to work on a mutual Influential People Project with a sixth grade team. (**Special Note:** Students will NOT be going to Willis on May 12 due to Field Day.) Please make sure your child is at school on time in order for him/her to take part in this fun learning activity. We will be conducting research and completing a project with our sixth grade buddies.

**Field Day:** Field day will be on May 12. Please make sure your child is prepared with a bottle of water and comes to school wearing sunscreen. The students will need to be dressed in comfortable clothing and tennis shoes since we will be outside running, jumping, and conducting good sportsmanship throughout the day. A letter will be coming home soon with more information. Students will need to have a packed lunch (you will also be able to request a sack lunch be prepared by the lunchroom) since we will be enjoying lunch at the park. This week, students should have brought home a form to request a packed lunch for Field Day. If you would like the school to provide a lunch for your child on this day, please send the form back to your child's teacher by April 27.

**Trinkets Please!!** If you have any small items to donate toward our treasure boxes, we welcome the donations! We are using rewards/incentives as a way to motivate our young learners to complete quality activities in an efficient manner.

**Scootpad:** We are beginning to incorporate a new piece of learning software into our day that encompasses both literacy and math concepts. Students can use their username and password at home to reinforce learning. The lovely trinkets we are asking for goes along with this new learning piece, as students can earn rewards for their efforts. Please visit [www.scootpad.com](http://www.scootpad.com) to explore this fun site!

**Dreambox:** The second graders also began exploring Dreambox technology the past two weeks. Dreambox allows students to practice math skills in a "game-like" atmosphere. The

students can access this technology at home. Please refer to the letter sent home for login instructions.

You can keep up to date about what is happening in our second grade classrooms through Facebook & Twitter. Please use the links below to visit these pages.

<http://www.facebook.com/CongerElementaryGrade2>

<http://twitter.com/congerpacers2>

### **Morning Drop Off**

<http://www3.signupgenius.com/mobile/index.cfm?action=signups.signup&URLID=10c0d4fa9a92aaaf49-drop>

Use this link to sign up and help with morning drop off on Winter Street. It's only 15 minutes and a great way to start a day!

## **Important Dates:**

May 11-15 → Influential People Project with Willis

May 12- Field Day

May 25 → No School: Memorial Day

May 28 → Last day day of school for students