

# Second Grade News & Homework

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*Dear Second Grade Families,*

*Welcome to second grade! Our biweekly newsletter will serve as a place for us to communicate with you as far as what the students learned over the past couple weeks. In addition, we will list weekly literacy tips to help you guide your child with reading/writing at home, and extra announcements, and upcoming events. We look forward to working with you throughout the course of the school year!*

*~ The Second Grade Team*

## Literacy (Reading and Writing)

Each second grader will have his/her list of spelling words to study for next week. The second grade team collaborated to place each student in the best spelling group based on his/her individual spelling strengths and weaknesses. While your child may remain in the classroom and receive spelling instruction from his classroom teacher, this may not necessarily be the case. Many students will be leaving their classrooms to receive spelling instruction from another second grade teacher. This is not something to be concerned about, as we explain the process to the students and practice switching rooms many times. Instructor collaboration and student flexibility allows us to target the specific needs of each child. Also, spelling groups are not set in stone. As we get to know each of our growing spellers and observe how students apply spelling patterns into their writing, we may find that another spelling group is best suited for your child. The spelling schedule for the year will be as follows:

Monday: Student receive their list of spelling words from their spelling teacher. Students will be expected to bring this list home to practice during the week. Your child needs to save his/her list until the day of the test, which is Friday. Students will be expected to keep this list in their blue take home folders until they take their test.

Friday: Students will take their spelling test. The test will consist of a set number of spelling words (between 5 and 10 words) along with a couple bonus words. The students are not given the bonus words to study ahead of time. Rather, they will be required to show their full understanding of the week's spelling pattern by applying that pattern to help them spell the bonus words correctly.

\* Throughout each week, the second graders will discuss specific spelling patterns (these patterns will be found in their spelling words) and receive their own word sort page to complete in the classroom. The student's word sort will correspond with the week's targeted spelling pattern(s). This process will help each instructor plan for future spelling instruction.

### Weekly Literacy Tips:

(The weekly literacy tips below are meant to help you support your child at home by using consistent language with what your child hears in his/her classroom.)

**Reading** → "Name one book you read over the summer. Discuss your favorite part."

**Writing** → "What type of writing did you do over the summer? Did you write a postcard to a friend, did you text a family member, how about writing a story, or something else?"

### Math

The girls and boys began their formal study of Topic 2 this week, which requires them to practice and master addition facts involving +0, +1, and +2. They had the chance this week to watch related videos, receive whole group and small group instruction, and even had opportunities to play games to help them solidify their understanding of related concepts. As the Topic 2 lessons continue, please look for your child to be bringing home a math homework sheet every day. The homework page should be found in your child's math folder. Please see the note sent home earlier this week for additional information regarding your child's math homework.

### Social Studies

The second graders began to discuss different topics associated with communities. Classes talked about various problems and solutions that might arise within a community, how laws are put into place to keep us safe and how students' communities and lives have changed over time (due to changes in technology, etc.). We will continue to discuss these topics next week.

### News Extras

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>

The second grade teachers are in need of Band-Aids! Although we are hoping to not have to use many of these throughout the year, we still like to keep a good supply. Please do not feel obligated to send these in. However, if you happen to notice some on sale in the next few weeks and would like to donate them to your child's classroom, it would be greatly appreciated!

### Dates and Events to Remember:

August 27 → 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Curriculum Night

September 1 → No School: Labor Day

September 11 → Conger Literacy Night

September 18 and 19 → No School: Delaware Fair