



Second Grade Newsletter

Important Reminders

- 📅 **January 2nd:** All students return to school
- 📅 **January 15th:** School Closed-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 📅 **January 18th:** Parent Workshop 6:00pm on Zoom-Social Emotional Support

Phonics

This month we will continue our work with unit 3 which focuses on words that contain long vowels (a, e, i, o, u), open syllables, vowel team syllables, and consonant + le syllables. Students will learn about contractions, inflectional endings (change y to i), silent letters (kn, wr, gn, mb), suffixes (-y, -ly), compound words, prefixes (un-, re-, dis-), and homophones.

Leader In Me

This month we will be learning about Habit 4: Think Win-Win. We can think-win-win when we think how everyone can win! An example of this is: "I can problem solve when an issue comes up with another person." As a class we will be reading the book *Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse* by Leo Lionni.

Readers Workshop

This month we will be starting a new reading unit called Accelerating Reader's Growth in Longer Fiction Books. This unit focuses on strengthening good reading habits, thinking habits, and talking about longer books. Students will grow their knowledge on linking chapters together to accumulate a longer story, deciphering new vocabulary, and longer retells. This unit helps students read longer chapter books by studying characters throughout the length of the book. Students will compare and contrast two books within a series, keep track of the setting, problem/solution, and track dialogues amongst characters. Students will need to show evidence within the text to prove why they chose the character trait to describe their character. Some questions students can ask themselves while reading are: "Have other characters learned the same kind of lesson? Have they learned these things in the same way or in different ways?"

Writers Workshop

This month in writing we will be starting our new unit called "From Scenes to Series: Writing Fiction." We will be using our pretending skills to create a character, name them, and put them into imagined scenarios. Using what we learned from our "Small Moment" writing we are working on ways to bring these stories to life. We are getting our character in and out of trouble and writing satisfying endings for our readers. We will continue to take this character on new adventures as we begin writing a series of books while we study some mentor authors and try - out some new (and old) craft moves to make our writing even better! We can't wait to publish our very first boxed set of series book!

Math

This month we will be working on Module 4: Addition and Subtraction Within 200 with Word Problems to 100. During this module, students will learn strategies to help them add and subtract within 200. They will be solving one and two-step word problems. Students will also be expected to add and subtract mentally within 100. This work will then transfer over into their work with word problems. Students will need to solve the problems using multiple strategies in order to explain how they got their answer. Students are encouraged to use tape diagrams, equations, and drawings. Students will also use a place value chart to assist them adding and subtracting within 200.

Social Studies/Science

In Social Studies we will continue to work on Unit 2: New York City Over Time. This unit focuses on reading and analyzing rich collections of primary and secondary sources, examining historical artifacts, and interpreting images such as paintings and maps.

Science: Engineers will investigate how we can design a mixture for a certain purpose. For centuries, humans have undertaken this challenge. From the creation of medicines, paints, and building materials, to the development of cleaning products, adhesives, and food mixtures have proven to be essential to life as we know it. By mixing, ingredients together, it's possible to create a mixture that takes on some of the properties of its ingredients. In this unit, students take on the role of glue engineers and use engineering design practices to create a glue for use at their school, which serves as the design problem for the unit.

Home Connection

Math: Please review math facts within 100 with your child. Practice counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's. Also practice counting up from a given number. For example, ask students to start counting at 52 and ask them to continue counting by 1's until they reach the number 137. Continue this practice with different numbers, this is a great way for students to practice their fluency.

Literacy Connection: Please continue to use Raz Kids. This is a great program to help support your child with reading. While your child is reading, ask them to retell you the chapter or part of the book they read. Your child's books are getting longer, there is more information to keep track of. Some other questions you can ask them are: Who are the characters? How did the character's feelings change from the beginning of the book to the end of the book? What was the problem? How was the problem solved?

