

FEBRUARY

Second Grade Newsletter

Important Reminders

- February 2nd: Valentine Candygram Money is Due
- February 6th: Grade 5 Bake Sale
- February 7th: World Read Aloud Day and Parent Workshop on Power of Gratitude-6:00
- February 8th: ESL Parent Workshop & 5:00 Aladdin Show
- February 9th: 100th day of school & 5:00 Aladdin Show
- February 12th-16th: Respect for All Week
- February 19-23: School Closed for Winter Recess
- February 27th: Social Emotional parent workshop at 8:30 am
- February 29th: Grades 3-5 Black History Month Speaking Contest

Phonics

This month we will continue to work on unit 4 which focuses on words that contain the r-controlled ar, er, ir, ur, or, ore, oar, are, air, ear, r-controlled vowel syllables, and consonant +le syllables. Students will learn about irregular plurals, inflectional endings with spelling changes, comparative suffixes (-er), suffixes (-ful, -less), abbreviations, and homographs.

Leader in Me

This month we will continue Habit 5: Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood. This habit focuses on listening before you speak. Some examples of this are: "I raise my hand when I want to speak and wait to be called on, I don't blurt out, I listen to others without interrupting." We will be reading the book *Angel Child, Dragon Child* by Michelle Maria Surat.

Readers Workshop

This month we will be continuing our 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 continuing our unit called "From Scenes to Series: Writing Fiction." We will be using our pretend 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 books!

Math

This month we will continue to work 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 study 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: Why is the edge of the ocean cliff closer to the flagpole than it used to be? The director of the Oceanside Recreation Center got a scare when a nearby cliff collapsed, and he is worried that erosion on the recreation center's ocean cliff might have safety implications for the center's visitors. By taking on the role of geologists investigating landforms and erosion, students are able to advise the director on the prudence of keeping the center open, even though its cliff is also changing.

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/ iReady. These programs 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?

