



## Second Grade Newsletter

### Important Reminders

- 📅 April 1<sup>st</sup>-School Closed
- 📅 April 10<sup>th</sup>: Eid al-Fitr, Schools Closed
- 📅 April 12<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip to Queens Zoo
- 📅 April 22-30<sup>th</sup>- School Closed-Spring Recess
- 📅 April 15<sup>th</sup>-May 24<sup>th</sup>: NYSELAT Speaking Begins

### Phonics

This month we will continue to work on unit 5 which focuses on words that contain the short oo and long oo (oo, ou, ough, u\_e, u, ew, ue, ui), diphthong /oi/, diphthong /ou/, and complex vowels. Students will learn about suffixes, compound words, prefixes (un-, re-, dis-, pre-, mis-), and more irregular plurals.

### Leader in Me

This month we will be focusing on Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw. This month we will be reading the book: "Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late" by Mo Willems. This habit focuses on balance. Some examples of this habit are always learning how to become a better person, balancing your time between school, extracurricular activities, family, and friends. Another example is taking care of your body-exercising, getting enough sleep, and eating right.

### Reading Workshop

This month in reading we will be continuing our unit called *Bigger Books Mean Amping Up Reading Power*. This unit focuses on the three aspects of reading: fluency, literary language, and tracking longer stories. This unit holds students responsible for deciding what he or she needs to work on to grow as a reader. In Bend 1, students will be reminded of what it looks and sounds like to read books with a smooth voice. This will be helpful with the longer books students are reading.

In Bend 2, students will explore figurative language. The books students are reading now have more and more complex words. In Bend 3, students will keep track of the storyline in longer books. This Bend will teach students strategies for keeping track of longer books. In Bend 4, students will choose a goal they want to focus on and join a club with other students to explore that goal.

### Writers Workshop

This month in writing we will be continuing our next unit called *Writing About Reading*. This unit focuses on having students write about books they love! Students will form opinions on books and persuade other readers to read that book. Students will dive deep into character study and develop opinions on characters across multiple books in the same series. In Bend 1, students will be writing letters about the character they've been meeting in books and formulating an opinion on that character. Students will need to support their reasoning with evidence from the books they read. In Bend 2, students will focus on raising their level of writing. Students will engage in close readings of their books and use post-its to elaborate their opinion pieces. In Bend 3, students will shift gears from persuasive writing to writing essays. Students will write to persuade others that their favorite books are worthy of awards.

## Math

This month we will be continuing Module 5: Addition and Subtraction Within 1,000 with Word Problems to 100. During this module, students will be using the strategies taught in Module 4 to build upon their understanding of addition and subtraction to numbers within 1,000. During this module, students will continue to focus and strengthen their understanding and fluency. Students will use place value strategies to add and subtract within 1,000 (ex: 100 more, 100 less), add and subtract multiples of 100, use compensation to subtract from a three-digit number.

## Social Studies/Science

In Social Studies, we will be working on the third unit of our curriculum: Urban, Suburban, and Rural Communities. Students will identify the features of urban, suburban, and rural communities and explain why people move from one community to another.

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 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

**Reading:** Please use Raz Kidz and iReady. 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?

**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. Your child can also practice grouping items in the house into groups (ex: 15 objects being placed into groups of 5 objects, group of 3 objects). This will prepare them for third grade multiplication and division. Remember to continue to use Zearn and iReady.

