

Second Grade: Curriculum Update for 10/1/21

Dear Second Grade Families,

"Books, Books, Books! Kids Need Books!" The Timberwolves and Dolphin Detectives proudly kicked off the book drive at this morning's assembly in front of the entire K-8 school community. They have also been busy decorating boxes, making signs, and posters to raise awareness across the school for the book drive!! The second graders work closely with our Community Outreach Director, Jeanine Harmon, during this entire project.

From now until November 11, we are collecting gently used children's books (PreK-MS) to share with students in the wider community. Donation boxes will be out in the driveway during drop-off/pick-up starting next week. Boxes are also located in the entry of Palm and Magnolia, as well as in every K-6 classroom. This year our books will be donated to two places: **Carl B. Munck Elementary School**, a K-5 school in OUSD, and **The Oakland Reach**, a parent-run, parent-led organization that supports OUSD parents and their families. Carl B. Munck Elementary will use their books to help build their school's library. Our friends at The Oakland Reach will share their books with the many families they work with.

Have a great weekend,
Michelle, Susan, Julia, & Dani

PARENT TO-DOs

1. Remember to appreciate this post to indicate that you have read our communication for the week. Thank you to the 30 people who appreciated last week's post!
2. Send in any gently used books with your child to donate to the Book Drive.

Important Logistics

- Homework will go out next Monday to be returned on Friday. Look for a packet and a math workbook called Home Connections that will travel between school and home all year long.
- Remember: pack enough clean masks for your child to have a mask change after recess and lunch; also pack a bag labeled "dirty masks" for your child to place their dirty mask into.
- Remember to pack your child a daily snack and a water bottle for use at school. We are no longer sending kids to the office if they forget to bring a snack. This will help them develop the habit of checking to make sure they have their snack every day. The water fountains are still not in use, so please send a water bottle so we can conserve the office supply of paper cups. Thank you for your support.

Upcoming Important Dates:

- Tuesdays and Fridays are our COVID testing days.
- Monday, 10/11 - NO SCHOOL - Indigenous People's Day
- Monday, 10/25 - NO SCHOOL - Professional development day

Curriculum Update

- This week, we learned all about bonus letters (f, l, s, z) and about one of the glued sounds, "all". We also started learning about r-controlled vowels (-ar, -er, -ir, -or, -ur). Ask your child to use these two vocabulary words in a sentence: stall and flock. Ask your child to show you how to tap these words out: ball, stamp, most, shall. Ask them which one has a blend, and which words have a digraph.
- We continued our Balance and Motion unit from Lawrence Hall of Science. The students continued with the concepts that we started last week and balanced tagboard arches and triangles on craft sticks with clothespin counterweights. Kids reexamined the questions:.

What do you have to know to get the tagboard shapes to balance in various positions? How can counterweights help balance shapes in stable positions? In the following weeks, they will be asking: How can a pencil balance on its point? How do the parts of a mobile go together to make a stable system? Some of the scientific vocabulary words are: counterweight, balance, balance point, and gravity.

- In our class meetings this week, we discussed “I Messages,” and tools for conflict resolution. Both classes have continued to work on lining up respectfully with each other; maintaining safe social distancing; and making appropriate personal choices. We’ve been setting daily goals and reviewing our personal progress regularly.
- Friday brought on a new month with a new daily collection! Starting today, we are collecting 5 minutes per school day and recording it on a record sheet in Number Corner. Our new calendar markers are a variety of pinnate and palmate leaves arranged in layers of patterns, with deepening complexity from the previous month.
- This week, we worked on equations and number combinations to 10 using the visual of children napping on a train. Your children should be able to work quickly and flexibly with all addition fact combinations to 10. In the September Number Corner activities, we have also looked at odd and even numbers. Ask your child what makes a number odd or even. Ask your child if 3,337,442 is odd or even. We also completed our First Century Day in our September Number Corner packets and our Second Century day pages.
- On Wednesday, we celebrated our six September birthdays! The kids heard the **words** to Stevie Wonder’s song, **“Happy Birthday,”** and they listened to the song. They also learned how Stevie Wonder was a songwriter and an activist who wrote the song to both protest those who were against making Martin Luther King’s birthday a holiday, and to celebrate one of the greatest changemakers in history.

You know it doesn't make much sense

There ought to be a law against

Anyone who takes offense

At a day in your celebration 'cause we all know in our minds

That there ought to be a time

That we can set aside

To show just how much we love you

And I'm sure you would agree

What could fit more perfectly

Than to have a world party on the day you came to be

The kids learned a little birthday chant that we made up and said it before singing the birthday song chorus to their September birthday classmates at snacktime.

*Happy birthday to you... Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday... Happy birthday to you
Happy birthday to you... Happy birthday, etc.*

Thank you parents for coordinating the wonderful birthday treats and goodies!

Looking ahead

Second graders can look forward to:

Language Arts - Weekend News, Journals, Foundations Unit 2 week 2

Math - Match the Beetle game, Fives & Tens, combinations to 20

Social Studies - Highlighting Changemakers for LatinX Heritage Month, continuing to read books in honor of LatinX Heritage month, community building with third grade via Throwback Thursday begins!

Science - Balance and Motion Unit from Lawrence Hall of Science

Specialist Class Assignments - Art, Learning Garden, PE, Music, Spanish