

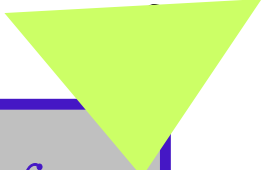


SECOND GRADE NEWS

May 2012

WOW!!! It's so hard to believe that our second grade year is coming to an end!! And what a wonderful year it has been. We would like to thank you for making it such a success. Without you it could not have been done. THANKS!! These last few weeks of school are going to be very, very, very busy ones, as we still have lots to do and learn.


We intend to fill each day with challenges and learning as we continue on our path to becoming life long learners. The school year is not over yet!!!



Mrs. Coon
Mrs. Connor
Mrs. Fasuna
Mrs. Randazzo

MATH

We are moving right along with our Everyday Mathematics in second grade. Our most recent unit, which we have just completed, emphasized decimals and place value. The focus of this unit was on notation and applications in preparation for the work in Unit 11, which will emphasize computational strategies and multiplication and division. The first part of this unit extends previous work with money and fractions to decimal notation for dollars-and-cents amounts. The second part of this unit extends place-value concepts to 5-digit numbers. We will be revisiting the ones, tens and hundreds place and introducing thousands and ten-thousands. We know that the children will do a wonderful job! They are becoming quite the mathematicians. Please keep practicing Rocket Math facts. We would love for the children to continue their success in Rocket Math the last month of school!!!



LANGUAGE ARTS

READING- Reading is everywhere in our classrooms! Each week students experience and reinforce reading strategies in so many ways. Be it whole class read-alouds, individual interest choices, fiction (reading for pleasure), nonfiction (reading for facts) or researching, all types of reading genres help us grow into awesome readers. This is an exciting time in second grade for many reasons. Everyone seems to be blossoming as readers and learners right now. We see so much excitement in the classroom every single day. It is wonderful to see students approach books with more confidence and curiosity as the school year begins to wind down. We love it when we see children so engrossed in a book that they just don't want to put it down to do something else. Thank you for being such wonderful role models for your children. We just completed a very engaging author study of Marc Brown the creator of Arthur and Friends!

SPELLING- We are quickly approaching the end of the 2nd grade high frequency words. It is important that your child remember to consistently spell these words correctly or use resources that will help them reinforce the words that have been introduced to them in second grade. Our in-class lessons continue to include base (root) word identification, prefixes, suffixes, compound words, contractions, homonyms, antonyms, synonyms, digraphs, word families, rhyming words and spelling patterns. We also continue to make connections through the literature we are reading in class as well. Please remember that our goal is to have students consistently spelling the identified high frequency words correctly in their everyday writing at home and in school. If your child spells a word correctly on Friday, but on Monday misspells that same word, for whatever reason, there has been no transfer. Second graders are expected to spell high frequency words correctly or use resources to help them, as well as, be able to recognize errors in their writing and be able to correct them as we prepare to end this school year. As always, your support is greatly appreciated as we work together to make your child the best speller they can be...forever!

SOCIAL STUDIES

Our children will spend the rest of the trimester learning about the many areas of economics, including how goods are made, where they come from, as well as how they make it to our store shelves. In addition, we will also learn about the many services people provide, not only in our world, but also right here in Buffalo Grove.

The second graders will also become more aware of the differences between a need and want... even though many of them most likely are convinced a "Nintendo DS" is a NEED! :) We will brainstorm about ways we can be good shoppers and use our money wisely, important concepts to learn today, as well as use in the future!

We are also looking forward to a visit from our Village President Jeff Braiman! He will educate the students on his role as our village leader as we study local leadership.

SCIENCE

WE ARE CURRENTLY IN THE MIDST OF OUR UNIT ON AIR AND WEATHER AND WE ARE HAVING A BLAST! THROUGHOUT THIS UNIT THE STUDENTS WILL:

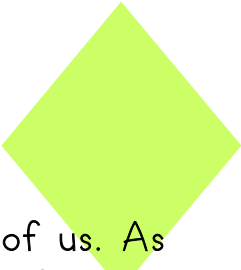
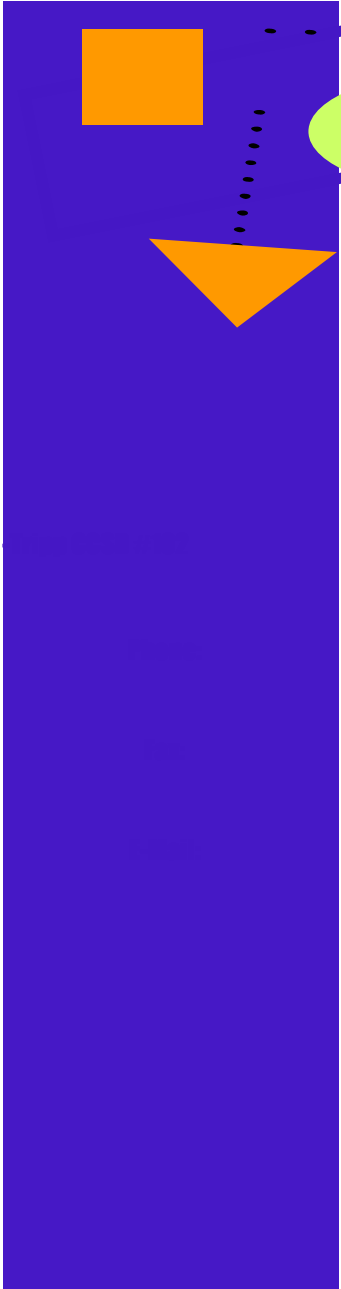
- EXPERIENCE AIR AS A MATERIAL THAT TAKES UP SPACE AND CAN BE COMPRESSED INTO A SMALLER SPACE
- OBSERVE THE FORCE OF AIR PRESSURE PUSHING ON OBJECTS AND MATERIALS
- OBSERVE AND COMPARE HOW MOVING AIR INTERACTS WITH OBJECTS
- OBSERVE AND DESCRIBE CHANGES THAT OCCUR IN WEATHER OVER TIME
- BECOME FAMILIAR WITH INSTRUMENTS USED BY METEOROLOGISTS TO MONITOR AIR AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

WE ARE ALSO SPENDING TIME INCORPORATING TECHNOLOGY INTO OUR SCIENCE UNIT. WE'VE BEEN TAKING PHOTOS OF DIFFERENT CLOUD FORMATIONS, COLLECTING WEATHER DATA AND CREATING WEATHER GRAPHS!

WE ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT OUR UPCOMING TRIP TO MERIDIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL WHERE THE SIXTH GRADERS WILL BE SHARING THEIR EXPERTISE ON WEATHER! EACH OF US WILL HAVE OUR OWN OLDER BUDDY TO GUIDE US THROUGH MANY WEATHER RELATED ACTIVITIES. WE ARE ALSO GOING TO TEACH THEM ABOUT AIR PRESSURE WITH ONE OF OUR EXPERIMENTS!

WE HAD A WONDERFUL TIME THE LAST WEEK IN APRIL WHEN EACH CLASS HAD A VISIT FROM THE WEATHER EXPERTS FROM "HI TOUCH HI TECH" SCIENCE COMPANY. WE PARTICIPATED IN MANY EXPERIMENTS INCLUDING "CATCHING" CLOUDS, MAKING SNOW, MEASURING WIND AND CREATING TORNADOES! THE VISIT HELPED BRING WEATHER TO LIFE FOR US!

We continue to marvel at the children's growth socially and emotionally. They are showing signs of maturity and the ability to solve social issues and make good behavior choices!



In closing, the spring is a busy time for all of us. As the calendar fills with activities, please remember to allow your child the opportunity to have unstructured free time. As young children, they need and want this valuable time. Thank you for all your support and cooperation this year! Your high regard for school and learning is reflected in your children each day.

Thank You!! Mrs. Connor, Mrs. Coon,
Mrs. Fasuna and Mrs. Randazzo

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15th: Learning Showcase- Art Fair & Ice Cream Social
6:15-7:00 pm
(Watch for Details)

May 22nd : Trip to Meridian Middle School for a morning
of weather activities

May 25th: Noon Dismissal

May 28th: NO SCHOOL-Memorial Day

May 31st: Field Trip to Cinderella -10:50 -2:15
We will eat an early lunch before we leave.
NO HOT LUNCH-COLD ONLY!

June 1st: FIELD DAY! (9:30)
Dress appropriately and bring water bottles

June 8th: LAST DAY OF 2nd GRADE!!!
Have a Great Summer-We Will Miss You!

