

September, 2017

Dear Second Grade Families,

Welcome to second grade!!

Throughout the year, students will develop their skills as readers, writers and thinkers across the curriculum. This letter will describe the focus of the first literacy unit and what you can do at home to support your student's learning. You will receive a similar letter before each unit.

Focus

This first unit will focus on narrative reading and writing. Students will read narrative text to discover how characters grow. They will also come to understand that stories have a predictable structure (character, setting, problem, resolution) and they will use that structure to help them make meaning of text. As writers, they will use their knowledge of how stories tend to go to create stories based on personal experience.

Home Support

You can help your child at home in several ways:

- Encourage your child to read every night.
- Talk with your child about what they read. Ask about:
 - The main character (Who are they? What are they like?),
 - Where and when the story takes place (setting),
 - What is wrong in the story (most stories have a problem),
 - How things “get better” for the character?
- Find the best time and place for homework and establish a routine.
- Talk to your child about his/her day at school. Share the day's ups and downs.
- Look at the work your child brings home. Praise your child for his/her hard work!

We're looking forward to a year of discovery and new learning!

Sincerely,

The Second Grade Team