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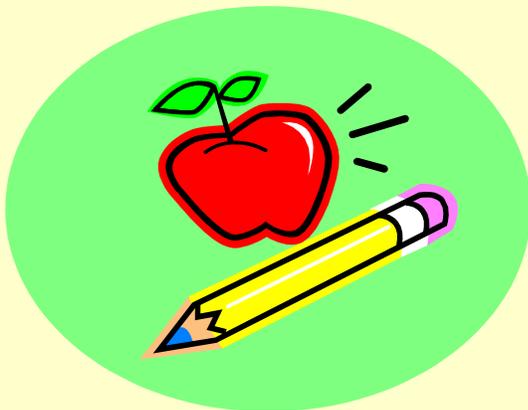
2013-2014

Mrs. Johnson's Second Grade

Introduction

Welcome to Second Grade! I'd like to become your partner in the education of your child.

The year is finally underway and we are becoming familiar with classroom procedures and routines. Most of the students are very capable of sharing those routines with you. However, I'm sending you this Handbook as a reference to have throughout the year. If you still have questions after reading this please feel free to contact me and I'll get back to you as soon as possible.



We begin the year with many pre-tests and assessments. These pre-tests allow me to see your child's strengths and weaknesses, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of the entire class. It is important to see what each child has retained over the summer. I will give them End of the Year tests too. We want to compare these tests to the pre-tests and make sure that your child has grown academically.

*I have attached a list of high frequency words and flashcards for your child to practice at home.

Reading

Reading begins with a Placement Test. The Placement Test allows me to see areas that need improvement.

Then we begin instruction where we read one story each week. All instruction centers on this story, including spelling words and grammar. We do not read a story on short weeks (1-3 days). Each unit has four stories and then we have the Unit test. So every 5th week we will have a Unit test in Reading. On those weeks your child will not have his Reading Text in his backpack. If your child does have his/her Text then that indicates that they need to read our weekly story to you until they are able to read it fluently.

Please return the Text to school each day as we need it to complete some of our assignments.

Spelling

Spelling coordinates with our Reading stories. Therefore, we only have Spelling tests on full weeks (4-5 days). On the first day of a full week each child's Home to School Folder will contain a Spelling page. This Spelling page has the list of words that your child will be tested on at the end of the week. These same Spelling Words appear in the weekly story. Each list has 5 Challenge Words. I use these words as extra credit worth 2 points each. A student may get 110% on a Spelling test if they get all the Words and Challenge Words correct. If they get 110% on Monday they do not have to take the test on Friday. If they miss a word on the Friday test but they get all the Challenge Words correct they could still get 100%. Keep this list in a safe place so you can study with your child throughout the week. Make it fun! Practice with shaving cream, noodles, clay, etc.

A.R.

A.R. is a supplement to our Reading Program.

We do not take our A.R. Books home because it is only supplemental. This also influences the students to become more independent at reading and prevents a long wait for a computer during our A.R. session.

Math

We begin Math with an Inventory Test. This test also indicates areas that need to be reinforced. Our first Chapter deals with Addition Strategies for facts up to 10 (sums to 20). We begin each Math period with a timed fact test. Each student progresses at their own pace with these facts. If they do not pass their fact of the day then I send



home a sheet for them to practice. They do not need to return it to me. Our goal is to complete our Addition Facts to 18 before Christmas and begin Subtraction Facts after Christmas. Some students will accomplish both goals early and will begin Multiplication Facts. I have attached some flashcards for students to practice on at home.

Social Studies and Science

We do not have Social Studies and Science daily. We will have 2 lessons of each subject each week. They usually require lots of listening and following directions. I review for tests with the students during class time. Whenever you see a packet of Science papers come home, that indicates that there will be a Science test the next day. It would be a good idea to quiz your child using this packet as a review. Whenever you see a packet of vocabulary cards come home, that means there will be a Social Studies test the next day.

Incentives and Discipline

Academic

Each student who gets a 93% -100% on a test gets to put a sticker on their incentive chart. When this chart is filled they get to find a treasure from my treasure bag.

Behavior

Students who miss behave will get one warning. If they must be corrected a second time they will have to miss 10 minutes of recess. If they misbehave a third time they will go to the principal's office.

When the entire class behaves and no one visits the principal's office the class earns a magnetic gumball that will go on our gumball machine. After 10 gumballs we get rewarded!

Communication

Home -to -School Folders

Please check your child's "Home- to -School" Folder everyday for notes and paperwork. This shows your child how interested and concerned you are about their academic work and daily life. **This folder is to transport notes between home and school. It is a great way for the students to show how responsible they can be by emptying it every day and returning it to their backpack.** This folder will also contain a "Behavior" sheet. I will document on this sheet any visits your child makes to the principal's office.

Reports

Midterms will be sent out for each quarter. Report cards will be sent home approximately one week after the end of a quarter.

Parent Conferences

We have one Conference each semester. If you have any concerns before conferences or midterms please contact me.