

Super in Second Grade

Math

We are starting our math unit out this week. This unit covers addition and subtraction, comparing numbers and representing addition and subtraction using an open number line. There are a lot of important concepts and standards in this unit. It is also a unit that really sets the kids up for the rest of the school year. We will be learning math language and strategies that will come into play later in the year.

A quick note about standard algorithms...

A standard algorithm is the way that we probably learned to do math in school. It's lining the tens and ones place up and then adding starting with the ones place. We do teach standard algorithm in second grade. It is an efficient way to add and subtract. However, we don't start with the standard algorithm. Students need to fully understand the whys of how the algorithm works. Once they fully understand that, then we move onto the most efficient ways to solve the problems.

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Writing

This week we are learning how to use writer's notebooks to record ideas and to try out new strategies.

We will be reading different authors and trying out some of the strategies they use to find writing ideas and to start out our stories.

What's in a Name?

We will be talking about names this week. Your child may ask you if there is a story behind their name. If there is, please share it with your child. If you just liked the name, tell them that too.

Reading

We are launching our reading unit this week. The focus of this unit is launching our procedures and routines during reading time.

We are also using our reading time this week to meet each other and to learn about the classroom.

Homework

- Read for 20 minutes each night. Record the minutes on your chatter matters in the homework folder.
- Return the Chatter Matter and the homework folder each day!!!



Spelling

Spelling won't start until next week but this is an overview of what it will look like in our class this year.

Spelling is going to look a little different this year than it looked in first grade. We use Words Their Way in this class.

It is a developmental spelling program that teaches the children spelling at the level they currently are. That said, there are different lists for different groups. Students know what group they are in. Students will also receive a page of words that are at their level

The focus is on spelling patterns and how to apply them when writing

Your homework each week will include 3 different assignments that can be done in any order.

- Sort the words
 - o You do this by cutting out the words and sorting them into either spelling patterns or sounds. Your child will be doing a sort in class before they bring home a list.
- Write the words in their sort (this is the only part of the homework you will turn in)
 - o There is a paper included in each homework packet where students can write their words.
 - o If you lose the paper, you can use any piece of paper from home.
- Choose one of the following ways to practice
 - o Spelling City- I will show this website to the kids in class, but the way to find the practice will be included in the next homework letter.
 - o Practice Test- Practice the words with your child
 - o Rainbow Words
 - Sort the words into their categories then write 3 words from each category in 3 different colors

