

Welcome to Second Grade!

2019-2020
Mr. Kimball
Fairmount Elementary



A Warm Welcome

Welcome back to school, and to an exciting second grade year. I am looking forward to the new school year. I believe working together is essential for your child's academic success. I am excited to meet all of you, as we work together to make your child's year one of great learning and growth.

I am in room 23.

Doors open at 8:45; School starts at 8:55; Day ends at 3:25.

Homework:

Your child will need a folder to bring homework and notes to and from school every day.

For homework, all students should spend a total of about 20 – 30 minutes. Out of that homework time, 15 minutes each night reading a book, and about 5-10 minutes working on Math activities. There will be a *Homework Response Sheet* that comes home each week for you to check off homework accomplished. Look through the *Homework with Your Child* packet and pick activities that apply to your child's needs. Each week, math *Homework* and *Remembering* pages will be sent home as we finish corresponding lessons in school. Expect about three pages each week. The math homework and remembering pages come with our math program, Math Expressions, and are another source for you to use as you feel necessary. In addition, take advantage of real-life situations where your child can extend subjects taught in school. An example of this would be to have your child count money when going to the store to buy something, or reading a map if taking a trip. You can provide more meaningful experiences for your child by spending time with your child on subjects you know your child needs extra help in. For example, if you know your child has not learned basic math facts, spend 5-10 minutes with some flash cards or a math game. If your child is more advanced and needs extra challenges, then explore their interests. For example, if your child is interested in dinosaurs, go to the library and find books on dinosaurs or visit a museum that has dinosaurs.

For help with homework, go to my website

<https://www.mukilteoschools.org/Domain/1321>, This will give you Math, Reading, and General links as well as information for the current month. There is also a link, **Homework Schedule for the Week** that

has links for worksheets that can help you support the needs of your child at home.

School Supplies to be Donated:

Students do not have a desk of their own this year. Students will be rotating through stations and will be storing their supplies along with other classmates.

- *1 clean old sock
- *Large Hand Sanitizer (Purell is preferred)
- *plasticize folder for papers to go home and back

Water bottles: Students may bring water bottles, but they are not mandatory. Students need to use them in such a way that the bottles do not become a distraction; if it does students are directed to take it home.

Things that are not needed: Pencil boxes and backpacks.

- Please do not send any toys, or “toy like” supplies, along with your child. Toys can be lost, stolen, or broken and therefore create a big distraction. Please help our classroom by keeping toys out of school so that our classroom can be the best learning environment possible. Students know that toys taken during the school year will not be returned until the last day of school.

Behavior Expectations:

Fairmount’s School Rules are:

- Respect Self, Others and Property*
- Work and Play Safely*
- Make Fairmount a Great Place to Learn*

In the classroom we follow the Rules of the Road:

- Let the teacher teach.*
- Have respect for others.*
- Do your best to learn.*

Students will have various opportunities to earn extra privileges in the classroom for excellent behavior. Student will be acknowledged as individuals, groups, and as a class.

Academic Goals:

Math

Your child will receive daily whole-group and small-group instruction in mathematics, with an emphasis on the following:

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Use addition and subtraction to solve story problems within 100

- Fluently add and subtract within 20
- Determine whether a number is even or odd
- Uses rectangular arrays to solve problems and writes an equation to express the total

Numbers and Operations in Base Ten

- Understand that place-value in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, and ones)
- Count within 1000; skip count by 5s, 10s, 100s
- Read and write numbers to 1000
- Compare two three-digit numbers using $>$, $=$, $<$ symbols
- Fluently add and subtract within 100
- Add and subtract within 1000 and relate the strategy to a written method
- Mentally add 10 or 100 to a given number
- Explain why addition and subtraction strategies work, using place value and the properties of operations

Measurement and Data

- Measure, estimate and compare lengths in standard units
- Solve problems involving lengths that are given in the same unit
- Tell and write time to the nearest five minutes, using a.m. and p.m.
- Solve word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies, using \$ and ¢ symbols
- Create picture graphs, bar graphs and line plots to represent data

Geometry

- Identify, draw and describe the attributes of triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes
- Describe fractions as equal shares using the words halves, thirds, half of, a third of, etc.

Mathematical Practices (Problem Solving, Reasoning and Communication)

- Makes sense of problems, perseveres, and attends to precision
- Justifies own thinking and critiques reasoning of others
- Uses tools strategically and models mathematical thinking
- Uses structure and repeated reasoning

Materials: Math Expressions Common Core

Reading

Program includes:

- Uses the workshop model
- Embeds social skills into the curriculum

- CCSS-aligned
- Reading and Writing are interconnected
- Includes ELL support
- Vocabulary is an integrated component

Reading will be taught through whole group mini lessons, as well as through small groups. While the teacher is with small groups, students will be doing a variety of independent work:

Reading with a peer
 Read to Self
 Work on Vocabulary
 Phonics and Spelling Work

Reading: Fiction

- Ask and answer questions about text using who, what, when, where, why, and how
- Retell stories, including fables and folktales, and determine their central message
- Identify a character's point of view and describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges
- Describe how words and phrases supply meaning in a story, poem or song
- Describe the beginning, middle and end of a story
- Use pictures and words in a text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting or plot
- Compare and contrast two versions of the same story
- Use reading strategies to help me understand a variety of complex texts including stories and poetry

Reading: Nonfiction

- Ask and answer questions about a text using who, what, when, where, why and how
- Identify the topic of the entire text as well as the main idea of a specific paragraph
- Describe the connection between historical events, scientific ideas, or steps in a procedure in a text
- Use information in a text to determine the meaning of words or phrases about the topic
- Locate key facts or information in a text using text features
- Identify the main purpose of a text including the author's purpose for writing it
- Explain how images such as diagrams and photographs help clarify a text
- Explain how an author supports an idea with specific points in a text
- Compare and contrast two texts on the same topic

- Use reading strategies to help me understand a variety of complex texts relating to history, science and technical texts

Reading: Foundational Skills

- Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words
- Read short vowel words and long vowel words
- Know spelling sound correspondences
- Decode words with common prefixes and suffixes
- Read 2nd grade high frequency words
- Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension
- Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding
- Read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression
- Self correct and reread as necessary

Materials: Center for Collaborative Classroom Reading and Writing Program

Writing

Writing this year second grade will be using the curriculum provided by our reading adoption two years ago, the *Center for Collaborative Classroom Reading and Writing Program*. In this program students are given guided practice through exposure to professional authors and shared writing together. Students start with pictures and then use sentences to tell a story about their picture.

Unit Topics:

- Unit 1-The writing Community, students learn the routine for writing time
- Unit 2- Telling More, students learn to write longer pieces, more detail
- Unit 3- Fiction, Students take one story through the writing process
- Unit 4- Students write informational text
- Unit 5- Letter Writing, students write a friendly letter
- Unit 6- Poems & Words, students learn about poetry and write their own
- Unit 7- Opinion Writing, students learn how to support an opinion with text evidence

In addition, students have journal writing every day. Writing skills emphasized this year will include: capitalization, use of end marks, commas in a series, apostrophes in contractions and possessives, compound sentences, collective nouns, proper nouns, reflexive nouns, adjectives, and quotation marks.

Materials: Center for Collaborative Classroom Reading and Writing Program

Spelling

The spelling program we use is embedded in our reading curriculum. This program emphasizes the spelling mastery of important high

frequency words and helps build the foundations for accurate spelling in writing, by learning spelling patterns. The program uses a Word Wall. The Word Wall is a list of commonly used words that students use to spell, over time they do not need to look at the chart because they have learned the word by looking at it over and over. Your child will also work on developmentally appropriate word sorts that emphasize particular phonics and spelling patterns your child has yet to master. There will be a list of eight words coming home each week to practice starting the thirteenth week of school.

Materials: Center for Collaborative Classroom Reading

Science

Content and Concepts

Instruction in Science focuses on systems, conducting/designing investigations & applying problem solving strategies.

- Life Science: Insects
- Physical Science: Balance and Motion
- Earth Science: Pebbles, Sand and Silt

Materials: Foss Science Kits

Social Studies

Content and Concepts

Instruction in Social Studies focuses on history, geography, economics, and civics, with a goal of developing responsible citizens.

- Our community
- Communities Meeting Their Needs and Wants
- Participating in Our Community

Other Units of Study

Students will also have opportunities to explore other important topics such as:

- Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving
- Martin Luther King and Susan B. Anthony

We will also have opportunities to integrate art, music, and theater into our other academic subjects. In addition, we will complete various physical education and technology activities throughout the school year, better preparing your child for third grade.

Additional Information:

Library Day Reminder:

Every *Thursday*, please help your child put their books in their backpack the night before to bring to school on Thursday.

Birthdays

If you would like to bring in treats for your child's birthday, please let me know in advance. The items need to be store-bought, and can be sent to school with your child. It is best to send them in the morning and then I can pick a convenient time during the day.

Field Trip \$

In spring we go to the Pacific Science Center. It is usually around \$7.00.

Health Info

If, at any time during the year, your child has any change in health that the school needs to be aware of, please let the school know immediately!

Communication

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. A good time to reach me is between 11:40 and 12:25. Email is another good way of communication, at the email address below. You may also reach me by phone, although please be aware that I am not always notified immediately when I have new voicemail messages. You can also call the front office during school hours, or you may send me a note in your student's folder. See my website to find out what is happening each month.

School Number: (425) 366-2900

Email: kimballmg@mukilteo.wednet.edu

Website - <https://www.mukilteoschools.org/Domain/1321>

By working together, we can make this year a wonderful learning experience for your child. I am looking forward to working with you and your second grader. This will be a great year for all of us!

Sincerely,
Michael Kimball