



Happy December, 2nd Grade Families!

Dear Second Grade Families,

We are so proud of our 2nd graders. We have some engaging activities planned for the days ahead leading up to our Winter Break!

Upcoming Dates:

- **Week of December 2nd – Art Club**
- **Friday, December 6th – Walking Field trip to Ligon**
- **Tuesday, December 10th – Field trip to Mordecai House (Gilbert, Harvey, Tymkin)**
- **Wednesday, December 11th – Band Concert at 7 p.m.**
- **Thursday, December 12th – Field trip to Mordecai House (Stewart, Simpson, Stroupe)**
- **Friday, December 13th – Arts Assembly**
- **Tuesday, December 17th – Orchestra Concert at Ligon 7 p.m.**
- **Thursday, December 19th – 1st Semester Awards Day**
- **Friday, December 20th – PBIS Breakfast**

EL UPDATE:

During the weeks ahead, we will delve more deeply into our study of fossils with a focus on this guiding question: “What can we learn by studying fossils?” We will shift from our reading of narrative nonfiction texts in Unit 1, now focusing specifically on nonfiction texts that build upon our understanding of fossils. Through a combination of close read alouds, independent reading, hands-on experiences, and authentic writing tasks, we will take on the role of paleontologists. We are looking forward to learning about: different kinds of fossils, the process of fossilization, and how fossils can teach us about how the earth has changed. We can’t wait to learn more about plants and animals that lived long ago!

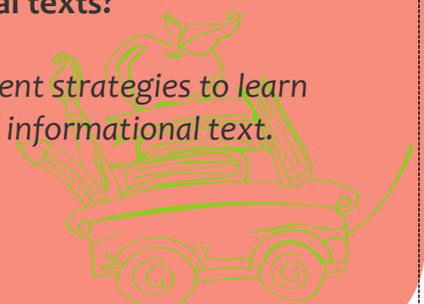
Guiding questions for this Unit:

What can we learn by studying fossils?

-Fossils can help us understand what plants and animals lived long ago and how the earth has changed.

How do readers learn more about a topic from informational texts?

-Readers use different strategies to learn about a topic from informational text.



CURRICULUM UPDATES FOR 2ND QUARTER:

Science Update:

Matter Properties and Change Essential Understandings:

Understand properties of solids and liquids and the changes they undergo.

Give examples of matter that change from a solid to a liquid and vice versa by heating and cooling.

Compare the amount of water in a container before and after freezing.

Compare what happens to water left in an open container versus a closed container over time.

Social Studies Update:

Essential Understanding – Students will understand that various sources provide information about the past.

Essential Questions:

What can we learn from the past from various sources?

How does understanding different perspectives deepen our understanding of history?

PBIS Update:

We are so proud of our Character Trait Winners in 2nd Grade! We can't wait to celebrate our **Integrity** winners on Friday, **December 20th**. An invitation for the Character Winners will be in the Monday folder. #Charactercounts #PBIS



Math Update

Our next unit of math in 2nd grade is Place Value. Understanding Place value to read, write and compare numbers is an integral skill for 2nd graders as they move toward adding/subtracting 3-digit numbers.

An essential understanding of this unit requires students to be able to express 3-digit numbers in numeral, word, expanded and place value (quick tens and ones). Students will work to compose and decompose numbers using various groupings for hundreds, tens and ones. Students will compare two 3-digit numbers based on the value of the hundreds, tens and ones.

This link will be helpful in understanding our place value drawings: **Representing a Number with a Place Value Drawing**

The 2nd Grade Math at a Glance can be found here: **2nd Grade Math at a Glance**

