

Second Grade Newsletter

Friday, July 12, 2019

Dear Families,

This week we have been kicking off second grade by learning about good citizenship and class routines and procedures. I have found that much effort on the front end pays off greatly as we move through the year. Next week we will work together to set hopes and dreams for ourselves and to set classroom rules. If you haven't yet sent in the parent hope and dream we will be posting them in our room Monday and would love to add yours to our wall. It is on the welcome letter. If you need another copy with directions please email me at barnettk@etsu.edu.

In math we began working with data and used our math time to practice reading and recording data while still learning about each other. We will continue this next week. Next week we will also begin reviewing basic addition strategies and learning about math workshop stations. Our goal will be for basic addition facts to become automatic so that we will have a much easier time when we learn to add very large numbers and regroup. We will use math workshop to help us experience math in a variety of ways and to differentiate our math instruction.

We began some of our basic language arts expectations this week. We have written some this week and we began laying the groundwork so we can begin moving towards our regular literacy stations. We will build into this in the coming weeks. We also began a class read aloud, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl.

I have started out small in every academic area as we get used to each other, our classroom procedures, and our behavior expectations. I have assured the second graders not to worry- we will be challenging our brains to work hard very soon! We have been doing very well and I'm pleased with how far we have come.

Each Friday I will send this newsletter and I will also include some questions you can ask your child. This is meant to help you have conversations with your child about their day by prompting them with some of our key happenings.

-Dr. Kelli

Questions to Ask Your Child:

- What are your reading loft safety rules?
- What are you looking forward to about second grade?
- What is Go Noodle?
- What is a tally mark?
- What is happening in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory?

Announcements:

- If you have not signed up for BLOOMZ you will soon be missing important announcements. Please let me know if you need directions.
- The behavior management plan for our class is coming home today. Look for our class schedule to come home one day next week.
- Please return the Academic Use form signed that went home yesterday as soon as possible.
- Thanks for all your support!

Meet Our Classroom Helpers:

A note from our Teaching Assistant, Misty Cole:

I'm Misty Cole and I am very excited to be the 2nd grade teaching assistant this year with Dr. Kelli. I've known many of you for some time now and am so honored to be with your precious kids. I have 3 children at UH, Alex (9th), Andrew (7th) and Ally Grace (2nd). I am a graduate of ETSU with a BSS in Psychology (2001) and worked for The Social Security Administration for 16 years before resigning in 2013 to be a stay at home mom. I absolutely love children and enjoy watching and being a part of their growth and learning. I look forward to a great year with all of you!

A note from our ETSU Residency Student, Kayla Runyan:

Hi everyone! My name is Kayla Runyan, and I am going to be the Residency student in your child's classroom this year. I am from Chattanooga, TN, and I am currently earning my bachelor's degree in elementary education at East Tennessee State University. I have worked hard to graduate a year early, turning a four-year program into a three-year journey. In addition to my studies at the university, I am also employed as a student worker at ETSU's Child Study Center as part of a scholarship opportunity. Here, I have learned to communicate with young children, amassing more patience through my experiences. More recently, I have become a member of the iSLICEE team at ETSU. This program is a collaborative force of twelve pre-service teachers who are working together to learn more about cross-subject integration with a heavy focus on STEM education and computational thinking. I believe that STEM-fueled learning is an important foundational piece of each child's education. In fact, STEM education can foster a seamless transition into the technology-driven world that we live in today. Therefore, I am here to explore many different types of technology with your child, including various iPad applications and robots. More importantly, I will always support your child's learning discoveries throughout this shared learning experience! Overall, I am thankful for this opportunity, and I am excited to be a part of your child's second-grade journey! I anticipate that the biggest reward from this experience will not be what I am able to teach your child, but instead, what your child will be able to teach me.

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