

Welcome Class of 2030!

GREETINGS FROM DR. KELLI

Hello! I would like to welcome your child to second grade! My name is Kelli Barnett and I am looking forward to being your child's teacher. I graduated in 1998 from ETSU with a B.A. in Communication and a minor in Art. I earned my Master of Arts in Teaching degree from ETSU in 2003. In May of 2019 I earned my Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis from ETSU. (Your child can call me Ms. Kelli or Dr. Kelli – I will answer to either!) I have been teaching second grade at University School since 2003 making this my seventeenth group of second graders. I am proud to work at University School where best practices in education are a priority.

On a personal note I live in the Tree Street neighborhood in Johnson City with my husband, Aaron, and my children, Greer and Ella Rose. Aaron has a masters degree in Education and works with the Upward Bound Science and Math program at Tusculum University. Ella Rose is going into 8th grade and Greer will be a senior at University School. Both have attended University School since kindergarten.

I am attaching our second grade policies, helpful information, school supply list, and some things for you to complete so that I can begin to get to know you and your child. I look forward to the year ahead with your children!

PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION

A weekly newsletter will be sent home every Friday so that you are aware of what is happening in our second grade classroom. It is important that you read this newsletter each week. Information about a communication app that we will use to make announcements and send updates will come home at the beginning of the school year. I would love to have 100% of our families sign up for the communication app after that information is released. It is the easiest way to keep you in the know about what is happening in second grade. You can also email me anytime at: barnettk@etsu.edu. If at any time you feel the need to set up a conference, please don't hesitate to ask. I welcome any opportunity to discuss your child and their progress.

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BARNETTK@ETSU.EDU

VISIT OUR CLASS WEBPAGE
AT: [HTTPS://WWW.ETSU.EDU/USCHOOL/FACULTY/BARNETTK/DEFAULT.PHP](https://www.etsu.edu/uschool/faculty/barnettk/default.php)





HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

- ◆ Read to your child on a regular basis
- ◆ Let your child see you read
- ◆ Praise your child for work, and display it for others to see
- ◆ Don't expect or demand perfection
- ◆ If you have criticisms or suggestions, make them in a positive and helpful way
- ◆ Teach your child to do things for him/herself rather than doing work for him or her
- ◆ Have a special place where your child can do homework
- ◆ Encourage your child's curiosity and interests
- ◆ Turn off the television more
- ◆ Go outside more
- ◆ Share your own experiences and goals with your child
- ◆ Read your child's messages from school
- ◆ Talk about what is happening at school with your child
- ◆ Enjoy your child as you grow and learn together

2ND GRADE HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned nightly on most days Monday-Thursday. Homework is meant to practice the skills we are practicing in class. It should take your second grader around 20 minutes to complete homework. Your child will have a planner to write homework assignments inside. You can see what homework your child has each night by checking their daily planner. This is going to place more responsibility on your child. I will teach them how to use and record in their planners and you need to teach your child to be responsible, check their planners, and complete their homework each night. Some completed class work will typically be sent home in your child's folder on Fridays. Please keep in mind I keep a lot of student work for portfolio and student self-evaluation purposes. However, you will get your child's portfolio at the end of the school year. I like to focus on the process of learning and not the product. Many of our classroom activities involve "hands-on" learning. You should assist your child with their homework when needed, but please allow them to do the work

themselves. It is helpful for you to check for accuracy of your child's homework and help them with any misunderstandings. However, remember to allow them to make any corrections and please don't demand perfection. Students we do not turn in complete homework on time are typically required to complete it during their free time at school. This helps students build responsibility and accountability. Reading book bags will also be sent home regularly to promote reading at home. Please have your child come in the room daily and put away their belongings and allow them to turn in their folder and planner each day rather than doing it for them. I ask this so they can learn to build responsibility.

LUNCH & SNACK

Although the schedule has not yet come out for next school year we can currently assume second grade will be eating lunch at 10:25. We will have a break/snack time later in the day so if you think your child will have a hard time lasting until the 3:00 dismissal please feel free to send in an individual snack for them. Most second graders need this.

A bottle of water labeled with your child's name is also a good thing to have at school at all times. I suggest some sort of bpa free bottle that can be refilled and then taken home every few days to be washed. Water is the only drink that is allowed in the classroom with the exception of parties and other special occasions.

When our bodies are hungry or thirsty our brains are not going to be ready to learn.

"Children are apt to live up to what you believe of them."

-Lady Bird Johnson

BIRTHDAYS

We LOVE to celebrate birthdays in second grade! Please let me know at least a day ahead of time if you would like to bring in a special treat to celebrate your child's birthday. I am more than happy to help pass out invitations to your child's birthday party as well. I do ask that if invitations are brought to school, that it is only for a party in which the entire class is invited to in order to spare hurt feelings.

WHAT WILL WE LEARN ABOUT IN SECOND GRADE?

TENNESSEE STATE ACADEMIC STANDARDS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://WWW.TN.GOV/EDUCATION/INSTRUCTION/ACADEMIC-STANDARDS.HTML](https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards.html)

SCHOOL HOURS 8:00-3:00

Drop Off:

Students may be dropped off at 7:30, but should wait in the cafeteria until the 7:50 bell. The classroom will open at 7:50. Students will not be allowed to enter before 7:50. Students who arrive after 8:00 will be considered tardy and should report to the office to be marked present for the day and receive a tardy slip.

Once your child is in the room, the job of putting their belongings away and beginning their day is up to them. Please allow your child this independence. Please quickly tell your child goodbye and help us to be ready to start our day promptly. Goodbyes and conversations after the 8:00 bell disrupt the flow of the start of your child's day.

Pick Up:

Dismissal is at 3:00 from the side door. Please only pick up your student early when absolutely necessary. We are busy until the last minute of our day. If you need to check your child out early please do so through the office. Students should be picked up by 3:15.

CAR LINE INFO

Car line pick up tag numbers will stay the same for next school year. Be sure and hang onto your tag from last year! If you are new to University School you will be assigned a car tag number for afternoon dismissal. Grades K-5 are dismissed from the side parking lot door beginning at 3:00. Here are some important points to keep is safe and efficient:

- ◆ Please use your car tag with your number on it at all times.
- ◆ Please don't arrive early for dismissal or block cars from leaving the parking lot.
- ◆ Please pull up as far as possible in the dismissal line and don't wave your child to come to your car before the adult loading sends them to your car.
- ◆ Try not to exit your car in the pickup line unless it is absolutely necessary.
- ◆ Please try to avoid in depth conversations with a teacher during dismissal.
- ◆ If you have an older sibling coming into the cafeteria to pick up a student in 2nd- 5th grade please ask them to enter the cafeteria alone, quickly get their sibling, and exit the cafeteria without blocking the pathways.
- ◆ If you are walking up to pick up your child make sure the adult calling sees you and calls your child and then wait away from the doorway or loading area.
- ◆ If you have high school or middle school students you are picking up we recommend you aim for the later side of dismissal rather than the beginning.
- ◆ Be attentive to those around you and patient in the car line.
- ◆ Students should be picked up by 3:15.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

I am including our class supply list so your child will be prepared when school begins. Please bring these in as soon as possible.

Keep in mind that we share all of our classroom materials. I am asking for a minimal amount and may ask for donations at a later date if we run out of supplies.

If this list is a financial burden to your family please start with the individual supplies and work your way towards the shared supplies. If purchasing supplies is not something that is possible please contact me and I will work out an alternate way to make sure your child has what they need for second grade.

Because we have limited individualized storage, it is a good idea to send a backpack with your child daily. Your child's backpack will hang on a hook in the coatroom and it will serve as a storage place for personal items, lunches, library books, and take home messages. Students who do not carry backpacks often have a difficult time getting home with homework and other messages. I also have found that backpacks that do not have wheels and that are not too bulky work best in our limited space.

If you have any questions about this supply list, please feel free to contact me.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIES (LABEL WITH NAME):

- ♦ 1 white 1 1/2 inch 3-ring binder with a plastic cover for portfolio (label with name on inside– not on the outside– this will be the portfolio you receive at the end of the school year)
- ♦ 1 package of 30-40 clear plastic sheet protectors for your child's work in their portfolio (go ahead and take out of package and put inside the 3-ring binder)
- ♦ 1 set of head phones (preferably ear buds– must be able to plug into ipads– put in a plastic zip lock bag and label with name)
- ♦ 7 plastic folders with 3 prongs inside (label with name somewhere on inside)

SHARED SUPPLIES (DO NOT LABEL WITH NAME):

- ♦ 2-4 packages of washable markers
- ♦ 3 boxes of tissues (2 will be shared with our special area teachers)
- ♦ 2-4 glue sticks
- ♦ 50 or more plain yellow number 2 pencils (if at all possible already sharpened– this helps us tremendously)
- ♦ 3-5 rolls of scotch tape (the kind that can be used without a dispenser)
- ♦ 1 package of dry erase markers
- ♦ 1 container of Clorox wipes
- ♦ 1 roll of paper towels

Second
GRADE

PARENT HOMEWORK FOR FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL:

- 1) Please send in a family photo that we can post in our room. This makes our room welcoming and comforting to second graders!
- 2) Please complete the parent information page below. This helps me get to know you and your child.
- 3) Please tell me a hope or dream you have for your child this year. Pick one thing related to school– it can be social or academic– and write it inside the cloud below. Please consider these will be posted in our classroom.

Class of 2030 Information Form (Please Print Clearly):

Child's name: _____

Name of parents: _____

Address: _____

Email Address (mom): _____

Email Address (dad): _____

Birthday: _____ Age: _____

Phone # (mom): _____ Phone # (dad): _____

Siblings (names & ages): _____

Allergies/Dietary Restrictions: _____

Holiday's **NOT** celebrated: _____

People living in the child's home: _____

Things I LOVE most about my child are: _____

My child is so great at: _____

My expectations for my child at school are: _____

So far in school my child's experience has been: _____

Please use the back of this page to tell me a funny or endearing story about your child or anything else you would like me to know.

Hopes & Dreams for the Year:

