

2nd Grade Parent Orientation

Welcome!

- This school year promises to be a challenging yet exciting learning experience for your child. The following presentation is an outline of the 2nd grade curriculum for this year.

Reading

- **Balanced Literacy**
 - A balanced literacy approach is used for reading and writing instruction. Students are engaged in a variety of reading and writing activities including Read Alouds, Shared Reading, Guided Reading, and Independent Reading. All of these components are incorporated in the Making Meaning – Strategies That Build Comprehension and Community program that we are using this year.

- There is a word study/vocabulary component to Making Meaning. Students will study key vocabulary from the read-alouds.
- Students will continue with phonics and sight word instruction.
- The students must read for 20-30 minutes each night and practice reading on a regular basis. That is the best way to learn how to read. Students should be reading books from varying genres (non-fiction, fiction, poetry, fairy/folk tales, biographies, etc.)

Math

- The students will be using the “GO MATH” Program. This is a math program that engages students as it strengthens their understanding of math by using problem based interactive and visual learning.
- Students will work in small groups and independently with a focus on strategies for problem solving and sharing ideas through discussion.
- Students will also have a technology period that incorporates the use of ST Math.

Social Studies

- We will use Scholastic News and Social Studies Weekly to learn about geography, history, and current events. These magazines are aligned with the common core standards and provide the most up-to-date information about the topics we are studying.

Magnet

- This year, PS 119 will conduct an in-depth study of the five boroughs. The 2nd grade will be studying Brooklyn! Our Magnet Expo will be held again this year.
 - The students always look forward to this time when they can share what they have learned and show off the projects they have created.

Science

- We will use Science Studies Weekly, a weekly newspaper, to explore Life, Earth, and Physical Science concepts. These newspapers are aligned with the common core standards and provide engaging content. The articles incorporate and reinforce reading skills. Students will conduct experiments relating to this content and learn the Scientific Method.

Writing

- Writing takes place daily and is incorporated into every subject area. Students will continue to explore several writing genres (narrative, opinion, informational/explanatory, etc...)
- The writing process is an important part of writing. During this process of brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing, students confer with the teacher and peers to share ideas, edit, and critique their writing.

Music, Art, Gym, STEAM

- Gym – Mrs. Maguire/Mr. Jones
 - Students should wear sneakers on gym days and be prepared to take part in all activities. Each student will be expected to take a fitness assessment which will be based on individual performance and personal improvement.

Art – Mrs. Judge-Patton

Music – Ms. Francis

STEAM – Ms. Incorvaia

Important Websites

- web.stmath.com
- readworks.org
- engageny.org
- pta.org
- corestandards.org