

## Second Grade Web Page Spring 2014

Second grade is such a special year. Not only do students participate in many memorable activities, but their academic and personal growth is remarkable. This is made possible by the strong partnership between home and school, the caring relationships between students and between students and teachers, and an active and engaging curriculum. In the primary grades children are taught to become **responsible**, independent learners and **respectful** individuals.

### Religion

Second grade is a year of growing in faith. The children receive two sacraments during the year. Students learn that they are accountable for the choices they make each and every day. Because of God's forgiving and loving nature, He has given us the sacrament of Reconciliation through which we receive grace to make loving choices. And through his gift of Eucharist we are fed and strengthened to be the best we can be.

### Reading/Language Arts

The Reading/Language Arts program emphasizes phonemic awareness, word-attack skills, and comprehension as students read and respond to literature and informational text. The students draw upon a variety of comprehension strategies such as making predictions and generating and responding to essential questions.

Students learn to write clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea. They learn to write a summary, a brief narrative with a logical sequence of events, a persuasive argument, and a friendly letter.

Students deliver brief recitations and oral presentations about familiar experiences or interests that are organized and fluent.

### Math

It is our goal to help all students become proficient in basic computational skills and adept at problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. The standards are taught with a variety of methods including the use of hands-on activities, models, and paper/pencil algorithms. Some of the standards we will meet this year are building fluency in addition and subtraction within 100, extending knowledge of place value within 1000, using objects, drawings, and symbols to solve addition, subtraction, and multiplication word problems, and learning the basics of how to "carry" and "borrow" as addition and subtraction expands to include three-digit numbers.

## Social Studies

The children explore the world, learning about their place in their family, school community, and greater community. They look into the past to see how people lived long ago and compare it to how we live today. Students learn the importance of individual actions and character. They study how heroes from long ago and in the recent past have made a difference in people's lives. Students demonstrate map skills by viewing and gathering information from a variety of maps. Children begin to understand how food production, both long ago and today, was and is influenced by weather, land, and water resources.

## Science

In science students learn how scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. Making predictions, making observations, and gathering information are important steps in learning about the world around us. Students find out how scientists have come to know what we know about the past. Students learn that plants and animals have predictable life cycles. Students come to know that the earth is made of materials that have distinctive properties and provide resources for human activities.

