

Parent Handbook



Mrs. Cieniawa
OLW Grade 2
Room 220
2018 – 2019

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Please KEEP this handbook as a reference guide to our classroom policies and procedures.

Why 2nd grade is so great ...

- 7 year olds come in reading picture books ... and 8 year olds leave reading chapter books!
- Antsy, wiggly kids come to 2nd grade and they can sit for 5 minutes ... grown up, patient kids get ready for third grade and they can sit for 25 minutes!
- Wobbly manuscript handwriting almost fits on 1 inch tall lines at the beginning of the year ... small, precise manuscript makes fingers just itch to start writing in cursive at the end of the year!
- Little mathematicians can add $2 + 5$ at the beginning of the year ... but they are ready for multiplication and division by the end of the year!
- Little scientists know about mammals, fish, and birds when they come to 2nd grade ... but they leave being able to explain the entire water cycle.
- 4 foot tall kids come in writing a few sentences ... and 4 foot, 3 inch tall kids leave writing paragraphs!
- 2nd grade is a year FULL of learning, growing, and changing ... it is an incredible year, and I'm so happy and excited to be your child's teacher!

Always remember:

You are your child's first and most important teacher.

Second Grade Program

Second grade is an exciting year for the children, the parents, and the teachers in every aspect of learning and growth. Our purpose in Second Grade is to help each child to grow mentally, spiritually, socially, and physically.

From the first day of school, the children are made aware that this will be a very special year. They will prepare for and receive two sacraments, First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. We try to teach the children to love God and one another, not just in Religion class, but also throughout the day.

Good Habits We Try To Foster In Each Child

- To respect one another, to listen courteously to the teacher and each other
- To be truthful and to be thoughtful of others
- To follow rules for safety in the classroom, throughout the school, and on the playground
- To use acceptable vocabulary
- To teach responsibility through using the Assignment Book every day, returning homework, library books, wearing gym clothes, returning forms, and to always be prepared for class with pencils, crayons, etc.
- To complete required assignments and homework

*The Greatest Motivation you can give your child is
praise and encouragement.*

HELPFUL TIPS, HINTS, AND HAPPENINGS IN SECOND GRADE

- Attendance: The school opens at 8 am to allow students a chance to unpack and be ready to begin working at 8:20 am. Students coming in at 8:20 am are not ready to begin their day and often rush or miss out on important routines and lessons. Please notify the office regarding the child's absence.
- Vacation Absences: When a child is absent due to vacation, please notify the classroom teacher in advance. All daily work, as well as homework, will be saved and held until the child returns. The child will be expected to complete all assignments by a date mutually agreed upon.
- Dress Code: Please make sure any hair accessories are within code. No accessories should take away from the uniform look. All shirts should be tucked in unless they have the elastic band at the bottom. Follow code with color of socks.
- Take Home Daily Binders: These binders help provide a way to communicate with you. Your child's papers and notes are sent home to you in this binder. Please send back, notes, or communications in this binder to class each day. It is important to check this binder each day review your child's schoolwork and give appropriate encouragement, and read memos and notes from the teacher/school.
- Assignment Books: Your child will have an Assignment Book this year. Homework assignments will be written in the Assignment Book. Please check your child's Assignment Book each day. I have placed the Assignment Book in their Daily Binder.
- Homework: When a child, or the class as a whole, needs additional practice in some areas, homework will be assigned. Routine homework may also be given to strengthen or reinforce a skill or concept. All the children are encouraged to read each night as well.
- Missing Assignments: Students are required to make up any missed assignments, either in class or at home.
- Grading: We use a positive approach in marking all students work. Happy faces, stars, stamps, stickers, or written remarks are used to evaluate. Our goal is to build self-esteem and make it as constructive as possible.
- Discipline: Children are expected to follow classroom and general school rules at all times. Second Grade children are capable of understanding these rules and need to abide by them so that learning can take place. Good listening habits and following directions are important to their progress. We want the children to discover the joy of learning without the disruption caused from misconduct. Good behavior promotes a positive learning environment. Your cooperation and encouragement in this respect is needed and appreciated.

- Parent Conference: There will be two school-wide parent teacher conferences in November and March this school year. All parents are invited to attend these conferences. We will discuss your child's progress and how you can help him/her at home. In addition, I will be glad to meet with you to discuss an issue/concern pertaining to your child. Please give me advance notice so that we can work out a time that will be convenient to both of us.
- Field Trips: The locations of the field trips are to be determined. Details will be sent home. Field trips are designed to complement and extend our second grade curriculum.
- Room Parties: We will have a party to celebrate Halloween (Wednesday, October 31), Christmas (Friday, December 21), and Valentine's Day (Thursday, February 14). The Room Parents will organize and handle the details. They will contact you for assistance.
- Birthdays: Birthdays are special, and we want to recognize your child on his/her birthday. Although it is not required, you can send in non-edible treats (pencils, class board game, books for the class library, etc.) with your child. Saturday birthdays are celebrated on Friday, Sunday birthdays are celebrated on Monday, and summer birthdays will be celebrated at the end of the school year.
- Supplies: Please make sure that your child has the necessary supplies each and every day. Being prepared for class is the first step in the learning process. I will send a note home when your child's supplies need to be replenished. Please send the item(s) in as soon as possible.
- Book Orders: If you choose to order from one of our supplemental book clubs for your child, please send with the order form, a check made out *directly to the book club company*.
- Library Cards: We strongly suggest that you get your child his/her own library card from their public library. We encourage your child to use it often and borrow books that are interesting to him/her.

Room 220 Specials Schedule

Monday	Art	12:45 – 1:25
Tuesday	PE	11:05 – 11:45
Wednesday	Library	12:45 – 1:25
Thursday	PE	11:05 – 11:45
Friday	Spanish Music	9:10 - 9:40 11:05 – 11:45

Religion

This is such a beautiful year for our children to receive their sacraments.
Below are few dates to keep in mind:

Monday, September 17 7 pm Reconciliation Parent Meeting

Saturday, November 10 9:30 am Reconciliation

Monday, January 14
Meeting 7 pm First Communion Parent

Sunday, February 17 2 pm First Communion Retreat

Saturday, April 27 10:30 am First Communion
Or
1 pm

Or

Saturday, May 4 10:30 am First Communion

Friday, May 24 2 pm May Crowning
(2nd grade leads procession into church in their communion outfits)

A Closing Note

Second grade is so much fun – it is the year in which your child will build upon the skills they learned in kindergarten and first grade, and they will also learn many new skills. I try to create a fun, nurturing, and supportive environment in my classroom, so that your child has the opportunity to reach his/her fullest potential.

I hope this handbook helps to answer any questions you may have about our classroom policies and procedures. If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. I am here for you and your child. I look forward to working with you throughout this new school year!

Go Widcats!

Thank you,
Mrs. MJ Cieniawa