

# Second Grade

## Parent Handbook



2012 - 2013

Second Grade Handbook  
Stellar Elementary School

## Homework

In order to encourage responsibility and reinforce learning, your child will have homework Monday - Thursday. Please ask to see your child's homework nightly. It should be in their purple Communication Folder inside their backpack. Some guidelines for what to expect are below:

- Reading** Your child should read for at least 20 minutes a night. Baggie Books will be provided throughout the week.
- Spelling** Spelling will begin on Wednesday each week. Spelling cards will be sent home on Wednesday. Spelling Homework may be assigned nightly Monday through Thursday. Wednesday is test day.
- Math** Math Homework "Homelinks" will go home several times a week depending on the concepts that have been taught. Examples and directions for completing the homework are provided at the top of each Homelink. Also, please check the family newsletter for more detailed information on Homework concepts. Please save and refer to these throughout the unit.

### Late Homework

If homework is not complete or not turned in, your child will complete it at recess.

### Absences

Homework will be sent home when your child returns. Your child will be allowed the number of days absent plus one day to make up the work.

Absences do take away from learning. Please be aware of the school calendar when scheduling vacations and schedule family vacations for school break times.

Homework will be provided when your child returns from an absence.

## Class Celebrations

### Birthdays

You are welcome to send individually wrapped or portioned snacks or treats for your child's birthday. The snack should be easy to handout and clean up. Please send enough napkins, and plates or forks if needed, for each child. **Do not send anything that needs to be cut-up in order to be served.** Please contact your child's teacher before sending treats.

### Birthday Invitations

Please do not send invitations to school to be passed out **unless all of the students are invited.** This will help us in our effort to create a positive classroom community.



## Spelling Homework

### Sort Words

- On Thursdays, your child will come home with his/her new spelling words for the week.
- Have your child cut out the spelling words.
- Then, have your child create as many sorts as he/she can by using the spelling words. For example, your child could sort the spelling words by how many letters are in each word. Another way to sort is by action words and naming words. (We practice different ways of sorting our spelling words in class.)
- When finished, store the spelling words in a safe place.

### Trace, Copy, Recall

- Fold a piece of paper into 3 columns.
- Write one of the spelling words for your child in the first column.
- Have your child "trace" that word.
- Next, your child will "copy" the word in the second column.
- Then, your child will fold the paper back between the second and third columns. Your child will "recall" the word and write it down from memory. When finished, your child will dot check from the first to the third column to see if his/her recall was correct.
- Repeat with the other words

### Use each word in a sentence

- Have your child use each spelling word correctly in a sentence.

### Make new words

- Example: the spelling word is "lake". Change the "l" to an "r" and the word becomes "rake". Change the "r" to "sn" and the word becomes "snake".
- The spelling word is "kit". Change the "k" to "h"; the word becomes "hit". Change the "h" to "f" and you get "fit". Change the "f" to "sp" and you get "spit". This is a very fun activity!!

### Dot Check Test

- Before the Wednesday spelling test, please get out the spelling words.
- Give your child a practice spelling test.
- When the practice test is done, have your child check all spelling words.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!!!!!!**

## **Assessment, Grading, and Communication**

<b>Assessment:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders are assessed formally three times a year Pre = Beginning of the Year Mid = Middle of the Year Post = End of the Year
Reading-	The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) is administered as Pre-Assessment and Post-Assessment. MAPS (Measures of Academic Progress) Reading is given three times a year.
Writing-	2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders write a Personal Narrative Writing Sample at the three assessment times explained above. They are assessed using the District 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Writing Rubric.
Math-	The MAPS Math Assessment is administered at the three assessment times explained above.
<b>Grading:</b>	Grading is formal and informal.
Formal-	Report Card Grading  H = High Quality HS = High Satisfactory S = Satisfactory I = Improvement in Progress N = Needs Improvement U = Unsatisfactory
Informal-	Classwork and Homework Grading includes stamps, smile faces, stars, and checkmarks.
<b>Communication:</b>	Teachers may be contacted by note, phone, or email. The teacher will respond within 24 hours. Some information may also be available on individual teachers' web sites.

## **SUPER Behavior**

Students will have a behavior card that spells the word SUPER with the colors: green, yellow, and red. The letters S and U are on green cards. The letters P and E are on yellow cards. The letter R is on a red card. Students will begin the day on the S card and work to stay on S. If their behavior requires them to change their card, they will move their card to...green U,...yellow P,...yellow E,...red R. The students record their daily behavior on their SUPER charts. If they stay on S, they may also color in a square on the “I’m a SUPER star!” chart. The students choose what reward they will earn when they fill in this chart. These SUPER charts will go home daily in the Purple Folder. Parents will sign the SUPER chart each Friday. This folder may also be used by the teacher/parent(s) to communicate daily notes and messages.

green   green   yellow   yellow   red

