

Second Grade News

Stellar Elementary School

2012-2013

Greetings

Welcome to Second Grade! Excitement is in the air as we begin a new year. Second Grade is such an exciting year! Your child will be exposed to many new concepts and experiences. I look forward to challenging each child and helping him/her to reach for the stars! It is my goal to ensure that each child loves school, has a positive self image, and has the desire to achieve excellence. With your help and reinforcement at home, we will have a very successful year!



Communication

At Stellar Elementary School, we keep very busy! It is important to me that our classroom parents are kept informed and involved. During the year, you will receive weekly newsletters that highlight the skills and themes that were taught each week. This information will also be posted on the school website. Visit <http://stellar.adams12.org> Under the Main Menu, use the Staff link to find my name. Then click on Maloney. From there you can select the document you'd like to read.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at (720)972-2340. The office can connect you to my voicemail. You may also contact me via email at Parnele.Maloney@adams12.org I check both daily and reply within 24 hours. Each morning, I ask the children if they have notes or messages from you in their purple Communication Folder. Please check this folder each night for notes or messages from school. I do want help your child develop responsibility for themselves. So, I need your help! Ask to see their purple Communication Folder nightly. Monitor their ability to maintain their behavior chart and complete the assigned homework. Remind them to put the homework back in the folder and return the folder to school each day.

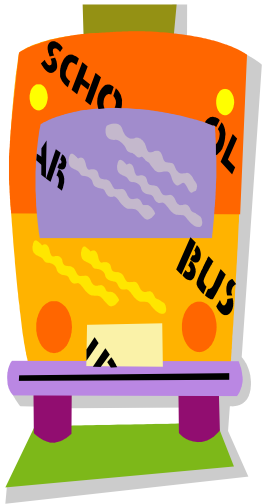
Stay Informed

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/Ms.MaloneysClass> Bookmark our class website. I blog about school events, homework, and study tips. <http://msmaloneysclass.weebly.com/>

Specials

We rotate through our specials as follows Art, Music & PE.

Arrival and Dismissal



School begins at 7:35am. Students are tardy after 7:45am. Aim to be at school by 7:35am. We begin instruction promptly! Students wait outside behind the school if they arrive before 7:35am. Please have your child use the restroom just before coming to school to help minimize trips to the bathroom during instructional time. Dismissal is at 2:30pm (M, T, R, F) and at 1:15pm (W). The students will be released through the front doors of the school. The 2nd Grade Teachers share duty for dismissing students by taking students to the bus and escorting students to the Hug N Go lane. If you pick your child up, please use the Hug N Go lane. Things will move more quickly as everyone learns the routines. Remind your child to keep an eye out for your car! This is another opportunity to nurture responsibility. What holds the Hug N Go up the most is the fact that students are not paying attention to the cars that are pulling up to the curve.

Homework

Students will bring Homework home in their purple Communication Folder. New Spelling words are sent home on Thursday. The Spelling Test is on Wednesday. They should study their words nightly, finding the common pattern and making new words that fit the pattern.

There will be math homework if the daily lesson has a Homelink. It is due the following day. It is important to establish a routine that includes frequent practice of basic addition and subtraction facts to improve computation.

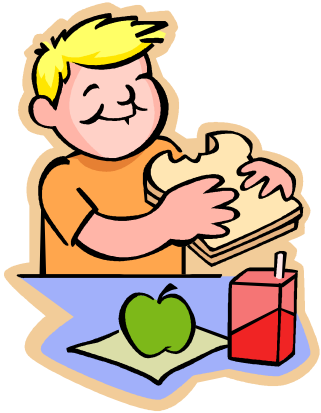
Research shows that children learn to read by reading and by listening to someone read to them. We strongly emphasize the importance of reading on a daily basis to foster the children's reading skills. The nightly homework assignment is to read for at least 20 minutes. Repeated readings of the text are encouraged to develop fluency and build confidence. They will bring the book from their Reading Group home nightly. It is called their Baggie Book. No Homework on Friday!





Classroom Volunteers

I will be inviting parents to come in and help this year. I like to think of us as a team, and would appreciate any help you might be able to give this year. I will have a sign-up for volunteers at Fall Conferences. The time when your help is most beneficial is in the morning Literacy Block between 9:30-11:20am. At other times during the year I may need parents for special projects. Before you join us in class I would like to meet with you for a brief orientation.



School Lunch

Our lunch time is 11:20am. A monthly calendar of lunch choices may be found in the school newsletter which is sent home in your child's purple Communication Folder at the beginning of each month. Each day your child will have a choice from the menu. School lunches are \$2.35, which includes milk or juice.

You may also send in money to be applied to your child's lunch account. Their balance will be kept on a computerized checkout system. The student will have a 4-digit lunch number assigned to them and they will need to remember it. I have written it on the name tag on their desk. The number will follow them each year to the next grade level with only the first digit changing accordingly. This year they start with (2- - -) because they are in 2nd Grade. Next year the first digit will be (3- - -), etc.

Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences are held in the fall and spring. At the fall conferences (October 11th & 12th), you, your child, and I will discuss their work and progress. You had an opportunity to sign-up for a fall conference at Back to School Night. If you did not secure a conference, I will be contacting you soon to schedule one.

School Supplies and Forms

Please ensure that your child has **ALL** their supplies. I will send home a note if your child is missing anything. Many supplies are collected or used as a community. I minimize what they keep in their desks to aid in organization and keep distractions to a minimum. I sent home extra or unneeded supplies. A few students brought in things that were not on the supply list.



Finally

The first Scholastic Book order is due on Friday, August 31st. You may place your order online at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs. You will need the activation code **ATK43** to place online order. As always you may send your orders in to school with a check payable to Scholastic Book Clubs.

I am very excited about our school year. Together, as a team, we can make Stellar Elementary School the best school in the district! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm looking forward to a great year!

Pamela Maloney