

All the News from the Second Grade Shining Stars
February 2019



Dear Families:

Welcome to February! We are looking forward to a busy and exciting month. We have many activities ahead of us as well as some good strong learning days.

In language arts, VoWac and spelling the children will work more with r-controlled vowels, final consonant clusters, base words and endings, and vowel pairs. Some reading strategies they will learn are how to clarify a question, summarize a story, and use decoding skills. Comprehension skills will include drawing conclusions, text organization, and cause and effect. Grammar skills will be using words for nouns, and learning some singular and plural possessive nouns.

In Science we are learning about dental health and heart healthy habits. We did a quick study about groundhogs and Groundhog's Day this week. We named our fictitious groundhog "Sacred Heart Stan." We will begin our new unit in earth science called "Treasures from the Earth." During this unit we will be learning about rocks, fossils, and soils. The children will learn that rocks and soils have different properties that make them useful in different ways. We will also learn about weathering and erosion. Lastly, we will learn that fossils provide clues about plant and animals that lived in the past. We are organizing for a "secret prehistoric project."

We will wrap up our Social Studies unit about voting and community. We will begin more of a SOCIAL aspect studying anti-bullying and making/being good friends. Look toward positive things that are happening and celebrate the good in our school, community, state and world.

We will begin our sixth math unit in February. This unit is about whole-number operations and number stories. The students will be introduced to arrays. They will review strategies for solving addition and subtraction problems, and they will develop procedures for multiplication/division problems. On non-homework nights please encourage your child to practice facts and skills. It keeps them fresh for our daily activities.

Report cards for the first semester are complete. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please contact us. We will be glad to clarify anything for you.

We are in a very strong academic part of the year. The students are achieving well. It is important that we work together to further their success. Thank you for your support. If an academic area is marked N/A it means we have not studied this area yet, but will by the end of our school year.

Our religion lessons have been about missions and service. During these units we visit many places in the world where missionaries work with people, helping them to enrich their lives and make a better future for themselves and their children.

PLANNING AHEAD: Wednesday, APRIL 3rd is First Eucharist Faith Sharing Centers. The centers will be held in Nativity Hall from 3:00-7:00 PM. Try to come no later than 6:00 as it takes approximately 1 hour to complete the centers thoroughly. Please make plans to attend as this is the ONLY opportunity for centers this school year. First Communion banner kits are being put together and will be sent home soon. Please watch for further details regarding First Communion information. Thank you.

There will be a special reading incentive during February for "I Love to Read" month. The children who put forth a positive effort into their free-reading time will have a special reward at the end of the month. Each child has a goal to read 8 story books or two chapter books by the end of the month to obtain their goal. We will team up with Mrs. Omtvedt and Miss Klindworth's classes for "Story and a Snack" where each 2nd grade student will read with our kindergarten friends each week. The children are excited for this opportunity for peer reading.

February is Dental Health Month. Have you made your 6-month visit to the dentist yet? Mrs. Cindy Rieck, our school nurse, dental hygienist Lori Anderson, Miss Deason, and I coordinated an instructional dental health lesson for the children. The children are learning proper brushing methods, dental health, nutrition awareness for our teeth, and information about visits to the dentist.

Enjoy the sunny days ahead!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Marijo Fischer and Miss Kelsey Deason



