



# Welcome Back to School Second Grade Panthers!



Fruitvale Elementary Second Grade Team  
Parent Newsletter

August 12, 2012

## Back-to-school Supplies and Routines:

Thank you for helping our classes start the year by shopping for the items on the class supply list and for your payment of \$7.00 for class consumable materials and art fees. Next, on the back-to school "list" is to develop the habits of coming to school on time, reading daily, and completing homework. By reviewing and signing your students reading log in their take-home folder daily, you are communicating your value for learning and supporting your child's school success.

### Math:

We are excited to maximize student learning using our "Investigations" math resource, which emphasizes the application of math concepts through engaging hands-on experiences. This year we will begin with a review of strategies for counting and knowing addition combinations up to 10+10 and the related subtraction facts with fluency. We will solve addition and subtraction word problems with 2-digit numbers up to 45 using strategies involving breaking numbers apart by place value. Our goal is that our students have the skills to apply their knowledge in real-world and problem-solving situations and for new learning. Our classroom routines will include keeping track and measuring time on clocks and timelines as we graph data. We will also provide opportunities for students to practice identifying and counting coins and dollar bills. You can support learning while you are shopping with your child. When you buy an item, ask your child to reason how much two of an item might cost. For example, "Would two boxes of raisins costing 12 cents each cost? What coins would you use to pay for them? Would you expect change from the cashier?"

### Literacy:

Thank you for your support of reading at home. Students in second grade will be expected to practice reading "just-right" books at home for at least 20 minutes each school night. This is an essential part of your child's reading practice. To encourage your child's natural curiosity and to promote a life-long love of reading, we will be participating in a variety of literacy-enriching activities in our classrooms. Your child will read independently, to others, and listen to reading. They will participate in word-study, vocabulary-building, and writing that supports reading too. We will read aloud to share deep-thinking, strategies for comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and expanding vocabulary, as well learning information in Science and Social Studies. Writing will develop skills for purposeful communication and expression of ideas across subject areas. Our writing will also focus on improving skills in understanding correct standard English grammar usage as well as conventions of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling grade-level words.



## Parent Night !

August 21st

Your second grade team will review Literacy, Math, and Behavior/Effort expectations.

**5:00 p.m.**

### QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Communication is important to us!  
Please feel free to call or e-mail Front Office: 254-5930

#### SECOND GRADE TEACHERS:

Ms. Grams: [devonee.grams@d51schools.org](mailto:devonee.grams@d51schools.org)  
Ms. Lorimor: [chelsea.lorimor@d51schools.org](mailto:chelsea.lorimor@d51schools.org)  
Ms. Schermerhorn: [monika.schermerhorn@d51schools.org](mailto:monika.schermerhorn@d51schools.org)

### Important Calendar Dates:

PTA Meeting 4:15 p.m. Library	Aug. 19
Parent Night 5:00 p.m.	Aug. 21
No School- Labor day	Sept. 2
No School for Students — Elementary Teacher Planning	Sept. 3
Last Day of First Grading Quarter	Oct. 10
No School for Students—	Oct. 11
Parent Teacher Conferences	Oct. 24/25

## Literacy :

(grade-level vocabulary and high frequency focus words for shared reading this month)

**Grade-level phonics lessons for the month include vowels within words.\***

### Examples:

Short vowels a, i	Short vowels e, o, u	Final silent e a_e pattern (contrast with short a)
has, wag, bad,	went, tell	bag, cap, cape,
sat, had, can	pet, job, fog	ate, mad, made
six, will, fix,	not, tug, hut	back, bake, ham
if, hit	tub, bun, fix	rake, tape, bat

**\*Remember!** The focus is hearing the sounds and recognizing spelling patterns. Your student may be working with additional patterns at their level.

### High Frequency Words (for reading & writing):

I	is	a	you	look	we	not
can	go	an	in	up	has	my
the	little	to	and	come	said	like

### Vocabulary for making meaning out of our stories in Treasures:

groan	enjoyed	harvest
different	company	crops
whisper	delighted	regrow
carefully	wonderful	machines
excited	share	irrigate
	thinning	

### Academic vocabulary:

Fiction, Non-Fiction, Character, Setting, Story map, Sequence, Beginning, Middle, End, Plot, Text Features; Photo & Captions, Fable, Main Idea, Details, Word Parts, equation (number sentence), story (word) problems, number line, analog & digital clock (time),

➤greater than, <less than, =equal, double (2x), array