

**Dear Parents,**

Your child will be participating in the following English Language Arts units of study this quarter:

**A Season for Chapters****The Wild West****Reading Literature and Informational Text**

Students will ask and answer questions (who, what, where, when) about key details in the text. When reading, they will identify the beginning and ending of the action in stories. Additionally, students will identify the main topics of a passage and its paragraphs and will use text features (diagrams, pictures, bold print, sub headings) to locate information in a text.

**Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)**

Students will read high frequency words and words with long and short vowel sounds and vowel patterns. When reading grade level texts with purpose, understanding, and expression, students will self-correct errors and reread when necessary.

**Writing**

Students will write stories with details that describe a character's actions, thoughts or feelings. With support from adults and peers, students will improve writing by revising and editing. With a group of their peers, students will research topics, answer questions by recalling information from research, and put their findings in writing.

**Listening and Speaking**

Students will participate in conversations with peers and teachers about second grade texts and topics, and practice retelling a story or recounting an experience. They will learn to ask questions to deepen their understanding of topics being discussed. Students will produce complete and understandable sentences when speaking.

**Language (Conventions of Standard English)**

Capitalization of holidays, product names, and geographic names is a focus for students this quarter. While reading, students will decide the meaning of words and phrases in grade level texts. By using context clues and classroom dictionaries, students will determine the meanings of verbs and adjectives that are similar (ex: *toss, throw, hurl: thin, slender, skinny*). Students will correctly spell words that follow patterns they have learned in word study, and will identify collective nouns (ex: *group, family, team*).

**Handwriting & Keyboarding**

Second graders are expected to maintain legible manuscript on lined paper with proper proportion, size and spacing. This quarter, they will practice writing words, sentences and paragraphs in manuscript. When using the keyboard, students will practice using the home keys as they practice typing words. They will learn to use the shift key to capitalize and use the space bar to place spaces between words.