

**3rd Quarter****Dear Parents,**

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



A Long Journey to Freedom
Hand-Me-Down Tales from Around the World

**Reading Literature and Informational Text**

Students will read, retell, compare, and contrast many types of stories from cultures around the world to determine the lesson. They will describe story structure, character's point of view, and how characters respond to challenges. Students will explain how the illustrations and images support the text meaning and describe the connection between historical events, scientific ideas, and how-to steps.

Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)

Students will recognize and read high frequency words, words with long and short vowel sounds, and common prefixes and suffixes. They will read grade level texts with purpose, understanding, and expression, self-correcting errors and rereading when necessary. Students will determine the meaning of words and phrases in second grade texts. They will understand the meanings of similar verbs (toss, throw, hurl) and similar adjectives (thin, slender, skinny, scrawny).

Writing

Students will write to state their opinion on a topic, giving reasons to support the opinion, or write stories with details and end with a strong conclusion. With a group of their peers, students will answer questions by recalling information from research, and put their findings in writing. With support from adults, students will improve writing by revising and editing and publish their writing using technology such as computers or an iPad.

Listening and Speaking

When students participate in conversations with peers and teachers about second grade topics and texts, or when retelling a story or recounting an experience, they will be expected to speak in complete and understandable sentences. When listening to presentations by others, students will ask questions to increase their understanding, respond to the comments of others, and describe key details from an oral presentation or a text read aloud.

Language (Conventions of Standard English)

Students will use pronouns, verbs correctly when speaking and writing. They will use apostrophes and spell known words correctly in writing.

Handwriting & Keyboarding

In addition to maintaining legible manuscript, students will be introduced to cursive writing this quarter. They will match manuscript letters to their cursive counterparts, learn to create the basic cursive lines and begin learning to form individual lowercase letters and numerals. When using the keyboard, students will begin learning about word processing. They will practice finding the home keys, using the correct fingers to type the letters QWERTY, as well as using their thumbs to depress the space bar.