

**Dear Parents,**

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

**Hand-Me-Down Tales from Around the World  
Taking Care of Ourselves****Reading Literature and Informational Text**

Students will describe how authors use words and phrases to influence the rhythm and meaning of text. They will use information from words, illustrations, and text features (diagrams, pictures, bold print, subheadings) in both digital and print texts to understand the plot, characters, and specific points an author makes in a text, and to determine the meaning and focus of specific paragraphs in text. They will also compare and contrast characters, settings, events in a story.

**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 use multiple strategies to determine the meaning of words and phrases in second grade texts.

**Writing**

Students will write to explain a topic including facts and definitions about the topic and ending with a conclusion. 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**

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 spell words using learned patterns, and use dictionaries to check correct spelling and meaning. They will use pronouns, adjectives, and adverbs correctly in speaking and writing.

**Handwriting & Keyboarding**

In addition to maintaining legible manuscript, students will continue learning about cursive writing this quarter. They will begin to connect lowercase letters as they learn to write words in cursive. 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.