

Welcome to Curriculum Night

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Reading

- Whole group instruction
 - basal series
 - comprehension, grammar, decoding, writing, fluency, phonics
- Phonics tests on Fridays
- Guided Reading
 - small group instruction at each child's instructional level
 - comprehension, decoding, fluency
 - Guided Reading books will be sent home for your child to reread. Please listen to your child read these books.
- Reading Assessments
 - Unit tests given after every reading unit (every 6 weeks).
 - Tests focus on phonics, comprehension skills, vocabulary, and grammar.

Math

- Topic 1 – Understanding Addition and Subtraction
- Topic 2 - Addition Strategies
- Topic 3 - Subtraction Strategies
- Topic 4 - Working with Equal Groups
- Topic 5 – Place Value to 100
- Topic 6 – Mental Addition
- Topic 7 – Mental Subtraction
- Topic 8 – Adding Two-Digit Numbers
- Topic 9 – Subtracting Two-Digit Numbers
- Topic 10 – Place Value to 1,000
- Topic 11 – Three-Digit Addition and Subtraction
- Topic 12 – Geometry

- Topic 13 – Counting Money
- Topic 14 – Money
- Topic 15 – Measuring Length
- Topic 16 – Time, Graphs, and Data

- Basic math facts
 - memorize addition and subtraction facts to 18
 - mad minute goals
 - 1st quarter addition goal +37
 - 2nd quarter addition goal +46
 - 3rd quarter addition goal +53
 - 4th quarter addition goal +61
 - 1st quarter subtraction goal +19
 - 2nd quarter subtraction goal +25
 - 3rd quarter subtraction goal +30
 - 4th quarter subtraction goal +36

Writing

- 6 + 1 Traits of Writing- Ideas, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Conventions, and Presentation
- Whole class instruction/individual instruction- modeling and sharing examples of writing activities
- Focus is on one trait at a time.
 - Ideas- A good idea is clear, interesting, and original.
 - Organization- Organization puts your ideas in an order that makes sense, and it gives your writing a strong beginning, middle, and end.
 - Voice- Voice is individual expression, the feelings, and the heart and soul of the writer.
 - Word Choice- Word choice is the use of rich, colorful, precise language.
 - Sentence Fluency- Sentence fluency makes your writing flow smoothly and sound so interesting that people want to read it aloud.
 - Conventions- Conventions are the use of correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation when you write.
 - Presentation- Presentation is the final product.

Spelling

- We're emphasizing the importance of learning high frequency words, not memorizing words for a test. Core words are used throughout the year and not just for one particular week.
- 5 new words per week- given on Mondays
- Evaluated through word tests, sentence dictation, and every day writing.
- Word tests are on Thursdays and sentence dictation is on every other Tuesday.
- Attached is a list of Second Grade Core Words.

Science/Health/Social Studies

- worms/plants, dinosaurs, light and stars, matter, magnets, butterflies, and chicks
- brain, germs, heart, muscles, and skin
- culture, geography, history, economics, and citizenship

Other Assessments

- Curriculum Based Measurement Tests (CBM)
- Children's Progress

Response to Intervention- Rtl

- CBM tests are used to identify students who are not meeting grade level expectations.
- Identified students work on skills through research based interventions.
- Students are monitored to check their progress.
- See attached letter from Dr. Turner regarding Rtl.

Extension Activities-Talented and Gifted (TAG)

- Identification of TAG students does not begin until Third Grade.
- Our philosophy at Benson Primary School is to meet children where they are at and enhance their educational needs from that point.
- Teachers create and offer extension activities.
- Extensions are ongoing and connected to the wide variety of classroom curricular areas.
- Heightened expectations for those children who have shown the ability to extend classroom activities occur on a regular basis.

Homework

- Given Monday through Thursday
- Weekly Assignment Sheet sent home every Monday on bright blue paper and on the District's website.
- Assignments are written in assignment notebooks.
- Read for 10 minutes every night (Guided Reading or any reading assigned by any teacher counts for the 10 minutes.)

Grading

- 3's = a more than an acceptable rate
2's = an acceptable rate
1's = a less than acceptable rate
- You and your child should be proud of all 2's and 3's. If your child receives a 1, this is an area that needs improvement.

Specials Schedule

- Mondays: Library and Computers
- Tuesdays: Music and P.E.
- Wednesdays: P.E.
- Thursdays: Art
- Fridays: Music and Computers

Miscellaneous

- Academic and classroom information can be found on the District's website:
www.itasca.k12.il.us/benson/facultypages/second (This brings you directly to the Second Grade section.)
- Snacks/Birthdays- You may send in birthday treats or trinkets for your child's birthday at your convenience. There are 23 children in our class. Please be aware that we have some peanut allergies in our class this year. I need to ask that you keep this in mind when sending in birthday treats and daily snacks. Thank you for your understanding and respecting this need.
- Parent/Teacher Conference- Please sign up for a conference tonight.

Thank you for coming!