

2nd Grade Handbook

IMPORTANT: Please check your child's take home folders each evening for daily work and behavior calendar items. Please make sure the folder comes back to school the following day.

SUPPLIES

In addition to the usual pencils (36), erasers, scissors, pencil box, crayons, or markers, please make sure that your child brings glue sticks (12), a glue bottle, two boxes of facial tissues, five two pocket folders (to be used for AR, Poetry Pockets, Math, and as a Take Home Folder), one container of Wipes, three wide spaced spiral notebooks, and one pack of copy paper.

MILK BREAK

Milk or juice is offered. Payment must be made for either half of the school year or the full school year. Milk/juice prices are \$23.00 for the half year and \$46.00 for the full year as of this printing. Healthy snacks may be brought from home for milk break. *Please consider sending a healthy snack to school.* We prefer that you do not send candy. Milk break time will be in the mornings and lasts about 15 minutes.

BIRTHDAYS

Your child is welcome to bring a treat for the class on his/her birthday. If the birthday falls on the weekend, or a holiday it will be celebrated on a day close to the actual birthday. If your child has a summer birthday he/she may celebrate on the "half birthday" (6 months from the real date), or during the last six weeks of school – depending the individual classroom teacher's preference. Please note that in our new handbook invitations **cannot** be handed out in school.

BOOK ORDERS

Book orders are sent home about once a month. Your child does not have to order from each one, however, the books are usually very reasonable. It is a good way to build a home library. Please check the return date on the order blanks and kindly write the check directly to the book club. Some classrooms may do online orders so kindly look for a flyer so you can place your order from your home computer.

LIBRARY BOOKS

When students go to the library, they are allowed to check out 3 books. If the previous week's books are not returned, they cannot check out any more books until the "late" books are returned. A note will be sent home telling you when your child's library day is. We require that at least two books stay at school so they can use for AR reading time and to exchange should they finish before their next library time. **Students are encouraged to read and exchange books daily...there are several times during the school day when students may exchange books.**

Library times are as follows: Mrs. Forsgren...Monday at 10:35, Mr. Nelson...Tuesday at 10:35, Mrs. Meyer...Wednesday at 10:35

DISCIPLINE PLAN

We use a plan called "Above the Line" behaviors. In our homerooms we will make a list of good (above the line) behaviors as well as making a list of inappropriate (below the line) behaviors. If the class has an above the line behavior in a subject area, they will earn "one line on a star". When the class earns 10 stars or 100 points, then a class reward will be given. For inappropriate behavior, a child will need to complete a colored **"FIX-IT"** plan should they have to turn their behavior chart cards three times in a day. The plan must be filled out by the child, taken home to be signed by the parent, and then returned the following day to whomever issued the "fix-it". Please look in your child's take home folder at the monthly calendar because each day they will color in where their behavior card finished at by the end of the school day.

CHANGES IN THE USUAL AFTER SCHOOL PLANS

It can be quite hectic at the end of some school days. If your child is to go to a different place (than usual) after school, you must notify the teacher with either a note, or a call to the office before 2 p.m. A verbal message from the child will not count. The child will then go home the usual way, unless the proper notification has been given. If a birthday party is planned for after school, please send a list of the students attending the party with your son or daughter. If you are picking up your child early in the school day...please report to the office to check out your 2nd grader instead of coming directly to your son or daughter's room. If children are brought to school after 8:30 they need to be checked into the office.

OUR CURRICULUM

The following is a brief description of our main classes:

HANDWRITING

We will be using the Zaner-Bloser handwriting series throughout the school year. After that we will use our daily oral language (DOL) with the students editing the sentences presented. We also want to stress the importance of neat printing throughout all subjects. This will be taken into consideration when marking report cards.

SPELLING

A spelling *pretest* will be given on the first school day of each week. If a word is missed – another test will be given on Friday. On weeks with three days, or less, no test will be given because of the shortened week. Spelling awards are given at the end of the year. The week's spelling words will be sent with Monday's 2nd Grade Newsletter. The newsletter can also be found online, usually by Monday noon hour.

MATH

Our enVision math series provides for differentiated instruction that provides for individual needs. It is truly a traditional math based series that has been updated for “today” with all the traditional subject areas being covered. Homework will be required on a weekly basis with the assignment appearing in our weekly Monday newsletter. Time will also be spent on learning the basic addition and subtraction facts.

Later in the school year all second graders will get to enjoy *Accelerated Math*.

READING

With all the skills that were learned last year, your child will now be able to read in our literature-based reading book. We will strengthen phonetic skills and vocabulary with our 2nd year reading curriculum and various selected activities. We **HIGHLY** recommend an extra 15 to 20 minutes of reading time (at home) at least several times per week. With Accelerated Reader (AR) being a big part of our student’s reading program and hence success, we will be having daily time where they will get additional AR reading time.

DID YOU KNOW (?)...You can access the school’s web site and check under *Technology and Media/Scroll down to Elementary Library/Click on North Star Library Consortium*...to see if the books they have checked out, or have at home are *AR books* and the level they are.

Please look for an additional two to four short stories to come home weekly for you to enjoy with your second grader, sign, and have them return to school.

SCIENCE/HEALTH/SOCIAL STUDIES

Mr. Nelson will teach science. Mrs. Meyer will teach health. Mrs. Forsgren will teach social studies. Each class will meet once a week.

COMPUTER

There will be many educational and fun computer skills and activities taught throughout the school year by each individual teacher. Time will be spent at the computers working with Accelerated Reader, too. Keyboarding will receive much emphasis this year with weekly classes offered on our wireless portable lab (WPLS) system during the school year.

MUSIC

Mrs. Gylland will teach music to your child. A seasonal program is planned for December. Music meets five days a week.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. Kalkbrenner is the teacher. The children must wear “tennis” shoes in the gym. If they wear “tennis” shoes to school on a regular basis – and they tend to get muddy – kindly consider having an additional pair “Just for gym”. Phy.Ed. meets 5 days a week.

ART

We will be having weekly art classes. Additionally – there will be many “art type” projects throughout the school year.

PETS

School policy says that no pets may be brought to school.

FRIDAYS

Most Fridays will see a special event take place.

That event is Friday’s Spirit Day. For those choosing – the girls and boys can wear *Trojan* purple, gold, and white colors. Several children will be chosen each Friday for a special recognition from Mr. Henrickson for showing school spirit.

YEAR END AWARDS

Awards will be given in spelling. To earn an award all the words must be correctly spelled on either the first of the week or the Friday test. They will earn an Accelerated Reader Award (for earning 75 points), and for having perfect attendance.

DRESS CODE

This area has been addressed in this year's addition of the *Parent/Student Handbook* – please review the parent handbook on-line.

ELECTRONICS

Again please view the on-line handbook because students are encouraged to **not** bring *any* electronic devices to school; including cell phones, hand held games, MP3 players, etc. If something is brought to school they must be kept in book bags. If they become visible during class they will be taken away and given back at the end of the day. A second time...you will have to come and pick up the device from the office.

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

Kindly take some time to look over this booklet that will answer many questions about school policies and procedures. The second graders will be enjoying lunch and recess from 11:35 – 12:20.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you for taking the time to read through the handbook. If you have any question about anything, please feel free to call or E-mail us. The best time to reach us (on the phone) at school is between 2:10– 2:45 for the remainder of the school year. The school's phone number is 354-2300. It is OK to call us at home should an emergency arise. **Please look for a newsletter to come home with your child every week. The newsletter will go home (in most cases) on Mondays. In addition – kindly look for any other notes that may be sent from school. You are always welcome to visit us at school!**

Mrs. Forsgren lforsgren@barnesville.k12.mn.us

Mrs. Meyer smeyer@barnesville.k12.mn.us

Mr. Nelson jnelson@barnesville.k12.mn.us

Following are our extension numbers.

Forsgren (439) Meyer (436) Nelson (435)

GAMES AND TOYS

As stated in our Parent/Student Elementary Handbook games, etc. from home are not permitted in the classroom (with the exception of sharing day – after that activity they will be put away) – so that they will not be visible or used during class and cause interruptions in the classroom. Toys may not be brought out during recess unless they are school property. Mr. Nelson, Mrs. Meyer, and Mrs. Forsgren will have their sharing time for each individual student the day they present their weather reports.

DISCIPLINE PLAN

Please review with your second grader the discipline plan that was sent home in the parent packet (Elementary Handbook) to you earlier this fall. We will also visit with our classes about this most important topic.

REWARDS:

1. Students will be given verbal praise.
2. Classrooms will be rewarded for good behavior. They must earn so many points or stars as mentioned earlier in our 2nd Grade Book*****Look for some kid's created behavior lists to arrive.**

