



# SECOND GRADE NEWSLETTER

February 2017

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Amping Up Reading Power	Amping up reading power continues to be our focus for February. Students will continue to dive deep into series books and character study. Children will be immersed in book talks, making connections while reading, and writing about reading. Help your child at home by discussing their books in depth. Ask your child to make connections with their books. This means to notice when parts of a book remind you of something you have experienced yourself or something that you know about.
Writing	Realistic Fiction Stories/Poetry	During the first half of the month of February, our students will continue to write Realistic Fiction stories. They are currently revising one story written and studying several mentor texts to write like a published author. Their writing has grown so much and their stories are SO exciting! After February break, we will begin a unit of study of Poetry writing. In this unit, the students will use creative language to write poems. We will deeply study author's craft and use our imagination to write creatively. At home, you can support your child by reading poems with him/her. Have your child write about the world around them by using their five senses. *Students will have a Narrative Post-Assessment task before the February break.
Math	2-Digit Addition & Subtraction/	Second grade will be finishing up the unit on 5-digit addition and subtraction before the vacation. Students will be using standard algorithm along with sketching pictures to represent number stories.
Science	Forces and Motion	For the month of February we will be working on learning all about "Forces and Motion." During this unit of study, students will be learning the difference between forces and motion, as well as what are some of the different types of forces and motion. At home, discuss what your child is learning and talk about where they can see examples of what they are learning in class. (Ex: forces and motion in sports such as bowling or hockey or in how various household items work).
Social Studies	NYC Over Time	In this unit, we will continue to learn how NYC has changed from long ago to now, and the effects it has had on the people who lived in this great city. Children will explore how transportation, living conditions, and the city's architecture have changed from long ago. Embedded in the program, students will be exposed to images, complex texts, media sources, and discussion where they think deeply about the differences of NYC long ago to now.

## Focus of the Month: Math

This month we will be building on the number sense that your child has been building by embarking on a journey to understand 2-digit addition and subtraction. To be successful, your child must be able to use his/her knowledge of place value to apply the strategies we will be introducing. Your child will, for instance, learn to recognize that when adding 2 digit numbers, they can add more simply by making one of the two-digit numbers into a multiple of 10. (ex:  $28+6=28+2+4=30+4=34$  or  $27+15=27+3+12=30+12=42$ ) As always, look to your child's homework to demonstrate the strategies that they are learning in class and help your child to understand them. If they are struggling to use the different strategies, feel free to use manipulatives to help them understand it. If your child has access to an iPad, encourage him/her to use apps like Number Pieces that contain hundreds, tens and ones blocks, so that he/she can have a visual representation of what is being added and how to break apart the numbers. Visual representations can be very useful to help your child fully understand these concepts. As your child becomes more comfortable with adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers give them examples of real world situations where they might add two-digit numbers. This will help them to navigate word problems in class because they will be better able to visualize the scenario that a word problem is narrating. This month is also the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. We will be celebrating in our classrooms on **February 15, 2016**. Please come and enjoy the celebration!