



SECOND GRADE NEWSLETTER

P.S. 24 Queens

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Readers Grow Like a Beanstalk	As we begin a new school year, we hope your children enjoyed some summer fun but continued to read daily during their vacation. We jump right into not only setting routines, goals and 2nd grade reading expectations, but this month during reading workshop we spend time understanding how and why authors write in certain ways, the meaning behind what they are saying, as well as figuring out tricky words and how to navigate through the complexity of different texts. Your child should be reading 20 minutes every night, logging his/her reading in the school log.
Writing	Improving Narrative Writing	We are excited to start this new school year with the genre of Narrative Writing. A narrative is a story. During this unit of study, the students will decide on a real-life story they would like to write about. They will include details that show how they feel. We will study Mentor Texts to help the students learn how authors craft stories. As you read with your child daily, help your child notice the author's style and craft of writing.
Math	Number Concepts	In this unit of study we will be introduced to math facts and relationships with numbers 1 through 20. Students will be using multiple strategies to solve math problems, for example: the doubles fact strategy, make a ten strategy ($8+6=8+2+4=14$), and the Commutative and Associative Properties of Addition ($2+3=3+2$) and $(2+3)+4=2+(3+4)$ and many more. You can help your child at home by discussing how these strategies can be helpful in learning how to add and subtract quickly and helping them to notice when each strategy can be helpful.
Science	Earth Materials	During the month of September we will begin to learn about rocks (earth's materials). We will be learning about rocks through hands on experiments, read alouds, photos, video clips and studying actual earth materials such as rocks. You can help your child at home by reading books about earth materials and discussing them.
Social Studies	Rules, Rights and Responsibilities	We are kick-starting the year with an exciting unit where the children learn all about rules, rights and responsibilities. A large part of second grade social studies is learning how they can become an important part of their community through researching the rules, rights and responsibilities that we uphold as Americans. The children will explore the presidential process, laws that have been put in place, as well as why it is important to be a good citizen. They will participate in centers, conduct research projects, as well as explore through literature what rules, rights and responsibilities an American citizen has to abide by. You can support your child at home by discussing rules and laws, why they are in place and what different rules and laws we have in our homes, schools and communities.

Focus of the Month: PBIS Behavior

We are so excited to meet your amazing children and watch them learn and grow! It's a new school year and PS24 is ready to reward your child for good behavior! Our PBIS program emphasizes that a child should be rewarded for good behavior with compliments as well as rewards. Your child's teacher will be discussing how to be safe, respectful and responsible in school and at home. Each time your child is observed demonstrating behaviors that involve these qualities they will receive a Jackson Buck as a reward along with an explanation of why their behavior was safe, respectful and/or responsible. Please discuss with your child the behaviors that will demonstrate these qualities and why they are important. For example, ask your child what they feel is good behavior in the classroom, hallways, auditorium, bathroom, cafeteria and dismissal. If your child tells you that he/she has received an individual Jackson Buck or that their whole class has received one, praise your child and talk about why they received this reward. Encourage your child to be proud of his/her success and to continue to practice these good behaviors.