

**Jones Dairy  
Elementary**

# Cruising Cars Courier

**Track 1, Second Grade**

**July 15, 2019**

## In Second Grade We Are Learning!

Welcome to the exciting world of second grade! I have really enjoyed getting to know your children over the past week or so. Thank you for all of the wonderful letters I have received from you telling me about your child.

In reading, we will be using a mentor text and a specific mentor sentence from the text to notice parts of speech in, revise, and imitate. Last week our text was *First Day Jitters*. We will be our mentor text will be *Chrysanthemum*. Next week, we will be using *Officer Buckle And Gloria*. As we have been reading these mentor texts, we have been working on asking and answering questions about the text and identifying before reading, during reading, and after reading question types (RL.1).

This year second grade is joining third through fifth grades in using a county wide reading and writing, EL Education—Language Arts curriculum. This program is broken into four modules (corresponding with the four quarters). I am excited to start teaching the new EL curriculum as it seems very engaging and rigorous. We will begin the first module, Schools and Community, next week. Most of our science and social standards will be taught cross curricular as they are embedded in these units. As in first grade, we will continue to use Letterland for phonics instruction. Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on identifying syllable types (open, closed, magic e), doubling consonants (“best friends to the rescue”) in short vowel words, and using the magic e ending to change the vowel type to a long vowel sound (RF.3)

In math, we are reviewing using number lines to add and subtract numbers (MD.6). We also practiced identifying if numbers were odd or even and justifying how we knew (OA.3). We will begin to focus on addition and subtraction strategies that will help us fluently add and subtract within 20 (OA.2). We will be learning counting all, counting on, using a number line, using a hundreds board, using a math mountain, and the make a ten strategy.

### Specials

As you have probably noticed, specials have stayed the same this year. Students will again have the four main specials (music, media, PE, and art) Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, children will attend an “elective special.” Like last year, these are scheduled in three week cycles that follow the specials schedule listed in the newsletter. The specialists will have different types of electives to choose from (ex: fancy lettering, wiffle ball, brain teasers, checkers). Roughly four to six children from each second grade class will be mixed together for a three week cycle. Once your child is placed in an elective, (s)he will remain in the same elective with the same group of children for three Fridays before attending a new elective for the next cycle. It will be important that you communicate with your child about which elective (s)he has chosen, so you make sure (s)he has the appropriate footwear, clothing, etc. for the elective.

### Cruising Cars Schedule

Dates	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7/9-7/26 10/1-10/18 1/2-1/24 4/1-4/22	Art	Media	Music	PE	Elective
7/29-8/16 10/21-11/8 1/27-2/14 4/23-5/13	PE	Art	Media	Music	Elective
8/19-9/6 11/11-12/6 2/18-3/6 5/14-6/4	Media	Music	PE	Art	Elective



### Important Information & Dates:



- If you haven't already provided me with your **parent homework assignment** (the letter about your child), please note that these are due on Monday, July 15th. These are such a wonderful communication tool to help me learn about your child and I really appreciate the time and effort that went into writing those I have received already.
- **Open House** for track 1 will be on Thursday July 24th from 6:00-8:00. The PTA will have a meeting beginning at 6:00. Classroom teachers will then have an two (identical) sessions for you to choose one to attend. The first session will begin after the PTA meeting, at approximately 6:40. The second session will begin around 7:15. These sessions will be different from last year, in that there is no need for students to attend as I will be going over the curriculum, classroom procedures, etc. I look forward to seeing you all again!
- **Interim Reports** for track 1 students will be sent home the week of August 5th-9th. You should look for this in your child's homework folder on Friday, August 9th. Please remember that these grades are reflective of your child's performance up to the halfway mark of the quarter and many more assignments will be graded between now and the end of the quarter.