

# Second Grade

- 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM (Extended Day available until 6:00 PM)
- Number of classes: 2
- Class size: Maximum 18
- Two teachers, one teaching associate
- Specialist instruction in art, drama, library, music, PE, Spanish, science, robotics, and technology

## 2ND GRADE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Creating and performing an original play in drama
- Farm to table market study
- Study of temperate forests and the organisms in the Pacific Northwest

Second graders grow their competency in academic and social skills, and expectations are based on an understanding of individual development and learning styles. Students are supported in taking steps to be responsible for organizing their own time and for the care of personal belongings and the group environment. Mutual respect, understanding of the diversity of our society and its resources, and cooperation are all encouraged.

Our teachers use an integrated approach that connects academic areas with specialist classes when exploring specific concepts or unit. Problem-solving, thinking skills, and practices to help build a sustainable future are interwoven into the curriculum.



**Language Arts** • Second graders develop their reading and writing through a workshop model. Each child is encouraged to find their own voice as a writer and discover their own interests as a reader. Children are exposed to a variety of literature that reflects the diversity of our world today. Projects and class studies are designed to expand horizons and foster creativity and confidence in the student's ability to communicate. Most importantly, we try to develop a lifelong love and curiosity for reading and writing.

Second graders will grow as **readers** by:

- Developing phonemic awareness and phonics
- Expanding vocabulary development
- Engaging in sustained silent reading
- Participating in class read aloud novels, author studies, and genre studies
- Focusing on reading comprehension strategies
- Making inferences using evidence from text
- Learning to use nonfiction books as research tools
- Explaining the problem, solution, or central idea of a piece of writing
- Expanding literature choices to include books from multicultural perspectives and those that promote environmental stewardship



Second graders will grow as **writers** by:

- Producing a portfolio of writing that demonstrates their growth as a writer
- Engaging in activities that introduce them to the three text types: narrative, informational and persuasive
- Learning about text structures and graphic organizers to continue their understanding of the prewriting process
- Producing and publishing writing by planning, revising, editing, and rewriting
- With guidance, using technology to produce, publish, and collaborate on writing with others
- Researching to build and present knowledge based on essential questions
- Creating a range of writing, from short to longer pieces

**Math** • The second grade math curriculum meets needs of each student through fluid math groups. Our main math program, EnVision Math, uses manipulatives and pictorial models. Students engage in math through small group lessons, differentiated instruction, math stations, and project-based learning. Students learn to solve problems, reason logically, communicate ideas, make connections, and understand concepts and procedures. The use of a variety of strategies, estimation, and mental math is fostered.



Second graders will grow as **mathematicians** by exploring these areas:

- Place value to at least 1,000
- Addition and subtraction facts through 20
- Adding and subtraction of two- and three-digit numbers with regrouping
- Telling time to the hour, half hour, quarter hour
- Linear measurement as an iteration of units and using measurement tools
- Creating and interpreting a variety of graphs
- Recognizing and describing attributes of geometric shapes
- Composing and decomposing three dimensional and plane shapes
- Dividing shapes into equal parts



**Social Studies** • Second graders begin to expand their horizons to the world beyond themselves by honoring the experiences and perspectives of various cultures. Students use technology to help them delve deeper into subject matter and to create complementary projects. In the Forest Explorers unit, students create presentations about Pacific Northwest temperate forests and the organisms that inhabit them. They learn about the rich history of the Pike Place Market as a means to gain a better understanding of their community, and a visit to a local organic farm offers the opportunity to experience how food is grown and then makes its way from farm to table.



**Social-Emotional Learning** • We believe that character development is just as important as academic achievement. Through our social-emotional learning curriculum, our students are learning to grow beyond themselves and develop greater capacity for compassion and empathy for members of our community and the world around them.



**Specialist Classes** • Second graders also learn from our specialist teachers in the areas of art, drama, library, music, PE, science, robotics, technology, and Spanish.