

Mrs. Mehta's News

October 2018 Edition

Classroom News

Reading: Students have begun learning our Daily 5 classroom routines. Soon we will begin our first unit, **Taking Charge of Our Reading**.

Word Study: Word study will begin this month. Your child's teacher will send home a letter with more information when word study begins.

Writing: Students have been learning habits of good writers, including how to gather ideas to write about. Soon we will begin our **Small Moments** unit.

Math: Students have been learning classroom routines. Students are practicing talking like a mathematician and learning about different types of word problems. We have just begun our first unit, **Place Value**.

Social Studies: Students have been learning about growth mindset. This month we will celebrate New Jersey's Week of Respect by learning about C.A.R.E.S (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy, Self-Control). We will practice using growth mindset and C.A.R.E.S all year. Later this month, students will begin our **Communities** unit.

Important Dates

10/1: Picture Day
10/2: Back to School Night
10/1-10/5 Week of Respect
10/9: Early Release
10/12: Spirit Wear Order Due
10/26: PTO Halloween Dance

Birthdays!

10/3: Adriana & Mrs. Mehta
10/4: Shuban

**Reminder: Students are allowed to bring in nut-free treats. Please be sure the treats are not processed with nuts.*

Reminders

Spirit Wear: Constable Spirit Wear is now on sale. Every Friday students are encouraged to wear Constable Colors or spirit wear. Return the order form by 10/12 or order online: <https://www.agepstores.com/iep/groups.php>

Take Home Folders & Agendas: Take Home Folders and Agendas are sent home every day. Please be sure to check your child's agenda daily.

Dismissal: If your child has any dismissal changes, please let the school know by sending a note with your child or calling the office.

Snack: Just a friendly reminder that students should bring a snack everyday to school, even on early release days.

Lunch: If you are sending lunch money with your child, please send money in an enclosed envelope, labeled with your child's name. You may also email your child's teacher so they can expect to receive money.

Notes to Teacher: If you would like to share information or have questions, please e-mail me or send in a note with your child. Please **do not** write in the agenda since I check the children's agenda in the afternoon.

Homework

Second grade uses a **homework checklist**. Students will receive a homework checklist each week. Note that there are "Must-do" and optional homework assignments. Please be sure to review the checklist each week, as the assignments may occasionally change. Please sign the checklist and have your child return it to school every **Friday** or at the end of the school week. Students may choose how to complete each the assignment based on the given menu choices. Please keep this menu in a safe place at home. Please see the homework letter for more information about how students should complete their homework.

Grading

Throughout the week, your child will be bringing home many work samples in their Take Home Folders. Some of these assignments were completed in class and subsequently gone over in class as a whole group or in partners. Other assignments (both classwork and homework) will be "graded" by me. For these assignments, I use the following system:

A "**check mark**" means your child completed the assignment exactly as directed. This is the standard "grade" for most papers.

A "**check plus**" means that your child showed extra effort on the assignment. This could be a bonus, extra problems/ sentences/ examples, coloring, or other exceptional work that is above and beyond.

A "**check minus**" means that your child did not follow directions, did not complete the entire assignment, or did work that is not their best. They will redo the work.

**If your child receives a paper without any type of check mark, but with notes or corrections from me, please make sure that your child fixes any mistakes and turns the paper back in to me. I will then assign a "grade" and record that grade into my gradebook. If these assignments are not fixed and turned back in, your child will not get credit for that assignment.*

What can you do at home to help?

- Create a comfortable homework environment for your child by setting a time, choosing a "go-to-spot" that is near you, creating enough space for your child to work, and finding and organizing supplies (pencils, erasers, sharpener, crayons, scissors, etc.). If you would like more suggestions, please feel to reach out!
- Increase *self-regulation* by helping your child check over their homework and to make sure they have all of their belongings needed for school.
 - To learn more about self-regulation, visit:
<http://www.toolsofthemind.org/philosophy/self-regulation/>
- Start building stamina by having your child read one minute more each night.
- Implement logical consequences at home and help them to understand what they can do in the future to improve their actions.
 - For more information on logical consequences, visit:
<https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/article/punishment-vs-logical-consequences>

Websites

- Scholastic Book Club:
 - <https://clubs2.scholastic.com/>
 - *This month I will send home Scholastic Book Club order forms along with our online ID. If you would like to order books through the catalog you may do so online. However, if you would like to send payment in, please send on or before **October 26***
 - *Our online ID is: **PBTLP***
- Typing Club: Students can practice their typing skills
 - <https://www.typingclub.com/typing-qwerty-en.html>

Teacher and School Contact

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