

# Mrs. Mehta's News

September 2018 Edition

## Classroom News

Welcome back to school everyone! I am so excited to start off the year with your wonderful children. The second grade team sends home a monthly newsletter to give you more information about what is going on in our classroom and school. We will send unit letters for each subject throughout the year.

The monthly newsletter is also posted on my webpage: [radhamehta.weebly.com](http://radhamehta.weebly.com)

**Classroom Community:** As we start the school year, students are learning classroom routines, procedures, and expectations. Students are also working on projects and activities that help develop their social skills as they learn more about their classmates. Rules are created together as we build a safe classroom environment for the students. Students also participate in creating logical consequences to ensure everyone is accountable for their actions. Students will take on more responsibilities in the classroom and learn how to self-regulate.

**Take Home Folders & Agendas:** Take Home Folders and Agendas are sent home every day. Please be sure to check your child's agenda daily for information and announcements from the principal and school as well as opportunities and information from community organizations. Parents/ guardians are encouraged to check their child's backpack daily. If you need to send in a note to me, please send an e-mail or a note in your child's Take Home Folder. Take Home Folders also include student work. At times, your child may need to make corrections and send it back to the teacher. Other graded work *does not* need to be sent back. Please see below under "Grading" to learn more. Please make sure the folders are sent back empty, unless there are notes, forms, or corrected student work. They should be sent back with your child every week after the weekend.

**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.

## Important Dates

9/6: First Day of School  
9/10-11: No School- *Rosh Hashanah*  
9/19: No School- *Yom Kippur*  
10/1: Picture Day  
10/2 Back to School Night  
10/9: Early Release

## Reminders

- If you have not done so, please bring in your child's **school supplies**:  
<https://constablesummerreading.weebly.com/school-supplies.html>

- If you have not done so, please complete the **Parent Survey** as soon as possible: <https://goo.gl/forms/EBzB9MABop8ukbGi2>

## 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 **September 27***
  - *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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