2ⁿᵈ Grade Scoop
April News 2014

Mrs. Reck, Mrs. Carpenter, Mrs. Komaromi, Mrs. Luck, Miss Hager

Reading:

Nonfiction Reading Unit
During this unit, children will learn about nonfiction text features such as photographs, captions, headings, bold words, glossary, index, and labels. We will compare and contrast nonfiction and fiction books to see how they are alike and different.

Writing:

In March, we wrote realistic fiction stories. We learned that when writers write realistic fiction, they take stories that **could** happen and embellish them by adding untrue, interesting details.

In April, we will begin our information writing unit. All the hard work we've done in our nonfiction reading unit will come in handy!
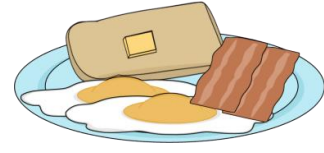
Social Studies

We will begin our last social studies unit on Hartland History. During this unit, we will learn what Hartland was like when the first settlers arrived in our "small town". In June, we look forward to taking a walking field trip to visit some of the places we will learn about such as the Cromaine Library, the Music Hall, and the Florence B. Dearing Museum. More information will follow.

Reading chapter books at home

Many kids form a bond with the main character in a chapter book and continue the series in order to go on more adventures with that character. Even if your child is unable to read the books independently, reading a chapter book with your child can be a fun way to spend time together. When parents read aloud to children, they model reading fluently and with expression. Parents can ask comprehension questions as they read such as "What do you think the author meant by that?" Some kids like to follow along in their own copy of the book while the parent reads, so finding 2 copies might be a good idea. No matter which way works best for you and your child, reading regularly is so important. Check out some chapter book series suggestions below.

- The doll people (Ann M. Martin)
- The boxcar children (Gertrude Chandler Warner)
- Ramona Quimby (Beverly Cleary)
- Judy Moody (Megan McDonald)

Math:

In April, kids will finish up our money unit and start telling time. In our money unit, kids are learning to count money, write money, make change, and solve money word problems.

In our telling time unit, kids will learn to tell time to the nearest five minutes, tell time using "fancy" vocabulary (i.e. quarter past, half past, quarter til), and solve math problems using elapsed time concepts.

To help your child at home, you can reinforce these important concepts in real-life situations. When paying at the store, talk to your child about making change. When getting ready for school in the morning, talk to your child about what time it currently is, and what time s/he must leave for the bus. Help your child determine how many minutes (elapsed time) s/he has to finish getting ready. Putting math skills to use in real-life situations will help your child's learning to STICK! ☺

CES Character Development Word of the Month: Patience

This month, we will discuss what patience means. We will learn about quietly waiting our turn, giving other kids "think time" before offering an answer, and waiting in line.

Family Fun Night Basket:

2nd grade is collecting items to create a Cooking Basket as a raffle item at Family Fun Night. Please consider donating items for this basket: Cookbooks, baking ingredients, cooking utensils, baking pans, apron, chef's hat, etc. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

April 4, 2014	Family Fun Night
April 8, 2014	Spring picture day
April 10, 2014	Subtraction Level 3 Math Facts Test
April 10, 2014	PTO Meeting
April 11, 2014	Popcorn Friday
April 14, 2014- April 21, 2014	Spring Break Happy Easter
April 24, 2014	Bring your child to work day

If your child will miss school to attend work with you, please let your child's teacher know.

Technology Websites Worth Checkin' Out!

http://www.tvokids.com/games/beesandhoney

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

http://www.bigbrownbear.co.uk/keyboard/

http://www.scootpad.com

http://www.brainpopjr.com
(username: Creeksidelab   password: brainpop)