



Mrs. Bennett's Second Grade News

January 16th- 20th 2012



Writing

One focus point for writing this month has been our word choice. The following areas are things to look for at home when your child is completing a writing assignment:

- Does the writing start with an interesting lead that hooks the reader?
- Does the writing end with a conclusion that satisfies the reader?
- Did they show the character's thoughts and feelings rather than just telling about them?
- Did they attempt to use active verbs and descriptive details?
- Did they add interesting dialogue between characters (with quotation marks)?



On the Horizon

- 1st day of Chinese New Year
Jan. 23rd
- Book Orders Due
Jan. 27th
- Recognition Pictures
Feb. 2nd
- Science Fair Projects Due
Feb. 6th
- Science Fair in the Gym
Feb. 9th



Personal Presentations...

Crew	1/27	11:50
Andres	2/3	11:50
Grace Lee	2/10	11:50
Nate	2/16	11:50
Ella	2/24	11:50



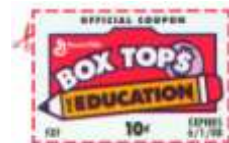
Scholastic Books

If you would like to order any books from our latest catalogs, please visit...

www.scholastic.com/bookclubs

Class Activation Code: **GKJRK**

Please place your order no later than
January 27th.



Clip those Box Tops and earn a pizza party for our classroom! The classroom that brings in the most by the end of February will win a pizza party. Check out the marketplace at www.boxtops4Education.com to have your online purchases give money back to our school.



Check out what we are learning!

Reading	Determining importance
Writing	Writing pour quoi stories
Math	Telling time to the nearest 5 minutes
Daily Language Instruction	Forming Plural words by adding -s
Spelling	The /s/ sound is sometimes spelled <i>c</i> when it is followed by an <i>e</i> , <i>i</i> , or <i>y</i> . When <i>c</i> is followed by an <i>e</i> , <i>i</i> , or <i>y</i> it usually says its soft sound.
Social Studies	Understanding how people of different ages, cultural backgrounds, and traditions contribute to their community and how citizens respect these differences (China)

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR!

We are very excited to be celebrating Chinese New Year in January! The kids were able to enjoy a performance by a live Dragon Dance Troupe earlier in the month and also observed an amazing tai chi demonstration. This special event was sponsored by our PTO through enrichment funding. Now we are looking forward to trying a traditional Chinese meal including dumplings, noodles, and rice. No traditional Chinese meal would be complete without using chopsticks, so we are going to be practicing that skill as well! In addition, the kids will be learning about the Year of the Dragon and will receive the customary red envelopes given out during the holiday. A **HUGE** amount of gratitude is owed to our second grade families who are donating the food for our festivities. Without the support of our wonderful parents, this event wouldn't be possible. Thank you!



Accelerated Reader

At the beginning of the second trimester, your children began working toward individualized reading goals set by a computerized program called Accelerated Reader. The children take quizzes on books they read independently at D.E.A.R. time. If they receive a score of 85% or higher, your child will earn points toward their reading goal. If a book is read and the comprehension score on the quiz is less than 85%, your child gets no credit for that book and they are not allowed to take the quiz again. The program is helpful in keeping kids accountable for the self-selected books that they read. The reading goals are in increments of 25. So, your child will earn a reward when they reach 25% of their goal, 50% of their goal, and so forth. I would like every student to reach at least 25% (or more) of their individualized reading goal by the end of the trimester in February.