

Hello Second Grade Students!

I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to 2nd grade at Compass Public Charter School. Information for our class is posted on the school website and will be updated as needed. So check out our class page frequently. (www.compasscharter.org)

HOMEWORK:

Weekly Homework: Packets will be sent home each Friday (or Monday after a break) and are due the following Friday. I will refer to this homework as “Friday Homework”. Students should **not** turn in this homework early. (It can, however, be kept in their backpacks.)

Spelling: Spelling words and specific directions for each assignment will be sent home as a worksheet and should be handwritten on notebook paper. This homework serves as handwriting practice as well as spelling review, so the work should be neat and legible. The student’s name must be on all papers.

Math: A one or two-sided worksheet reviewing concepts already learned in class.

Attendance

Report Sheet: There is a Compass weekly newsletter (via email) from the office that reports attendance for the week and important items of school business. Please review this newsletter weekly.

Nightly Homework:

Mad Minutes: Each student will be required to correct and finish the daily Mad Minutes (double-sided) assignment for homework. This is to help students master the facts they are working on at school. Mad Minutes will be collected each morning.

Reading Log: During the first week of school, each student will be assessed and appropriately placed into books for reading aloud at home. Students need to read for a minimum of 20 minutes every day (5 days a week) out loud with a parent and have reading logs initialed by that parent. Books and logs MUST be returned daily so students can read to me in class.

All homework is due when the morning bell rings at 9:00 am and will be collected first thing in the morning. Missing or incomplete homework will need to be completed that same day during recess or special classes.

WATER BOTTLES: I strongly encourage all students to bring a water bottle (labeled with first and last name) to school each day (plain, unflavored water only). These water bottles cannot be refilled at school. Responsible students may keep these water bottles at their desks to be used at water breaks.

BACKPACKS: Student backpacks should be cleaned out EVERY day after school. This means that students and parents will have homework, notes, and/or returned papers to sort through together daily.

“THE MAIN ATTRACTION”:

Each student will have the chance to “introduce” himself/herself in second grade. In order to highlight each child, every Friday one student will be given a 5-page packet to fill out about himself/herself (complete with pictures) to be posted for one week in the classroom. Student names will be chosen randomly after each presentation in order to decide who will present next. Each student will therefore have one week to complete his/her packet. Each Friday, “The Main Attraction” student will make his/her presentation at about 9:10 A.M. They usually last only 10 minutes or so. After the presentation, classmates will have time to write a letter to the highlighted student focusing on correct letter-writing practices. Parents/Guardians are welcome to visit the classroom during these presentations. Please remember to check in at the office.

CITIZEN OF THE WEEK:

This award is given in 2nd grade to students who exhibit kindness, responsibility, and helpfulness. A citizen of the week student completes all required homework, has excellent attendance, participates enthusiastically, and meets expectations during all Specials. Candidates for this award are students who do what is **expected**, and this award will only be given to those who truly deserve it. Citizens of the Week must meet high expectations in these areas: respect, fairness, perseverance, honesty, compassion, self-discipline, trustworthiness, and integrity. Award recipients are given classroom leadership privileges for a week following the presentation of the award.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH:

This award is given to those students who show **exemplary** behavior. Candidates for this award go **above and beyond** what is expected in the following areas:

- A Student of the Month is kind and supportive of other students.
- A Student of the Month is responsible and turns in all work on time.
- A Student of the Month follows and models the rules and school expectations.
- A Student of the Month exhibits interest and enthusiasm about learning.
- A Student of the Month gets to school on time and has excellent attendance.

HALL OF FAME:

The Hall of Fame program motivates students to learn important basic math facts that they need to know for the rest of their lives. This program recognizes students for their own personal successes, and it encourages them to compete against themselves, not their peers. Students complete two practice Mad Minutes everyday and graph their daily progress to prepare for the “official” test on Fridays. To make 2nd Grade Hall of Fame, a student will successfully complete 40 facts in a minute during the Friday timed test. However, before he/she can advance to the next category, he/she must successfully complete 50 facts for his/her teacher three consecutive days. In essence, this shows complete mastery.

Second grade Hall of Fame is comprised of the following learning categories:

1. ***Addition (to be mastered in 2nd grade)***
2. Subtraction
3. Multiplication
4. Division
5. Mixed Facts
6. Reduced Fractions
7. Months & Days
8. Continents & Oceans
9. Synonyms & Antonyms
10. Contraction Critters
11. 101 Facts
12. Science

After students successfully complete the four basic math operation categories in order, then they may choose to work on the Mixed Facts or Reducing Fractions timed tests. The remaining “Extra” categories may be taken by students at any time after they successfully complete **Addition** or when they earn an “Extra” Hall of Fame as a class. This extra Hall of Fame is a class reward for getting signed off in all special classes the previous week.

SPECIALS:

We have the following Specials on these days:

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
PE	PE	Library	PE	PE
Music	Spanish	Music	Spanish	Music
Scienc	Computers		Computers	Science

CLASSROOM HELP:

Parent volunteers are always appreciated in our classroom! Please let me know if you are willing to help weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or other. Please remember to always check in at the office before coming to the classroom.

Classroom Parent: We celebrate birthdays monthly for our students. This birthday celebration is usually scheduled for the last Friday of each month. We will celebrate August and September birthdays at the end of September, and summer birthdays at the end of the school year. February birthdays are celebrated mid-month to correspond with Valentine’s Day. The parents of the birthday students bring snacks to class to share during our celebration at the end of the day on the assigned day. I need a parent volunteer to **coordinate** these birthday celebrations. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out in this way.

I also need a parent representative for the PFA. Please let me know if you are interested in this position.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by email or by calling the school to leave me a message. I am looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Susan Luke

I have read the above information for 2nd grade.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____