

Summer, 2020



Dear Second Grade Families,

My name is Mrs. Unsihuay and I will be your second-grade teacher this year. I have a long history with Warwick Elementary. My children were students at Warwick and have many fond memories. My son, A.J. graduated from West Chester University and is now an accountant in Philadelphia. My daughter Lucy graduated from Penn State last spring. She works in finance and lives and works in Philadelphia. I too have many happy memories as I worked in the Jamison/Warwick Extended Kindergarten Program for ten years with Mrs. Dougherty. I then taught at John Barclay and Bridge Valley Elementary schools before returning to teach second grade at Warwick in 2015. I look forward to working with you and your family as we explore the second-grade curriculum.

July is flying by and August is fast approaching! I hope you are all having fun with your family and friends. I am looking forward to meeting you on the first day of school.

Read the information below to find out what you will be learning in second grade and other important information about our school year together! Enjoy every second of your summer! I will see you soon!

#### Writing:

Our classroom follows a Writing Workshop approach. During our writing block, we break the time into the following sessions:

•Mini Lesson •Writing and conferring •Sharing Students explore the 5 domains of writing; content, focus, organization, style, and conventions through mini lessons and then apply them in their writing to create strong writing pieces. They will write in various modes of Narrative, Opinion, Functional (procedural or How-to's), Informational, and Poetry. We will place emphasis on mentor texts for ideas and will capture our "seed ideas" in our Writer's Notebooks. Additionally, we will integrate spelling as well as working with words, into our studies.

Included as our spelling and phonics program will be the Words Their Way program. We will work together to analyze and create words that follow specific patterns.

#### Math:

Have you heard that you will be learning multiplication and division this year? You will also be learning more difficult addition and subtraction problems. Some other second grade topics are fractions, geometry, time, money, and measurement. With all of those tools you will learn how to solve real life problems!

### Reading:

•Guided Reading Students will form a small group for direct instruction on a strategy or skill. The strategy based groups are designed to improve comprehension. Each student in the group has a copy of the same text.

#### • Read Aloud

This is the vehicle used for introducing, reinforcing, and practicing our reading strategies. Learners will have opportunities to think about the elements of a story by getting involved with interactive strategies such as: Say something o Symphony o Note taking

#### •Independent Reading

Students self-select appropriate reading materials which enhances their literacy development. Linking the Read Aloud to Independent Reading will be note taking (specifically notes to encourage "talk" and document thinking) to prepare for the conferences.

#### •Conferences

Readers will work with the teacher individually to identify areas of student focus and monitor for comprehension. Students will set independent reading goals at the end of each conference.

#### •Book Clubs

Later in the school year, learners will practice meaningful and accountable talk with a classmate. By making partnership goals, reading and note-taking independently, and then having a peer-conference, students will have opportunities to discuss, debate, and think about the same text.

### Science:

Did you know that you are going to a real cave? Here are some of the great topics that we will study in science:

~Sound

~Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils

~Habitats

### Social Studies:

Here are some of the terrific topics that we will study in social studies:

~Economics

~Geography

~Native Americans

~Civics