

# 2ND GRADE BACK TO SCHOOL PRESENTATION

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Beech Tree Elementary School  
2nd Grade

Mrs. Garasich, Ms. Ford, Miss Signet





# THE 2ND GRADE TEAM



**Mrs. Garasich  
(Room 113)**



**Miss Signet  
(Room 114)**



**Ms. Ford  
(Room 116)**



# BEECH TREE FRONT OFFICE



**Ms.  
Carpenter**  
Principal



**Ms. Louder**  
Assistant  
Principal

**Mrs. O'Brien**  
Parent Liaison  
(Spanish)

Please call the front office at (703) 531-2600 for any school-related questions or concerns.

# Meet Our Admin Team



Stop by to say “HI”!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://myfcpsk12.zoom.us/j/91778762347?pwd=bnFtOWg5OVpqNFFZdmFyZ05PcVhBZz0>

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# MEET OUR WELLNESS TEAM



Stephanie Barnes and Yolanda Adams



# MEET OUR ESOL TEAM

**ESOL TEACHERS  
WORK TO SUPPORT  
STUDENTS THAT ARE  
ACQUIRING THE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE.**

**THIS IS DONE IN THE  
CLASSROOM AND IN  
SMALL GROUP  
SETTINGS  
THROUGHOUT THE  
READING AND  
WRITING WORKSHOP.**



**ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES TEAM**

**Laura Williams, Gio Demartini, Evangeline Ihn,  
Yasmin Murray & Tiera Matthew**

# Back to School Presentation

- Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We appreciate your communication, trust, and patience as we started off our school year.
- **This slideshow will include information regarding:**
  - Overview of the 2nd Grade Curriculum
  - Instructional Schedule
  - Grading and Assessments
  - Homework and Assignments
  - Classroom Specifics



# Overview of the 2nd Grade Curriculum

# The Learning Model outlines the FCPS instructional vision ensuring all students reach **Portrait of a Graduate** outcomes.



As educators:

- We establish a **learner-centered environment** focused on relationships. Our classroom and school community is inclusive and culturally responsive.
- We plan through a **concept-based curriculum** with a focus on essential knowledge and skills that can be applied across subjects and in real life settings.
- We teach through **meaningful learning experiences** that encourage students to collaborate, communicate and engage in relevant and rigorous tasks.
- We **purposefully assess** students with a focus on continuous growth. Students demonstrate knowledge and skills in a variety of ways, such as tasks, projects, tests, and open-response questions.

To learn more information about FCPS' Learning Model:  
[Learning Model FCPS internet page.](#)

# What do we want our students to know, understand and be able to do?

The next two slides will show FCPS' Year at a Glance for Grade 2. These are the learning topics that your child will be taught and assessed on during their school year.



# Grade 2 Year at a Glance

Fairfax County Public Schools



## Writing

- Developing a Writing Process
- Personal Narratives
- Informational Writing: "All About" Books
- Poetry
- Realistic Fiction
- Persuasive Letters
- Author/Illustrator Study
- Research-Writing Cycle

## Oral Communication

- Active Listening
- Collaborative Discussions
- Conversation Skills

## Portrait of a Graduate



A goal of FCPS is to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate learning in authentic ways and support students in the development of skills that employers are seeking for the workforce. Teachers in FCPS are enhancing learning opportunities to include the Portrait of a Graduate attributes:

- Communicator
- Collaborator
- Ethical and Global Citizen
- Creative and Critical Thinker
- Goal-Directed and Resilient Individual

To develop these skills, FCPS strives for all students to:

- Develop knowledge and skills that can be applied across subject areas and in real life settings.
- Utilize and grow critical thinking skills that require them to go beyond the facts
- Engage in learning that fosters curiosity.
- Confront and make contributions to solving real-world problems.
- Demonstrate learning and skills in a variety of ways, such as projects and portfolios.
- Set goals and reflect on their progress.

## Reading

- Character Development
- Interpreting Author's Messages
- Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Realistic Fiction
- Exploring Multiple Points of View
- Book Clubs: Deepening Understanding through Discussions
- Research Skills within Science and Social Studies Content

## Word Study

- Vowel Patterns with More Than 1 Sound
- Abstract Vowels
- Complex Consonants
- R-Controlled Vowels
- Contractions/Possessives
- Inflectional Endings
- Compound Words
- Prefixes/Suffixes







# Grade 2 Year at a Glance

Fairfax County Public Schools



## Mathematics

- Three-Digit Place Value
- Estimation
- Addition and Subtraction
- Skip Counting
- Even and Odd Numbers
- Money
- Patterns
- Equality
- Fraction Number Sense
- Symmetry
- Plane and Solid Figures
- Measuring Length, Weight, and Temperature
- Telling Time
- Bar Graphs and Pictographs
- Probability

## Science

- Scientific Investigation
- Matter
- Forces
- Forms of Precipitation
- Storms
- Weathering and Erosion
- Monarch Butterflies
- Plant and Animal Responses to Seasons
- Plant Life Cycles
- Animal Life Cycles
- Forests and Agriculture
- Habitats

## Social Studies

- Rights and Responsibilities
- Continents and Oceans
- U.S. Geography
- National Holidays
- Powhatan of the Eastern Woodlands
- Lakota of the Plains
- Pueblo of the Southwest
- European Exploration
- Economics: Natural, Capital, and Human Resources
- Famous Americans
- Development and Innovations in the U.S.



# Portrait of a Graduate



Communicator



Collaborator



Ethical and  
Global Citizen



Creative and  
Critical Thinker



Goal-Directed  
and Resilient  
Individual

To learn more about ways families can support student use of Portrait of a Graduate skills, please visit:  
<https://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/portrait-of-a-graduate/resources>

A goal of FCPS is to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate learning in authentic ways and support students in the development of skills that employers are seeking for the workforce and are a necessity to be successful in the virtual learning environment and day-to-day life.

*Who do we want our  
students to be?*

**Communicators**

**Collaborators**

**Ethical & Global Citizens**

**Creative and Critical Thinkers**

**Goal-Directed and Resilient Individuals**

# Digital Citizenship

*Supporting students in developing positive Digital Citizenship skills is a shared responsibility.*



MEDIA BALANCE & WELL-BEING

*We find balance  
in our digital lives.*



DIGITAL FOOTPRINT & IDENTITY

*We define  
who we are.*



PRIVACY & SECURITY

*We care about  
everyone's privacy.*



RELATIONSHIPS & COMMUNICATION

*We know the power  
of words & actions.*



CYBERBULLYING, DIGITAL DRAMA  
& HATE SPEECH

*We are kind  
& courageous.*



NEWS & MEDIA LITERACY

*We are critical  
thinkers & creators.*

## Home Supports

**Many supports for families are available on the FCPS Digital Citizenship website:**

**<https://www.fcps.edu/resources/technology/technology-literacy/digital-citizenship>**

- Establishing Expectations at Home
- Choosing Digital Apps, Games and Services Wisely
- Media Balance and Well-being Toolkit
- Digital Citizenship for Families Online Interactive Course
- Tip Sheets and Videos
- Student Interactives

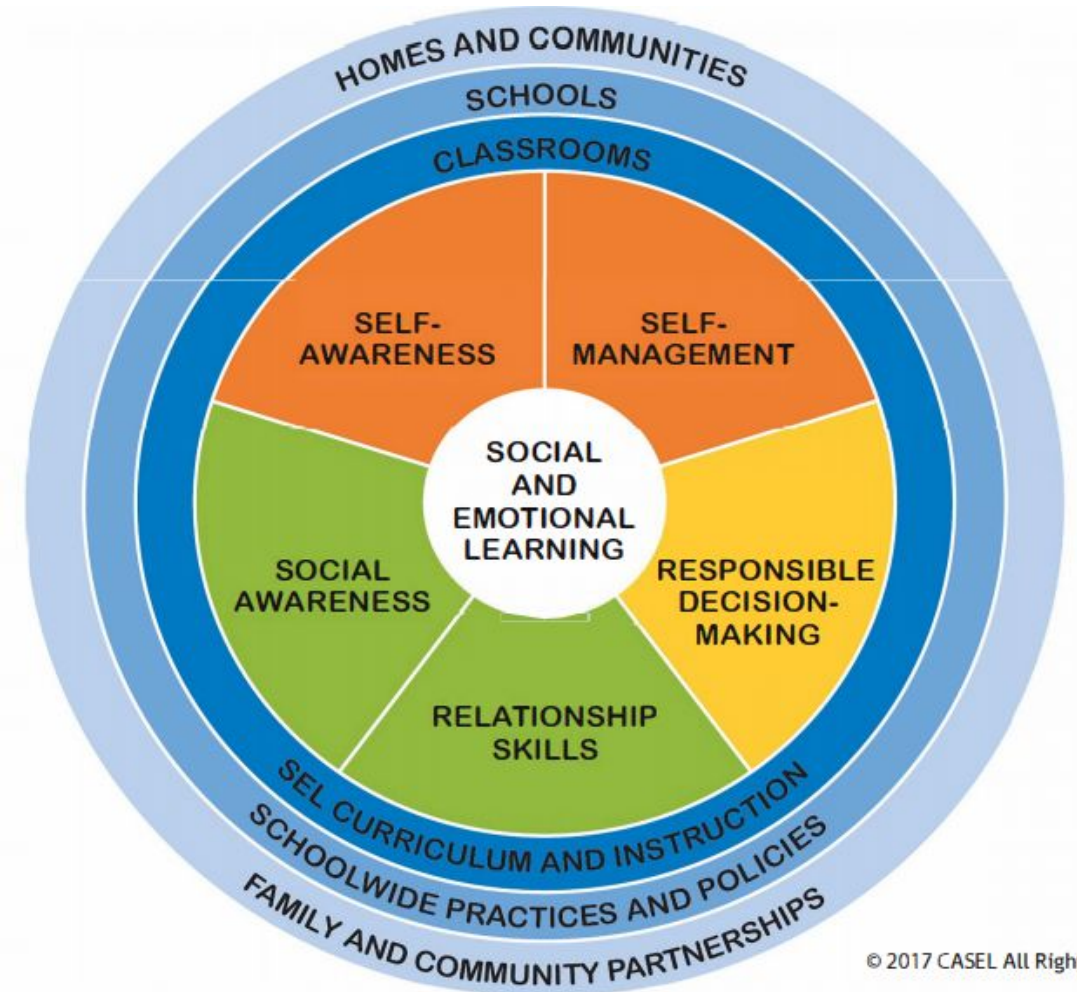


# Supporting Students with Social & Emotional Learning

**Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults:**

- Understand and manage emotions
- Establish and maintain positive relationships
- Set and achieve positive goals
- Make responsible decisions
- Feel and show empathy

**There will be an increased focus on Social Emotional Learning in collaboration with The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL).**



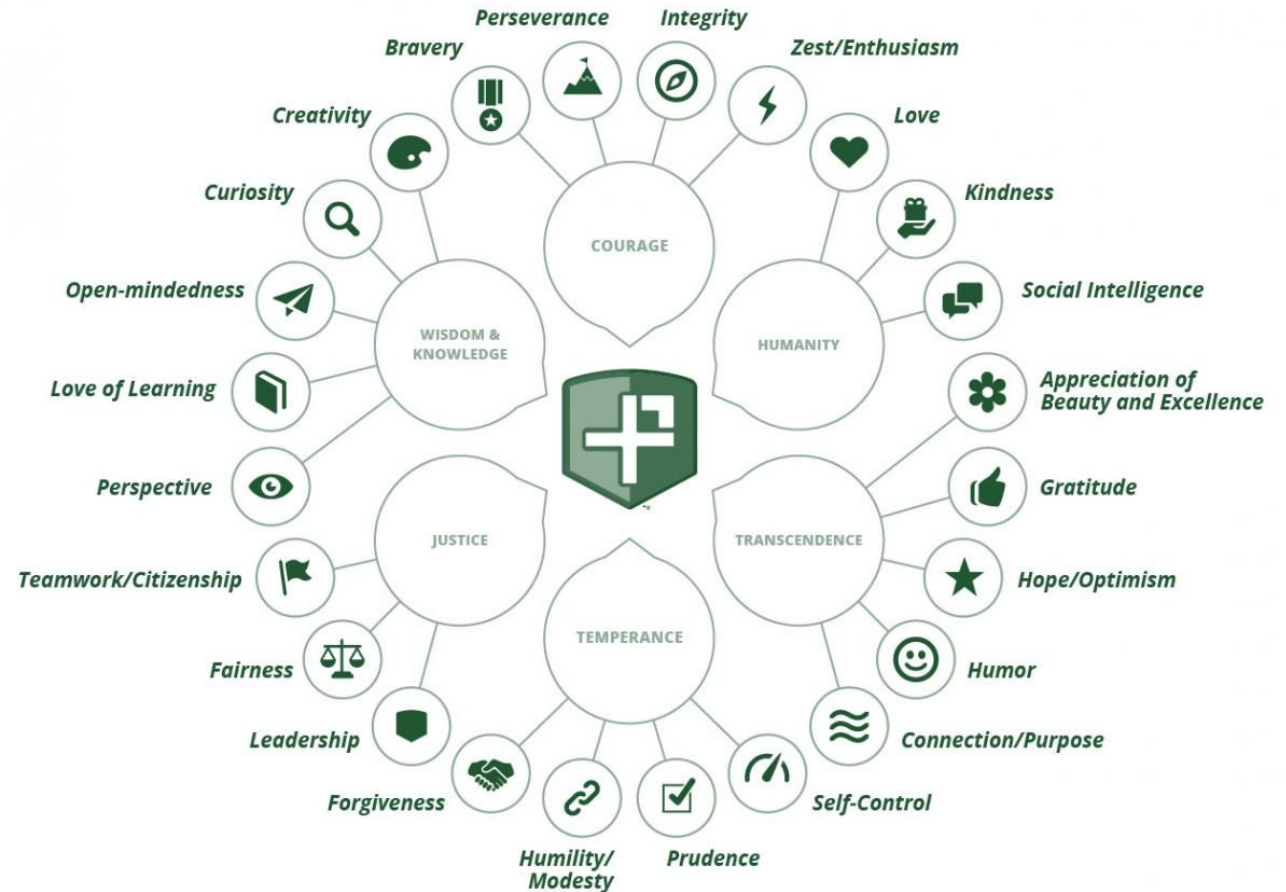




# THE POSITIVITY PROJECT

## Positivity Project

- Classes will discuss the Positivity Project during Morning Meeting
- Character Education with a weekly focus in growing in 24 different strengths.



# Instructional Schedule

# 2nd Grade Class Schedule

Monday-Friday	
9:05 AM	Student Arrival
9:15-9:30 AM	Morning Meeting
9:30-10:10 AM	Science or Social Studies
10:10-11:35 AM	Math
11:40 AM-12:10 PM	Lunch
12:15-12:35 PM	Recess
12:45-2:00 PM	Reading Workshop and Word Study (Phonics)
2:00-2:35 PM	Writing Workshop
2:40-3:40 PM	Specials
3:50-4:15 PM	Closing Circle and Dismissal

# How is learning time structured?

## Reading & Writing Workshop

- Whole group Focus Lesson (*10-15 min.*)
- Differentiated small group instruction (*minutes vary*)
- Independent Reading & Writing
- Whole Group Reflection
- Phonics

## Math Workshop

- Whole group Number Sense Routine (5-10 min)
- Whole group Focus Lesson (*10 min.*)
- Differentiated small group instruction (*minutes vary*)
- Whole Group Reflection

## Science/ Social Studies

- Content may be integrated within Math and Language Arts
- Whole Group-Discussion-based, model investigations, a focus on creative and critical thinking
- Rotate between science and social studies



# Digital Resources



Mathematics  
ST Math

**Digital resources will be used during classroom workshop times.**

**These digital programs will:**

- Provide opportunities to practice and apply literacy and mathematics skills
- Allow students to work at their own pace and advance to new learning as they are showing mastery
- Support students' independent learning with automatic feedback built in
- Utilized for asynchronous learning to supplement synchronous, live instruction.

Lexia Core 5

iReady Math/Reading

# Grading and Assessments

# Grading and Reporting

## Balanced Assessment Approach

- Projects
- End of Unit Tests
- Performance Tasks

*Student understanding is assessed in multiple ways. Each assessment type provides information to guide and inform instruction to meet the needs of students.*

## Parent/Teacher Communication

- Phone Call
- Email
- Talking Points
- Monthly Newsletters

*Teachers remain in contact with parents throughout each quarter to share and monitor student progress.*

## Elementary Progress Report

- Achievement Grade
- Effort Grade
- Life, Work & Citizenship

*The progress report reflects the student's current level of understanding and demonstration of knowledge and skills.*

# Elementary Progress Report Marks

4

## Consistently demonstrates concepts and skills of standard taught this quarter

- Frequency of behavior, nearly all the time
- Requires no support when demonstrating understanding
- Demonstrates a thorough understanding of content taught
- Makes no major errors or omissions when demonstrating concepts or processes taught



Fully grown flower

3

## Usually demonstrates concepts and skills of standard taught this quarter

- Frequency of behavior, most of the time
- Requires limited support when demonstrating understanding
- Demonstrates a general understanding of content taught
- Makes few major errors or omissions when demonstrating concepts or processes



Stem growing leaves

2

## Sometimes demonstrates concepts and skills of standard taught this quarter

- Frequency of behavior, some of the time
- Requires moderate support in order to demonstrate understanding of concepts and skills
- Demonstrates a partial understanding of content taught
- Makes some errors or omissions when demonstrating concepts or processes



Seed sprouting

1

## Seldom demonstrates concepts and skills of standard taught this quarter

- Frequency of behavior, seldom
- Requires considerable support in order to demonstrate learning of concepts and skills
- Demonstrates limited understanding of concepts, skills, and processes taught
- Makes frequent major errors when demonstrating concepts or processes



Seed planted in soil

For additional information:  
[Elementary Grading and Reporting Handbook for Parents: Grading Guidelines on the FCPS website.](#)



# Another way to look at grades:

## Grading and Assessments

Just like riding a bike!

1

- Requires considerable support when demonstrating understanding
- Demonstrates limited understanding of content taught
- Makes frequent errors when demonstrating concepts



2

- Requires moderate support when demonstrating understanding
- Demonstrates partial understanding of content taught
- Makes some errors or omissions when demonstrating concepts taught



3

- Requires limited support when demonstrating understanding
- Demonstrates a general understanding of content taught
- Makes few errors or omissions when demonstrating concepts taught



4

- Requires no support
- Demonstrates a thorough understanding of content taught
- Makes no major errors or omissions when demonstrating concepts taught



# Grades in 2nd Grade

In other words, the “4, 3, 2, 1” scoring in 2nd grade does NOT equate to letter grades or percentages.

The “4, 3, 2, 1” scoring reflects your child’s understanding and ability to apply what they have learned.



# Assessments for Grade 2

Assessment	Purpose	Communication to Families
<b>iReady</b> <u>Reading:</u> fall and spring <u>Math:</u> fall and spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify gaps in foundational skills</li><li>• Identify students needing supports</li><li>• Measure progress</li></ul>	Your child's teacher will notify you when your child will take the iReady.
<b>CogAT</b> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To identify potential Advanced Academic Program services.</li></ul>	You will receive notification from the school regarding the dates of CogAT testing.

○ Additional information: Grade Level Tests

# **Schoolwide Procedures, Attendance & Communication**



# Student Attendance

If your child is going to miss part of or the entire school day, please contact the homeroom teacher and the school office (information below):

**703-231-2626**

[Attendance information on FCPS site](#)

# School Communication

- Wednesday Folders
- Ms. Carpenter sends out weekly News You Choose Emails to families. To subscribe, click on the link listed below:
  - **Beech Tree News You Choose Weekly email** subscription
- Beech Tree website <https://beechtreees.fcps.edu/>
- To contact the school, you can call the front office:  
**703-531-2600**

# Questions about the Advanced Academics Program (AAP)?

The screening process for AAP starts in 2nd Grade!

Please contact Patty Settel, our Advanced Academics Resource Teacher for more information.

[pasettel@fcps.edu](mailto:pasettel@fcps.edu)

# Homework and Assignments

# Homework

Beech Tree has adopted a “No Homework” policy this year that is school wide. Although we are not assigning homework:

- **Reading:** nightly reading for at least 20 minutes is highly recommended at home. If you do not have books, please contact your child's teacher.
- **Math:** any practice with addition or subtraction is encouraged. Along with life skills such as telling time and counting money.



**If you have any further questions, please contact administration.**



# Classroom Specifics

# Snack

We have a daily snack every afternoon during writing time. Students are welcome to bring a snack from home. Students will enjoy a class snack every Friday that is provided from classroom parents.

**Class Snack donations** are welcome and appreciated. Popular snack donations include: crackers, dry cereal, Goldfish, pretzels.

**\*\*Please refrain from sending in anything with nuts.**

**\*\*Do not send in anything that requires refrigeration.**

# Field Trip

On Friday, October 21st, second grade will be taking their first field trip to Ford's Theatre. We have sent home a permission slip with information in Wednesday folders last Wednesday. Please send back their signed permission slip by Friday October 7th.

**Chaperones are welcome.** Each class has 4 allotted chaperones due to tickets provided through the theatre. Chaperones will be chosen on a first come first serve basis.

# Conferences

Be on the lookout for conference schedules coming in your child's Wednesday folder. These times and dates will also be first come first serve. More information on conferences will be sent out from your child's teachers.

## **Conference dates are as follows:**

October 10th

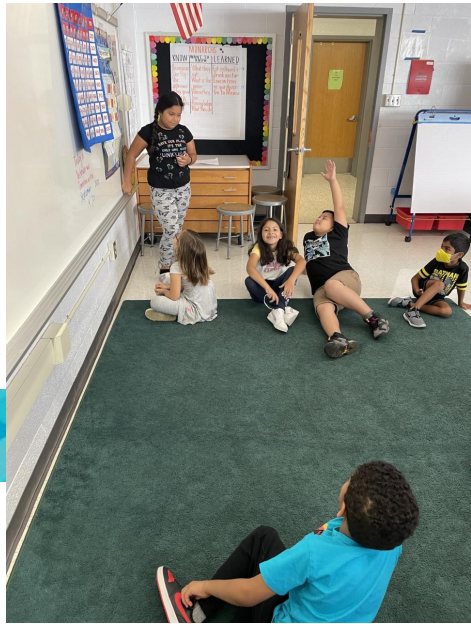
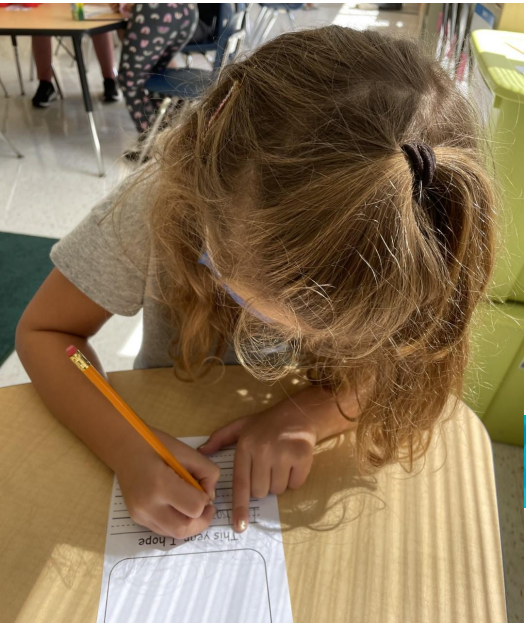
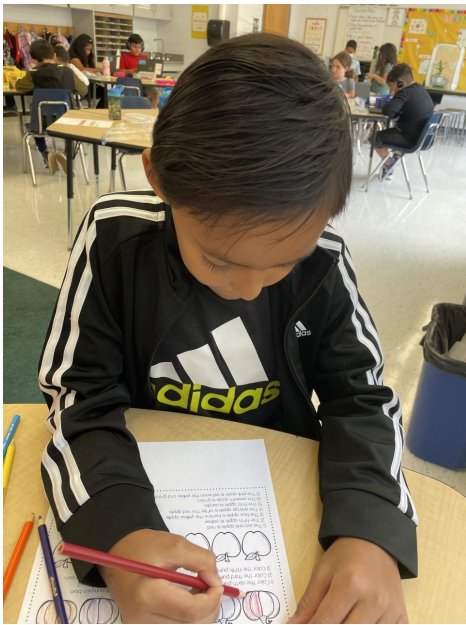
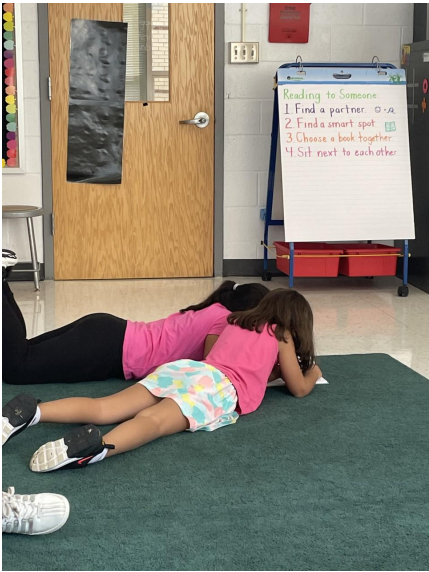
October 31st

November 11th

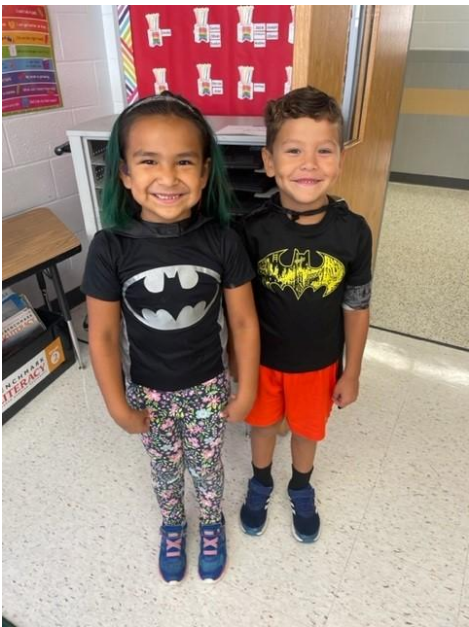
# Here's a snapshot of our year so far!



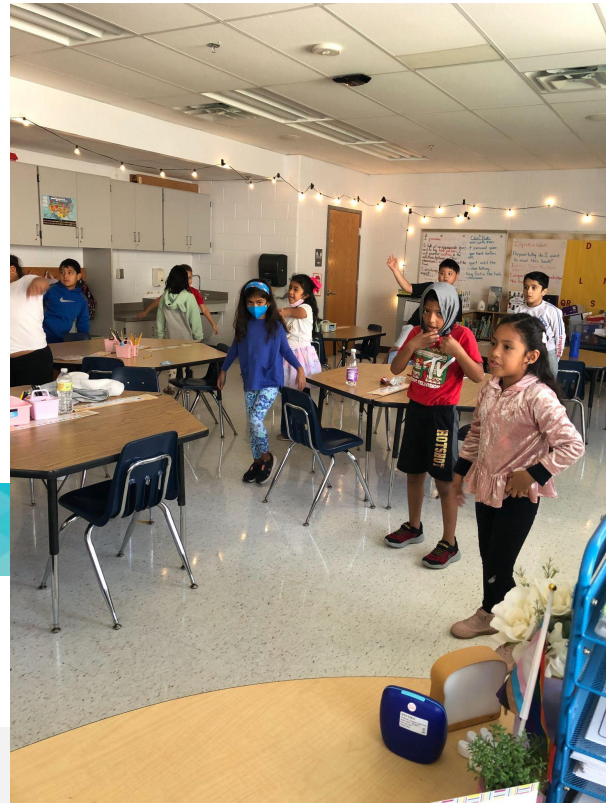
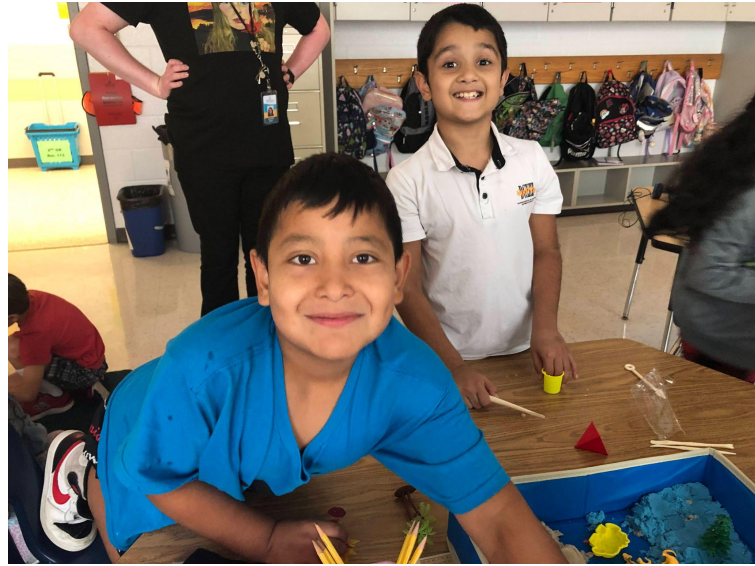
















Thank you for joining us for our Back to School Night!  
If you have any questions please feel free to ask at this time.