

## Welcome to Second Grade 2016-2017!

As students enter the second grade, they are expected to be more self-reliant and responsible. They are also expected to become more accomplished thinkers, problem solvers and writers. In preparation for the upcoming school year, we have prepared a list of academic skills your child should continue to work on and practice prior to entering second grade. Reviewing these skills over the summer to ensure retention and mastery will greatly ease your child's transition into second grade.

Students entering second grade at Marrero Academy **will be expected to:**

### Reading Skills:

- Differentiate between questions: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How.
- Fluently read **on-level text** both orally and silently (**Lexile 500 or higher**).
  - This means that students should be able to read at least 80 words per minute, with 98% accuracy in a book or passage with a Lexile level of at least 500. They should pause appropriately (at commas and at the ends of sentences) and provide expression where required. In order to promote reading with a purpose, students should also be able to summarize the plot and answer general questions about what was read.
  - Many books provide reading levels on the back cover, but if the Lexile is not given, you can check any title by going to <http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/>.

Students will be assessed on their proficiency in these skills beginning in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school.

### English Skills:

- Distinguish between the 4 types of sentences (declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory) and assign the appropriate punctuation for each.
- Write and identify the parts of a complete sentence.
  - The first word of a sentence should be capitalized.
  - A complete sentence includes a subject, predicate, and punctuation.
- Write a simple paragraph consisting of a topic sentence, supporting details and a sense of closure.

These skills are crucial for a student's success in second grade because students will be required to write short answers and/or paragraphs on each reading test (and other subject area tests). Points will be deducted if the above skills are not evident (ex. simple paragraphs, complete sentences, correct capitalization, punctuation, etc.)

### Math Skills:

- Identify **place value up to the hundreds place**.
- Recognize and have an understanding of 100 as ten tens, and 10 as ten ones.
- **Mentally** find ten more or less than a given one, two, or three digit number without having to count.
- Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction. (This means that students should have an **understanding** of addition as 'putting together' and subtraction as 'taking apart'). They should be able to **use this reasoning to explain** both orally and in writing how they found an answer.
- **Add and subtract fluently within 20**. (Fluently means quickly and accurately knowing/memorizing facts **without counting fingers, drawing, using tally marks or applying any other strategy**).

These skills are crucial for a student's success in second grade because part of each student's **math participation grade** will be based on **weekly fluency drills in addition and/or subtraction** (beginning of the year) then, **mixed addition and subtraction** (middle through the end of the year). Students will be expected to complete at least 50 problems within 5 minutes.

We hope you have a safe summer full of fun and adventures! We are looking forward to building a relationship with you and your child next year.

Sincerely,  
Second Grade Teachers