



**MEMORY
LANE**
ORIGINAL ROUTE 66
DEDICATED 1926

**2nd Grade
Team**

August 24th, 2020

**American Preparatory Academy
Parent Orientation**

Agenda

Thank you for holding all questions until our agenda has been reviewed.

1. Introductions: 2 min
2. New in 2nd Grade: 5 min
 - Reading University
 - a. Tracking
 - b. 6 books required per term (green ticket= 6 books, gold ticket=12 or more books read per term)
 - Rocket Math Tracking
 - a. Procedure
 - Reading Fluency
 - a. Turned in Mondays. It is your child's responsibility to make sure these are turned in and to get another copy if needed.
 - b. Students may NOT read all 6 days of RF in one day. There should be 24hrs. between each reading. The program should show a daily progression.
 - Cursive
 - a. We do cursive throughout the week. It will be marked on the LP when they have homework. The cursive is done in a cursive workbook. It is very important that if they have homework they bring it back the next day so they have the workbook here to continue on with the class. If cursive is not completed for homework, it will result in a **Card Move for "Unprepared"**.
3. Volunteers Needed: 3 min
4. Questions 3-5 min

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back to School! I am so excited to share what we will be learning this year in second grade!

As your child's teacher, I am responsible for the progress of your child. Your child will be grouped for Reading, Math, and Spelling. We also have a Music teacher, P.E. teacher and an Art teacher. **I am the first person you would come to if you have any questions about your child's progress.** All Teachers and Instructors meet weekly to go over the progress of every child. You may contact me through my email.

Email your student's teacher **with any questions or thoughts.**

I would really like to encourage you to visit our classroom and observe what your student is learning. You are always welcome!

Tonight we will be discussing the following:

1. Summer Packets
2. Classroom Schedule
3. Attendance Plan
4. Classroom Management Plan
5. Learning Plan
6. Dockets
7. Curriculum Overviews
8. Reading University, Reading Fluency, Math
9. Volunteer Opportunities
10. Daily Schedule

I hope you find this information interesting and applicable to your student's success at APA this year. Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions or comments at the following:

We are looking forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Diamond, Mrs. Herrera, Mrs. Hooley, Mrs. Johanson, Mrs. Mair, & Mrs. Troester

Builders

**I saw them tearing a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town.**

**With a yo heave ho and a lusty yell,
They swung a beam and the sidewall fell.**

**I asked the foreman if these men were as skilled
As those he would hire if he were to build.**

**He laughed and said, "Oh, no indeed,
Common labor is all I need,**

**For they can wreck in a day or two,
What builders have taken years to do."**

**So I asked myself, as I went my way,
Which of these roles am I to play?**

**Am I the builder, who works with care,
Measuring life by the rule and square;**

**Or am I the wrecker who walks the town,
Content in the role of tearing down?**

**I've made my decision; I'll start today,
I'll be a builder in every way.**

-Anonymous and Howard Headlee



Ambassadors

August

Be a Builder

September

I am a builder when I build with Enthusiasm

October

I am a builder when I am perfectly honest

November

I am a builder when I express gratitude in word and deed

December

I am a builder when I look for ways to serve others (Kigatsuku)

January

I am a builder when I work diligently

February

I am a builder when I befriend others

March

I am a builder when I am willing to try & believe in my ability to succeed

April

I am a builder when I use kind and courteous words

May

I am a builder when I am utterly reliable

June

I am a builder when I respect my body and mind

Summer Packets

Please remember that all Summer Stay Sharp packets were due the first day of school! If you haven't handed it in yet, please have your child bring it back tomorrow with them. (If you are new to APA and didn't get one, don't worry about it!)

Attendance Plan

In accordance with the APA school wide policy:

1. If a student is unable to attend school, a parent or guardian should call the school on the day of the absence before 9:00 am to report the absence.
2. If a student needs to be absent for a special purpose that is known in advance, the parents must fill out a "Scheduled Absence Request" and submit it to the school administration. Please remember, **a scheduled absence is not an "excused" absence and the student/parent is accountable for collecting, grading and returning all missing work.**
3. Students who are absent for more than ten consecutive days of school **may** be removed from the enrolled student list at APA.
4. **Tardy bell is at 8:00 am.** That means that they need to be in the classroom at that time. We close the door and start the pledge and rocket math at 8:00 am.

It is policy that students are responsible for any makeup work that they miss during their absence. Students will have two school days to submit the missed work. Please contact me if you have extenuating circumstances.

Uniform and Nametag Policy

At American Prep all students are **required** to wear a school approved uniform. This helps create professional student behavior, pride in attending, and a high work ethic in school. Students will wear the same uniform Monday through Thursday. On Friday's they can wear casual dress. This mean that boys wear the same thing on Friday's, and girls can wear khaki pants or skirt and a blue polo. On some Friday's students can earn jean Friday. This means that they can wear jeans and a blue polo **ONLY** if they earn it. If a student is out of uniform in any way, a note will be sent home with the learning plan and/or students may be asked to call home and change. New students are given **one** nametag at the beginning of the year and are expected to wear it every day. Returning students already have nametags. If they are lost, they will need to purchase a new one for \$5. A new magnet can be purchased for \$1 if needed. This is part of their uniform. If a student's nametag is lost or damaged, a new one will need to be purchased at the front office. Athletic shoes that are **solid in color (black)** may be worn as standard school shoes every day in grades K-3. This allows students in the younger grades to not have to change shoes on PE days.

Classroom Management Plan

As in all classrooms at American Prep, we focus on the positives! Whenever positive, model behavior is observed, a student is rewarded with a dot that is collected on a dot sheet at their desks. When a dot sheet is completely filled in, it can be turned in for a treasure bin item of their choice. CHAMPs is the classroom management, school-wide discipline and behavior management model used at American Prep. Our CHAMPs program clearly defines what behavior is expected at what times and they have constant reminders throughout their day.

All K-6 classrooms at American Prep use a classroom card chart to track student behavior. Consistent use of the card chart enables students to better manage their behavior and facilitate their academic progress. Our intent is never to embarrass a student for card moves, but use it as a reminder and a learning opportunity. **EVERYONE MAKES MISTAKES!** Students will each have 5 cards - one each of the following colors: green, yellow, blue, red, and purple. The goal is for students to "remain on green". Students will be instructed to "move a card" when needed. The card system is not a discipline system as much as it is a "**reminder**" and "**practice**" system.

The card chart is essentially a self-governance tool. Students should desire to "stay on green", thus become motivated to come prepared to school each day and to behave appropriately.

Please discuss with your child the importance of minimal card moves, not only for the extrinsic reward, but also for the intrinsic rewards of self-confidence, gratification, and other characteristics that come with success.

CAUSES FOR CARD MOVES

1 = Learning plan not signed	6 = Missing Materials
2 = Uniform Infraction	7 = Missing Work
3 = Restroom Infraction	8 = Not Following Directions
4 = Tardy	9 = Disruptive
5 = Recess Infraction	10 = Disrespectful

CONSEQUENCES FOR CARD MOVES

1st card - "on yellow" = recess time lost/teacher discussion

2nd card - "on blue" = recess time lost/teacher discussion

3rd card - "on red" = recess time lost/teacher discussion

4th card - "on purple" = recess time lost/discussion with administration and teacher to determine if parents should be immediately notified.

5th card move - "no color" = recess time lost/discussion with administration and teacher to determine if parent intervention is needed and phone call home.

Dockets

Please do not remove any paper unless it is in the "Take Home Folder". I will instruct the students to place work in their "take home" manila folder. We use items in the Docket for several days sometimes, before it is ready to take home. If you find something in the "take home" folder and you aren't sure if it belongs there, please email me. **You MUST check your child's docket every night!** You need to make sure that all work is completed that was on the learning plan and placed back in the appropriate folder. Also, we need to help our children learn how to stay organized and help them make sure that all papers are where they belong.

Learning Plans

The Learning Plan is our way of communicating what is happening in the classroom every day. You will find it at the front of the docket. **You are required to check it every day and sign it.** The learning plan assures that homework is completed each night. **As parents sign the learning plan, they are communicating with me that they have seen the homework and know that it is complete.** Parents also need to look at the color their child was on. This will be found right above where the parent's signature belongs. Please talk with your child about the color they were on and the choices they made at school. On the back of the learning plan is a communication area; you may use this if you have any comments or questions. Please date each comment and question so I know when it was written and I make sure I respond. You may also schedule appointments, if needed. I am available by e-mail anytime! I will respond to you within 24 hours. You will also find weekly parent information in the communication section as well. Make sure that you always read and review this.

ALMA Grading

We will be using ALMA again this year. It allows you as parents to check your students' grades regularly. You are able to see what their overall grade is in each subject as well as what missing work they have. Please check this weekly to help your students stay on top of missing work. On the learning plans there will be a spot for you to initial that you checked ALMA (grading system) this week. **This will help you and us know if you are aware of your students grades and missing work.** If you see that something says EMERGING, this means that they are below mastery in that subject. If you have any questions about the grades or missing work, please email me. I will get back to you by email within 24 hours.

Reading University

APA's Reading University program is a **graded subject** and reported on the student's **permanent report card**. In your child's docket, in the RU folder is a form for you to fill out to keep track of the books read. To receive a passing grade, your 2nd Grader must read at least **8** books each term. Students earn RU store credit based on the books they read. To receive a green ticket, they **MUST** read the required number of books. 1 of the 8 books does not have to be from the RU list. To receive a gold ticket, they must read **12** books. We will be checking books out once a week. Your child will have enough opportunities to read all books required for gold. You can find the list of approved books on the APA website under Reading University, 2nd grade book list.

The RU Book Log Due Dates are:

Term 1: Sept 30, Term 2: Dec. 9, Term 3: Feb. 3, Term 4: March 24, Term 5: May 26

Writing

In addition to Shurley Grammar and Adventures in Language, your 2nd Grader is required to write 6 book reports per school year. 4 book reports will be written in school with teacher support. Homework for these 4 reports will only be required if student is absent or behind. At times your child may be required to edit/complete final copy at home. Your children might need your assistance. 2 book reports along with the organizers and pre-write form will be required to do at home later in the year. They will be taught how to do these in class. These will be based on a book they have selected from the RU List.

Reading Fluency

American Prep, has implemented a program called Reading Fluency. Each week at grade levels 1-6, the students take home a one page reading selection based on a current study subject to practice reading. This program significantly increases **vocabulary, reading speed, and improves curriculum comprehension**. On the backside of the selection are instructions for how to successfully correct your child in reading practice. Please read it and practice **this** correction style **ONLY**. It is carefully designed to maximize results and is used daily at American Prep. They should read it once every night and turn in the completed RF on the following Monday. If on Monday they are missing any days, it will be returned home for completion.

Math Groups vs. Rocket Math vs. Interactive Math

Rocket Math (MMF) and Interactive Math are all part of Homeroom Math

Math Groups: All homeroom classes dismiss their students at a set time each day to meet in smaller math groups for one hour of direct instruction in math. Grades 1-3 have math every day

from 10:25-11:25. This program teaches successive math concepts at a level of ability appropriate for the grouped students.

Rocket Math/Mastering Math Facts: This is taught in the homeroom class. It is a daily timed practice for memorization of simple and critical math facts. Being able to "count on your fingers" to compute math facts is not acceptable. This program drills memorization of facts. It is as essential to math as knowing the ABC's is to reading. The children will be assessed to see where they should start in the Rocket Math Program. Once that is established they will progress at their own pace through the mathematical operations and individual letters. Many children will need to practice this orally at home each night. They can use flashcards (we can provide), math sheets, or mathscore (on the computer). It will be marked on the learning plan if they have this for homework. The 1 min. timings will be passed off orally (100% correct) and the 2 min. timings will be passed off written (100% of their personal goal correct 3 x's). Children in 2nd grade need to master addition and subtraction math facts. Once they have mastered those, they will move onto Multiplication and Division. If you have any questions about this please email me. **This grade will be part of the 2nd Grade Math Grade. They will get a MMF benchmark score and also a MMF effort score that will be part of the 2nd Grade Math Grade.**

Interactive Math: This is taught in the homeroom class and aligns with the 2nd Grade Level, Core Knowledge Sequence used at our school and written by E.D. Hirsch. **This also includes the Utah Common Core.** It reinforces age appropriate logical concepts and problem solving that use measurement, graphing, fractions, geometry, etc. It is information that all 2nd graders need to know! **This grade will be part of the 2nd Grade Math Grade. They will be tested on what they are learning to help us know what they are at mastery on. Their tests will also be part of their grade.**

Year-End Culminating Performance

At the end of the year there will be a final show what you know performance that **ALL** students will have individual parts in. There will be two performances. One will be during the school day and the other will be in the evening. We need the students to be there for **BOTH** performances because they may have a speaking part. This is an amazing opportunity for your child to be a star in front of many, and to show all that they know.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many opportunities to help out in our classroom and I would be truly grateful for any help you are willing to give! Parent involvement is a major part of APA! If you are interested and available, I would love your help! There is an attached form for opportunities to volunteer. Following is a list of some of the volunteer opportunities.

- **Academic Support Team Leader:** This individual is responsible for coordinating the volunteer team. The AST Leader's name will be emailed to you so all volunteers

know who may be contacting them. The AST Leader will meet periodically with the other AST leaders at APA to talk about what they are doing and how they are helping. This will be a great way to brainstorm ideas with other AST Leaders. You need to be confident and comfortable to be in charge, to contact people, to ask for help (if you are interested and would like more information, please let me know ASAP). Some things that the AST Leader does are the following:

- o Communication - phone tree, organizing parents to volunteer for classroom events
 - o Transportation - for field trips
 - o Events - classroom activities, culminating activities
 - o Academic Support - correcting papers, creating visual aids
- **Secretarial Jobs:** This includes photocopying, filing, stapling, cutting, bulletin boards, etc.
 - **At Home Grading Jobs:** This involves grading papers. There will be specific instructions on how to complete this task. We need committed volunteers that when grading/correcting is needed they can have a 1-2 day turn around (depends on what is being graded).

Classroom Support Jobs: This includes coming into the classroom and giving students support during grammar, cursive, language, Book Report writing, etc. This can be something that is set-up for every week at a certain time.

Lunch Time Reader and/or Recess Help: If you are available to do lunch or recess on a specific day(s), our instructor would truly appreciate your assistance.

****Many of the above jobs can be done at home or at the school. I understand many of you have commitments that do not allow you to come to school during school hours so there is definitely work that can be done at home.**

Overview for Second Grade

All these subjects can be found in the book: "What your Second Grader Needs to Know" by E.D. Hirsch Jr. **It is suggested to have a copy in your home.** It is an amazing resource!

September	History:	Constitution/War of 1812
	Science:	Seasonal Cycles/Life Cycles
	Geography:	Land Forms/Map Skills
	Core Math:	Odd/Even, Doubles
October	History:	Westward Expansion: Elijah McCoy
	Science:	Water Cycle
	Geography:	Globe Skills, South America
	Core Math:	Grouping
November	History:	Civil War: Clara Barton
	Science:	Water Cycle
	Geography:	Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, Antarctica
	Core Math:	Number Families
December	History:	Immigration, Civil Rights
	Science:	Magnets
	Core Math:	Number Families, Operations and Algebraic Thinking
January	History:	India
	Science:	Digestion: Anton Van Leeuwenhoek Florence Nightingale
	Core Math:	Base 10 Blocks, Number Sense
February:	History	China
	Science:	Digestion
	Core Math:	Fact Family, Measurement, Time
March:	History:	Japan/Ancient Greece
	Science:	Insects
	Core Math:	Money, Graphing, Geometry
April:	History:	Ancient Greece
	Science:	Simple Machines
	Core Math:	Fractions
May:	History:	Review/Test Prep

Science: Review/Test Prep

June: Year-End Culminating Activity Performance

** This is a rough estimate as to when we will be teaching each unit. **