**2nd Grade Standards Overview for Parents**

Second grade is where the children go from learning to read to reading to learn!  They adjust to a more rigorous learning environment to further expand skills and knowledge.  Second graders are more experienced readers and writers, able to tackle more complex and comprehensive tasks.  Second graders are taught and practice new concepts in whole group, small group, and individual learning settings.  Our second graders learn about the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the order of the Mass. Second grade is the year that our students grow in their faith by preparing for and making the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion.

During your child’s 2nd grade year, they will be working to master the following concepts:

**Religion**

**\*\*\***For a comprehensive listing of Diocesan Standards, please visit: [www.dioceseoflansing.org/education/catholic-school-curriculum](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/education/catholic-school-curriculum)

* Second Grade is a very important year for building a deeper relationship with Christ through the Eucharist.  Our students participate in a variety of experiences to prepare them for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion, including daily prayer, retreats, and religion curriculum.  We focus on God’s love for each of us and His invitation to personal relationship with Him where He calls us to love, know, and serve Him.
  + **Profession of Faith**
    - God makes himself known and invites himself into a relationship with Him
      * Our faith as God’s call to a personal relationship with Him
      * Jesus as fulfillment of God’s plan for salvation
      * New testament as fulfillment of our salvation through Christ Jesus
    - Holy Trinity and Role of Mary**:**
      * God the Father
        + Story of Creation
        + God’s love for us all
        + God’s call to share in eternal life
      * God the Son
        + Paschal Mystery as Jesus’ passion
        + Jesus as one who shares His life with us in a personal and ongoing way; one through whom all are reconciled to the Father
        + **Jesus public life/ministry**; titles: Lamb of God, Redeemer
      * God the Holy Spirit
        + Faith as made possible through the Holy Spirit
        + Identify names/titles
      * Mary, Mother of God
        + Story of Assumption
        + Mary as mother of God, mother of Jesus, mother of us all
    - We are called through our baptism to proclaim and share the Good News
    - Missionary nature of the church, church is a community of believers
    - Role and order of the church (pope, bishops, priests, etc)
    - Study the Saints
  + **Celebration of Christian Ministry**
    - Explain why Jesus instituted the sacraments
    - Define rite as an ordered action of the Church
    - Prepare for Sacraments (First reconciliation, First Communion); differentiate between the sacraments (all)
    - Recognize the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Christian life; makes present the sacrifice of the cross; discuss how we prepare ourselves for the receiving of the Eucharist
    - Understand that sacramentals include blessings, the rosary, holy water, and other blessed objects
  + **Life in Christ**
    - Christian love as a life patterned on Jesus; discuss vocations (as commitment and personal response to the call of Baptism)
    - Identify one’s responsibility for developing a well formed conscience
    - Discuss: virtues; sin (mortal and venial); reconciliation with God and others; Ten commandments; authority of God in our life
    - Works of Mercy, our call to help others without expectation of return
  + **Christian Prayer**
    - Traditional prayers (Act of Contrition, Nicene Creed, Our Father, etc)
    - Prayer as speaking and listening to God; recognize various forms of prayer; write simple prayers of praise and thanksgiving
    - Adoration; Communion Service; Mass; relationship between Eucharistic liturgy and our daily lives

**ELA**

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* Second graders continue to develop their reading skills as they learn to read more complex words and read longer, more complex texts in a variety of genres, such as fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. They also develop their reading comprehension skills as they talk about what they read and use it for developing and presenting further ideas. In addition, 2nd graders continually practice their reading skills as they read for other subjects they learn throughout the day.  Second graders refine and expand their writing skills as they begin to write texts to communicate ideas effectively across a variety of genres such as opinion, informative and narrative pieces. Writing becomes more detailed and longer and they become more comfortable with editing and revising. Similar to reading, writing occurs throughout the day in addition to specific writing lessons. For example, students may write about a math problem, explaining how they solved it.
  + **Reading: Literature:**
    - Students ask and answer questions about *who,* *what*, *where*, *when* and *why* to show understanding of key details.
    - Retell stories to include fables and folktales from different cultures and explain main idea, lesson or moral.
    - Describe how main characters in a story react to major events and challenges.
    - Describe how words and phrases (rhyme, repeated lines, alliteration) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song.
    - Describe the chronological structure of a story; the beginning, middle and end with supporting details.
    - Acknowledge differences in points of view of characters to include speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud.
    - Using information from illustrations and headings to show understanding of characters, setting and plot.
    - Compare or contrast two versions of the same story (Cinderella stories) by different authors and cultures.
  + **Reading: Informational Text**
    - Students ask and answer questions about *who,* *what*, *where*, *when* and *why* to show understanding of key details.
    - Identify the main topic of text as well as focus of specific paragraphs within the text.
    - Know and use various text features (captions, illustrations, headings, bold print, glossaries) to help find key facts and information in text.
    - Identify author’s main purpose in what is being explained, answered, or described.
    - Explain how diagrams, charts, and graphs help clarify text.
    - Describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in the text.
    - Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic.

* + **Reading: Foundational Text**

              Demonstrate understanding of basic features of print (first word, capitalization, end marks)

* + - Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (short/long vowel sounds, consonant blends)
    - Know and apply grade-level phonics in sounding out words (isolate and sound out beginning, medial, and ending sounds to pronounce words)
    - Know how to identify and sound out words with vowel teams.
    - Know how to identify and use spelling patterns to sound out words with v-c-e spelling patterns in words like cake, rope, bike.
    - Decode words with common prefixes and suffixes.
    - Recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
    - Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
    - Use context to self-correct word recognition and understanding.
  + **Writing**
    - Write opinion pieces in which the topic is introduced, an opinion is given and backed up with reasons that support opinion.
    - Write informative texts which introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop a point, and provide concluding statement.
    - Write narratives in which an event or short sequence of events are recounted with details that describe actions, thoughts and feelings.
    - With guidance and support from adults, students strengthen writing through revision and editing.
    - With guidance and support from adults students revise, edit and publish writing.
    - Participate in shared research and writing projects to write a report or record science observations.
  + **Speaking and Listening**
    - Participate in collaborative groups about grade 2 topics by following agreed upon rules for discussions.
    - Ask for clarification and further explanation about topics and texts being discussed.
    - Recount key ideas and details from a text read aloud or information presented orally.
    - Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says to clarify comprehension and gather additional information.
    - Tell a story or recount an experience with descriptive details.
    - Create audio recordings of stories and poems and add drawings for clarification of ideas, thoughts and feelings.
  + **Language**
* Demonstrate command of English grammar and usage when writing or speaking by use of collective nouns, irregular plural nouns, reflexive nouns (myself, ourselves).
* Use of adjectives and adverbs to describe nouns and verbs.
* Produce and elaborate simple and compound sentences (The boy watched the movie.  The *little* boy watched the *scary* movie).
* Demonstrate command of English by use of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
* Capitalize holidays and geographic names.
* Use commas in greetings and closings of letters.
* Use an apostrophe to form contractions and possessives
* Use dictionaries and glossaries to learn meanings of words and correct spelling.
* Determine meaning of new word when prefix or suffix is added.
* Use known root word as clue to meaning of unknown word with same root.
* Use knowledge of meaning of individual words to predict meaning of compound words.

**Math**

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* Second graders continue to practice addition and subtraction skills, memorizing facts and eventually solving problems mentally. Manipulatives, such as blocks, tiles, and different shapes are used to help students internalize concepts like addition and subtraction with regrouping by using concrete, visible objects such as base 10 blocks. They learn to explain how they solve a problem using words and writing. This helps students better understand the concepts underlying the math they learn. Other concepts include time, money, measurement, and graphing. In addition, students in 2nd grade begin to learn concepts that lay the foundation for multiplication.
  + **Numbers and Operations** 
    - Count in a variety of ways up to the 1000’s (starting from any number); read and write numbers to 1000; compare and order numbers to 1000
    - Addition and subtraction within 100 (up to the 1000’s) using a variety of models (place value charts, blocks, concrete models, etc)
    - Develop strategies and understanding for addition and subtraction with regrouping; strategies for mental math, and memorization of math facts within 20
    - Develop a thorough understanding of place value and its role in mathematical concepts
    - Develop an understanding of the role of repeated addition in multiplication (using objects, arrays, and equal parts)
    - Recognize, name, write, and use fractions (and their relation to the whole) ½, 1/3, 2/3, 2/4, ¾.
  + **Measurement**
    - Measure using a variety of tools (rulers, yardsticks, etc), comparing measurements, using both the metric and US customary system; perimeter; number lines, and word probels
    - Read and write values of coins; add and subtract money in mixed units; solve word problems involving money
    - Tell and write time to the nearest 5 minutes, quarter hour, half hour, AM and PM; elapsed time
    - Use a thermometer to tell temperature
  + **Geometry**
    - Analyze and predict results of putting together and taking apart 2D and 3D shapes
    - Compute perimeter;
    - distinguish curves and straight lines- curved surfaces, flat surfaces; 2D plane figures that have line symmetry; classify plane and solid objects; angles of polygons; recognize shapes remain the same after being slid, turned, or flipped
  + **Algebraic Reasoning**
    - Develop algebraic concepts
    - Solve word problems involving missing values in all positions
  + **Data, Probability, and Statistics**
    - Collect, organize, read, and interpret line plots, pictographs and bar graphs
  + **Mathematical Practices**
    - Make sense of problems and persevere in finding solution
    - Attend to precision and accuracy
    - Communicate math thinking with clarity
    - Build connections with mathematical concepts
    - Use models to represent math concepts

**Science**

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* Our science standards reflect the shift in scientific education practices outlined with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).  Most importantly, science education has shifted to focusing on the importance of the development of understanding (rather than the rote recall of facts).  Second graders will develop and use models, plan and carry out investigations, analyze and interpret data, design solutions, engage in argument from evidence, and obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.  Students will use engineering design to solve real world problems, using representations to communicate ideas for a problem’s solutions to other people. Second graders will learn how to use these practices to demonstrate understanding.
  + **Structure and Properties of Matter**
    - States of matter, classified by observable properties
    - Chemical reactions (heating, cooling, etc).  Some reversible, some not.
  + **Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics**
    - Plants and animals have interdependent relationships (plants need sun and water, need animals for pollination)
  + **Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity**
    - Describe living things in terms of where they live (land, water, area)
  + **Earth’s Place in the Universe**
    - Describe the history of earth and its changes (some happen slowly, others quickly)
  + **Earth’s systems**
    - Describe how wind and water change the earth’s surface
    - Use maps to show where things are located, shapes and kinds of land and water (mountains, sea level)
    - Describe where on earth water is found (ocean, river, lakes, etc)

**Social Studies**

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* In second grade, students continue the integrative approach to social studies through the context of the local community. This the first time students are introduced to a social environment larger than their immediate surroundings and they draw upon knowledge learned in previous grades to develop more sophisticated understandings to explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics.
  + **History:** 
    - Living and working together in communities
    - Changes over time (population, jobs, businesses, etc) and their problems.
    - Use chronological thinking: years, decades, etc. Use a timeline.
  + **Geography**:
    - The world in spatial terms (maps, spatial organization, etc)
    - How communities are related to larger regions
    - Describe land use in the community and means that are used to communicate people, goods, and ideas.
    - Describe diversity in the local community.
    - Describe ways people interact with the environment, and the results (both positive and negative)
  + **Civics and Government:**
    - Purpose, value, and structure of government (laws, how local government affects citizens) and our roles as citizens.
    - Describe the balance between individual rights and the common good when solving a community problem.
    - Ways that citizens participate in community decision (participate in community improvement projects)
  + **Economics:**
    - Introduction of the idea of opportunity cost
    - Describe how local businesses meet needs of consumers
    - Describe resources (natural, human, capital) needed for production of a good or service
  + **Public discourse, decision making, and citizen involvement:**
    - Identify public issues in the local community that affect daily lives.
    - Introduction to core democratic values
    - Compose a statement expressing a position on public policy issue in the local community; develop and implement an action to address or inform others about the issue