**Mr. Weyher’s 2nd Grade Class**

**J.E. Cosgriff Memorial School 2019-2020**

**Disclosure Statement**

Dear Parents:

Welcome to 2nd grade! I am so excited for this school year and dedicated to making this your child’s best year ever!

**Goals** My goals are that each student:

* **enjoys school and is excited about learning**
* **feels valued, secure, respected, and capable**
* **progresses academically, socially, and spiritually**

**Curriculum** Second grade is a very important year for your children as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Mrs. Hogan will be teaching religion class to all of the second graders. I will support **Mrs. Hogan** and reinforce the religion curriculum in our classroom through daily prayers and the integration of Jesus’ teachings into other academic subjects.

In addition to preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion students will:

·          Demonstrate understanding of core Catholic beliefs

·         Demonstrate understanding and practice of Catholic worship and sacraments

with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of Catholics

·          Understand right from wrong and be able to make good moral choices in life

decisions that are consistent with Church teachings and a Christian lifestyle

·          Demonstrate understanding of Catholic social teaching and apply these

principles to social and personal situations

·          Read, interpret and apply scripture to their own daily life situation

·          Demonstrate their understanding of Christian family life and how it is

nourished and passed on

·          Demonstrate their understanding of the Liturgical year and how it is

celebrated

·          Demonstrate, understand, use and identify traditional prayer forms in the

Catholic tradition

·          Demonstrate understanding and use of religious vocabulary

·          Demonstrate their understanding of different vocations and life styles to

prepare them to respond to their own call

·          Engage in service to the community (family, parish, local, national, and

global) by action and reflection on our response to the Gospel call

·          Explore the lives of the saints in order to expand their role models for

Christian living.

·          Explore the development and history of the Roman Catholic Church

·          Demonstrate an understanding of Catholic stewardship and apply the

knowledge by sharing their time, talent and treasure

The J.E. Cosgriff second grade curriculum is based on the **Common Core State Standards**. The curriculum in our classroom meets and exceeds these standards.

In second grade, we continue to work on reading and writing skills. Through the **Houghton Mifflin Journeys** program there will be a combination of daily group grade-level reading and language art as well as small, leveled guided reading groups. We will also use **Step-Up to Writing** and the **6+1 Traits of Good Writing** program to continue to develop each students’ writing skills according to the Six Traits of Good Writing Model:

* 1 - Ideas
* 2 - Word choice
* 3 - Voice
* 4 - Conventions
* 5 - Sentence Fluency
* 6 - Organization
* **+ Presentation**

Our spelling program is **Words Their Way.** This program is based on research findings that spelling is a strategic process based on problem solving, decision making, analogy, and metacognition. Spelling, word study, fluency, and language development are incorporated into this program. We are excited to use this program at Cosgriff and know that it will benefit all students. One of the most important aspects of this program is the use of poetry to model, practice and improve reading fluency.

We will continue **Power Hour** in Second Grade. Power Hour consists of three small-group fifteen minute sessions of **guided reading**, **Words-Their –Way** word work and **Step-Up to Writing**. Each student will participate in each of the three groups every day.

We will be using the new **Into Math** series by *Houghton Mifflin.* This series meets the needs of all students by placing an emphasis on connections between concepts and skills.

* **Skills and concepts** taught in depth to allow for mastery.
* Promotes reasoning and problem solving through tasks that can be solved using various strategies.
* **Rigorous Tasks** that promote perseverance and give students opportunities to develop productive habits of mind around mathematical problem solving.

JE Cosgriff is in the process of adopting and implementing the **Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).** The NGSS encompasses the four domains of science: Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering Design.

Classroom instruction will also include **Social Studies, Science, Health, and Handwriting.**

**Standards Based Grading:**

Students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade will be assessed using a standards based report card.  Using this format, grading is based on demonstration of mastery. Students attempt standards-aligned activities (projects, worksheets, quizzes, presentations, etc.). Teachers assess the student output and choose the appropriate mastery level demonstrated for that specific grade-level standard. The grading scale is as follows:

**E**: Exceeds (95-100)

**M**: Meets (80-94.9)

**A**: Approaching (70-79.9)

**N**: Needs Intervention (69.9 and below)

This does not change or affect teacher instruction, it is simply a different form of assessment.

The students will go to Short Core classes for **Computers, Choir, Physical Education, Spanish, Music, Library, and Art.**

Short Core Schedule

Monday 9:10 – 9:50 Art

1:40 – 2:20 Spanish

Tuesday 9:10 - 10:00 PE

1:25 – 2:15 Religion

1:40 - 2:20 Music

2:20 - 3:00 Computer

Wednesday 12:40 – 1:10 Choir

1:40 – 2:10 Spanish

Thursday

12:25 – 1:15 Religion

1:30 – 2:10 Library

Friday 8:30 – 9:30 MASS

**\* P.E. Dress – Students need to wear or bring sneakers to school on Thursdays. They may change them after PE or continue to wear them if they are part of the Cosgriff Uniform. Students without the proper shoes will have to sit out and this may affect their grade.**

**Homework**

Reading aloud will be the primary focus of at home work. **Your child needs to read 20 minutes every night.**

**\***Leveled book baggies willbe sent home mid-September.

**We will also have a Math Project every other month beginning in September**.

I will be sending home math games we have practiced and enjoyed in class.

There will also be a poem to memorize most weeks. I will check off the poem each Friday. I use poetry in the classroom to model, practice and help improve reading fluency.

There may also be writing, religion and science and social studies assignments. Science and social studies will vary, and your child will be assigned reports and projects throughout the year.

**Birthdays** We will celebrate each child’s birthday in class. If you would like to send a treat on your child’s birthday, please make sure it is a **healthy** store-bought item and does not contain nuts. If your child has a summer birthday, we will definitely celebrate his or her half-birthday.

**Lunch and Snack** Lunch is at 11:45 a.m. Each child should bring a **healthy snack** daily. We have long and busy mornings and this is helpful in staying focused and energized.

**Classroom Rules**

For school to be an enjoyable, safe, and productive atmosphere, students must follow the classroom rules:

1. Listen when others are talking.
2. Follow directions.
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Work quietly and do not disturb others.
5. Show respect for school and personal property.
6. Work and play in a safe manner.

*I strongly believe that students are motivated through positive feedback and rewards that are intrinsic. I like to use specific recognition and praise, Quick Notes, and Mystery Motivators and more.*

**Consequences**

IF YOU CHOOSE TO BREAK A RULE

First Time: Name on Board. Warning

Second Time: One Check. Time Out

Third Time: Two Checks. Letter Home (see Sample Parent Letter)

\*Names and check marks will be erased at the end of each day. Each student will have a fresh start each day.

I am dedicated to creating a safe and positive school environment for each child to learn and grow. I will work closely with you as parents to ensure this.

Thank you so much for your support as we begin this school year together. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Weyher

sweyher@cosgriff.org