

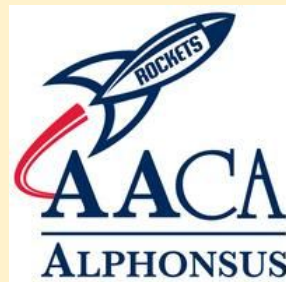
# **AACA 2nd Grade Orientation**

**Facilitated by Mrs. Sedej and Mrs. Navarro**



# Welcome to 2nd Grade!

We **love** our AACCA community!



# What Does 2nd Grade Look Like?

- One lead teacher responsible for delivery of instruction and assessment, with support from a full-time classroom assistant
- Both adults in the classroom facilitate independent learning & differentiated groups
- Two adults in each class to care for the students' academic, social-emotional, and spiritual needs
- Both lead teachers collaborate in weekly lesson plans

# Communication

- Please use email to contact us:  
[knavarro@alphonsusacademy.org](mailto:knavarro@alphonsusacademy.org)  
[ssedej@alphonsusacademy.org](mailto:ssedej@alphonsusacademy.org)
- Weekly newsletter sent out on Friday
- Check classroom website for any questions that may not be answered in the newsletter
- Email the teacher with special pick-ups, dismissal requests, or notifications by 8:30 a.m. If your pick up change comes later in the day, please call the main office instead of sending us an email, as we may not have a chance to read our email when teaching.



# Growing Independence-

This is the last year with two teachers

- We prepare students to show grit and persevere with work.
- High expectations are held for behavior, school work and nightly homework. Please reinforce neatness and careful editing!
- Students will explain their thinking, pose questions and share weekly with an audible voice.
- Students will collaborate with others in small groups and in partner work, in addition to independent work.

# Similarities to 1st Grade

- 2 adults in the classroom
- Math, Writers' and Readers' Workshop
- Specials (Art, Drama, Library, Music, Technology, P.E.)

Next year art specials will be 1 X/wk all year!

- First six weeks of school and morning meeting
- Small group work to help differentiate instruction

# Differences in 1st and 2nd Grade

- Higher expectations of responsibility, independence, and respect
- Only one 20 minute recess before lunch (we have a later lunch and in our mornings we have breaks with art and PE specials!)

# First 6 Weeks of School

## *Social Emotional Learning*

- Work together to build a community
- Learn routines
- Create classroom rules
- Morning Meeting and Closing Circle
- Reinforcing positive behaviors
- Interactive Modeling
- Guided Discovery





# Literacy Instruction

- Aligned with Common Core Standards
- Reader's Workshop:
  - Differentiated small group instruction
  - Focus on decoding, fluency, and comprehension
  - Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Research skills
- Whole Class Read Alouds
- Writer's Workshop:
  - Personal narratives
  - Nonfiction reports
  - Informative/Persuasive pieces
  - Creative writing
  - Poetry
  - Paragraph writing



# Math Instruction

- Aligned with the Common Core Standards
- Whole Class and Small Group Instruction
- Major Areas of Focus:
  - Understanding Place Value
  - Single Digit Addition & Subtraction Fluency
  - Double Digit Addition & Subtraction Fluency
  - Time
  - Money
  - Problem Solving skills
  - Geometry & Measurement



# Faith Formation

- **Sacramental Preparation**
  - First Reconciliation (winter)
  - First Communion (spring)
- **May Crowning Mass**
- **Focus on how to be Christ-like and live each day by the example of Jesus**



# Science and Social Studies Units

- Interdisciplinary units
- Arts, technology, and ELA integration
- Science:
  - Earth's Processes
  - Properties of Matter
  - Ecosystems- Plant growth and habitats
  - Engineering Design
- Social Studies:
  - Economy and Government
  - Map Skills
  - Communities
  - Famous Americans

# Classwork & Homework

- Classwork is sent home in homework folder.
- Homework
  - 15 minutes of reading daily
  - Math review sheet of class lesson or facts practice
  - One home project per trimester (Communities project, Biography Breakfast, Habitat project)

# Summer Preparation

- Reinforce neat and proper handwriting
- Practice addition and subtraction facts frequently (just 5 minutes a day makes a huge difference entering 2nd grade!)
- Real world applications of using money & recognizing different coins and their values
- Keep a summer writing journal about your daily activities
- Read each day
- Practice telling time on an analog watch/clock

