

# Welcome to Mrs. Lyons' Second Grade Class



# 😊 Welcome to Mrs. Lyons' Second Grade!

## Students:

- 😊 Please find your desk and put your supplies inside.
- 😊 Please read the sheet on your desk.

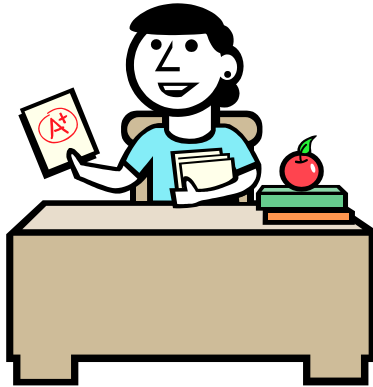
## Parents:

- 😊 Please see the sign up sheets on the back table.
- 😊 Please drop off completed paperwork in the baskets.
- 😊 Please take home your child's green "Weekly Mailbox," but please return it tomorrow!

😊 THANK YOU! 😊



# A little bit about Mrs. Lyons...



- I graduated from SUNY College at Fredonia with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. I also earned my Master's Degree in Reading and Literacy from Walden University.
- I taught first grade for eight years and second grade for one year in Florida.
- I love teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Arcade!
- I am married with two fabulous kids, Cohen and Cooper.
- I am very excited to teach your child this year!!

# What's new in second grade?

- MORE RESPONSIBILITY!
- Higher expectations
- Nightly homework, including independent reading and studying math facts
- Studying
- Tests
- Responsible for own snack every day





# A second grader needs...

- To become a responsible student.
- To listen and pay attention.
- To work cooperatively with teachers and other students.
- To work well in learning groups.
- To always try his or her best.
- To be respectful to everyone.
- To always do his or her best work.
- To have a happy, enjoyable and successful year in **SECOND GRADE!**



# **New York State Common Core Learning Standards**

## **WHAT ARE THE COMMON CORE LEARNING STANDARDS?**

Learning standards describe what students should know and be able to do in each grade. New York and more than 40 other states across the country have transitioned to a new set of learning standards called the Common Core. These new standards provide a clear picture of what students need to learn each year in order to graduate from high school ready to succeed in college and careers.

The Common Core standards were developed by educators and other experts based on research and lessons learned from top-performing countries. The standards describe the skills and knowledge our students need to succeed in a rapidly changing world, including the ability to think creatively, solve real-world problems, make effective arguments, and engage in debates.

In New York State, the Common Core includes standards for students in pre-kindergarten through grade twelve in English language arts and math. The English standards include a focus on literacy in history, science, and technical subjects—emphasizing that teachers in all subjects are responsible for teaching literacy. As schools implement these new standards, students will be asked to do significantly more writing and to read increasingly complex texts, with an emphasis on nonfiction. In math, students will take more time to understand concepts deeply, make connections between topics, and master complex ideas through hands-on learning.

To learn more about the Common Core standards nationally and in New York state, visit:

<http://corestandards.org>

[www.engageny.org](http://www.engageny.org)

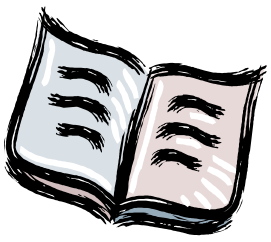
# Six Shifts in ELA and Math

## **Six Shifts in ELA/Literacy**

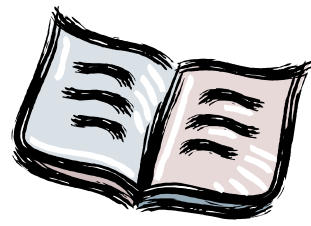
- Read as much non fiction as fiction
- Learn about the world by reading
- Read more challenging material closely
- Discuss reading using evidence
- Write non-fiction using evidence
- Increase academic vocabulary

## **Six Shifts in Mathematics**

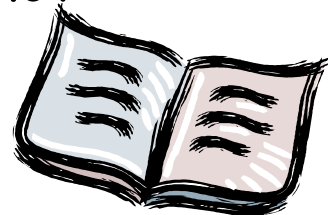
- Focus: learn more about fewer, key topics
- Build skills within and across grades
- Develop speed and accuracy
- Really know it, really do it
- Use it in the real world
- Think fast AND solve problems



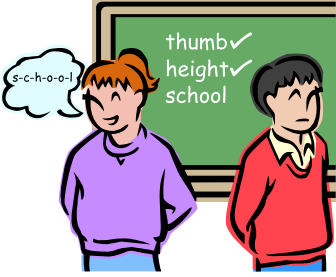
# Second Grade Reading



- In second grade, we will be using the New York State Common Core Modules for Listening and Learning, along with adapting the Lucy Calkins' Reader's Workshop format for independent reading. We will also use trade books and our Scott-Foresman Reading Street materials during reading instruction.
- We use large group shared reading instruction and small guided reading groups to utilize the modules, reading series and will also supplement with trade books (non-fiction and chapter books) throughout the year.
- We are focusing on learning to read and learning to understand and think about our reading.
- By the end of the school year, students need to read to learn for third grade! Most students will also be reading chapter books by the end of this year, if they are not already doing so.







# Second Grade Word Work



- A new unit of words is assigned weekly based on our New York State common core learning standards.
- The students will do word sorts to help them understand the spelling rule.
- Children will spend the whole week using the words in varied assignments and centers.
- Students will be assessed on how they apply new words in their daily writing.

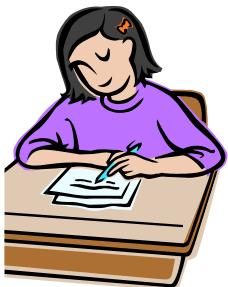




# Second Grade Writing

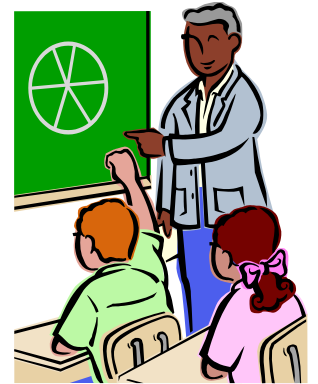


- In second grade, we will meet the New York State Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) by using the writing program, "Units of Primary Writing", based on the research of well known author and researcher, Lucy Calkins.
- Second graders will engage in demand and creative writing.
- Second graders will learn many different types of writing (personal narrative, non-fiction (expository), persuasive, how-to, sequence, friendly letter, journal entry, etc.).
- Second graders will learn how to write complete sentences using correct capitalization, punctuation and spelling.
- Second graders will be encouraged to read over their work to revise and edit their writing, as needed.
- By the end of the year, second graders should be able to write a complete paragraph with an indented topic sentence, details and a conclusion.
- Second graders will complete demand writing pieces in response to our reading and based on our Common Core Learning Standards. Writing may be graded using a scoring rubric. The students will be introduced to all of these new concepts! 😊



# Second Grade Math

Second grade students will learn:



- Graphing
- Estimating
- Problem solving
- Reasoning
- Place value to 1,000
- Addition and subtraction strategies
- Time



- Money
- Measurement
- Multiple digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping
- Geometry
- Fractions
- Introduction to multiplication and division



# IMPORTANT MATH REMINDER!

ALL  
ADDITION AND  
SUBTRACTION  
FACTS TO 20  
MUST BE  
**MEMORIZED**  
THIS YEAR!

Please practice your facts  
**OFTEN** at home!

We will be busy learning  
other math concepts at  
school!



A small globe on a stand, showing the Americas, with a yellow arrow indicating rotation.

# Second Grade Science and Social Studies Curriculum

A small globe on a stand, showing the Americas, with a yellow arrow indicating rotation.

In second grade, our science and social studies curriculum is embedded in our New York State Listening and Learning ELA Modules. We will also use Scholastic News and New York State Social Studies Weekly to enhance our instruction. We will be studying the following topics:

- \* **States of Matter**
- \* **Plant and Animal Life Cycles**
- \* **Healthy Me**
- \* **Biographies**
- \* **Cycles of Nature**
- \* **Rural/Urban/Suburban Communities**
- \* **Map Skills and Landforms**
- \* **Economics**
- \* **Government and Citizenship**

# Handwriting

Second grade students will review the lowercase and uppercase manuscript alphabet. Students will be expected to form letters properly and write neatly and legibly on all assignments. We are preparing for learning cursive in third grade!





# Second Grade Report Cards

- Second graders will receive report cards that will be printed from a computerized program **THREE** times a year (trimesters).
- The second grade report card will be based on the New York State Common Core Learning Standards.
- Overall subject grades will be given in second grade.
- Each individual standard that is taught during a particular trimester will be assessed with the following scale:
  - 4 - Exceeding Proficiency
  - 3 - Meets Proficiency
  - 2 - Developing Proficiency
  - 1 - Needs Improvement
- If a standard is left blank, it was not assessed during that trimester.
- Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences will be held in November. Other conferences can be scheduled at any time during the year, if needed.



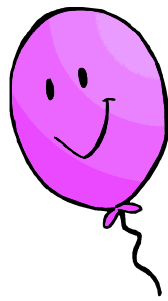


# Classroom Management

- Boys and girls in Room 204 develop a social contract within the first week of school. We always remember the "golden rule": Treat others as you would like to be treated. Students need to respect everyone!
- I believe in being firm, fair, consistent, but always caring when it comes to discipline.
- We use the "Capturing Kids' Hearts" model for discipline. First, a student who is not making a good choice gets a reminder. Second, I discuss the problem with the student using four focus questions. If needed, the student writes a note home to parents that needs to be signed and returned the next day and/or calls home.
- Students enjoy **EARNING** their privileges! Our classroom is **POSITIVE!**



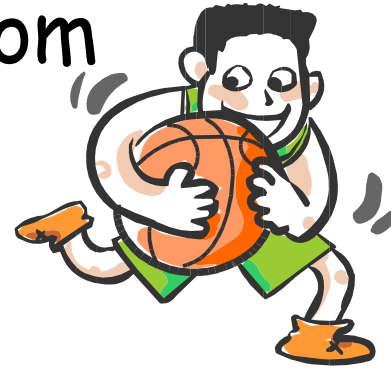




# Our Schedule



Our specials are scheduled from  
12:05 - 12:45 every day.



**Monday:** Gym

**Tuesday:** Library

**Fitness Room:** 10:00 - 10:40

**Wednesday:** Art

**Thursday:** Gym

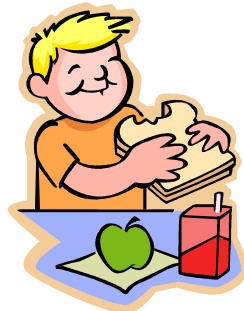
**Friday:** Music





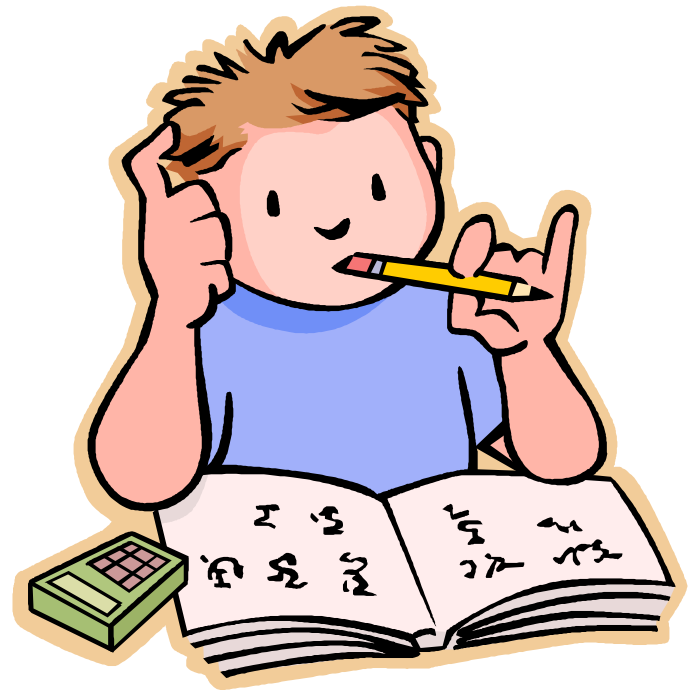
# Second Grade Lunch and Snack

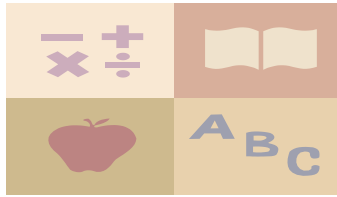
- Students will use their ID cards to purchase lunch. Please send lunch money to school in an envelope with your child's name and my name. You can prepay lunches in advance.
- We will have snack every day.
- Students are responsible for bringing their own **HEALTHY** snack to school every day! If possible, please try to avoid chips and sweets.
- Please send in an emergency box of individually wrapped snacks (i.e. granola bars, fruit snacks, etc.) to be kept in your child's locker...just in case! 😊



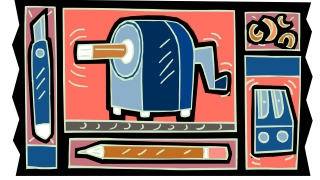
# Second Grade Homework

- Homework is given on a nightly basis during the week. Over the weekend, nightly reading is a must.
- Homework will come home in an **agenda** that all students will carry back and forth from home every day.
- Students should complete homework **independently**. However, after the work is completed, parents should give guidance and **should correct the homework** to allow the student to make corrections immediately.
- Homework is not graded, but if it is not completed, students lose privileges (free time).





# Second Grade Agenda



To help with organization, to facilitate communication between home and school, and to better prepare your child for third and fourth grade, I have created a homework "agenda for each student.

- Students will bring home agendas on a nightly basis.
- Homework and important information/notes will be sent home in the agenda. Your child's book log and spelling lists will be kept in the agenda.
- On the back of each week's agenda page is a place for parent/teacher comments. Please have your child tell me if you write a note in the agenda!
- Please return homework, excuses or notes in the front pocket of your child's agenda.
- **PLEASE SIGN (OR INITIAL) YOUR CHILD'S AGENDA EVERY NIGHT** after you check it.

**THANK YOU!**

Day	Week of September 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<p>Monday 9/2</p> <hr/> <p>parent signature</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Labor Day</b> <b>No School</b></p>
<p>Tuesday 9/3</p> <hr/> <p>parent signature</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Staff Development Day</b> <b>No School</b></p>
<p>Wednesday 9/4</p> <hr/> <p>parent signature</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parent-Student-Teacher</b> <b>☺ Orientation Day ☺</b></p> <p>➤ Parents, please read, sign and/or return note(s)  ➤ Parents, please remember to sign and return agenda tomorrow.  Special activity tomorrow: <u>☺ <b>First Day of Second Grade!!</b> ☺</u></p>
<p>Thursday 9/5</p> <hr/> <p>parent signature</p>	<p>Homework: _____  _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Every night, please study your words, math facts and read!  Please remember to bring your <b>snack</b> and to wear your <b>sneakers!</b></p> <p>Please remember:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Parents, please read, sign and/or return note(s)</li> <li>➤ Our book order is due tomorrow! 📖 Religious Education tomorrow</li> <li>➤ We have a test tomorrow! 📖 Books due tomorrow!</li> <li>➤ Special activity tomorrow! ☺ <b>GRANDPARENT'S DAY!</b> ☺</li> </ul>
<p>Friday 9/6</p> <hr/> <p>parent signature</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Take home "Weekly Mailbox" and have parents empty and sign it.  <b>Return Mailbox on Monday!</b></p> <p>Please remember:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Parents, please read, sign and/or return note(s)</li> <li>➤ Our book order is due Monday! 📖 Wash water bottle &amp; return Monday.</li> <li>➤ We have a test next school day! 📖 Books due Monday!</li> <li>➤ Special activity next school day: _____</li> </ul>



# Weekly Mailbox



- All school mail and notices from me will be sent home daily, as necessary, in your child's agenda. **PLEASE** check your child's agenda **EVERY DAY**.
- Every Friday, your child will come home with a "Weekly Mailbox" filled with your child's school work from the week as well as a "Weekly Update" that needs to be signed and returned to school each Monday.
- Please enjoy reviewing the work with your child over the weekend.



Every Friday, your child will bring home a Weekly Update in his/her Weekly Mailbox (green folder). The update will include important information from the week as well as information about the upcoming weeks. It will also include a section regarding behavior and work production. Please review the update, sign it, and return the bottom portion to school on Monday.



# Mrs. Lyons' Weekly Update

September 5, 2014



Hi! It has a fun week in 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade! Please read the update carefully. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

### Important Information

Please take note of the following events and important news:  
Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>: Grandparents Day

### Homework

Please continue to practice the spelling words each week. . It is also important that your child practice his/her addition and subtraction facts at home. Your child should be able to complete 30 problems in 1 minute by the end of the year. If you need flash cards or worksheets, please let me know. I am happy to help you! Also, please make sure you are filling out the Book Log in the laminated, green folder in your child's agenda each time your child reads!

### Reading and Science

We love to read in 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade!

#### Math

Please keep practicing those math facts!

#### Writing

Writing is fun!

### Extra Information

Please remind your child that he/she needs to strive to get 3s and 4s on his/her weekly update. Thank you for your support and your dedication to your child! Also, please make sure you review the work in your child's Weekly Mailbox (green folder). Praise him/her for his/her hard work.

Please go over your child's weekly update, sign the bottom, and return the bottom portion on Monday. You may keep the newsletter at home. Thank you for your continued support.

**Weekly Update 9-5-14**

\_\_\_\_ Follows Directions

\_\_\_\_ Shows respect for adults and peers

4-Excellent

3-Good

2-Satisfactory

1-Needs Practice

\_\_\_\_ Displays a positive attitude

\_\_\_\_ Completes tasks

\_\_\_\_ Exercises Self Control

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Second Grade Book Log

- Students need to read independently outside of school in order to be successful in second grade.
- Students should be reading at home on a **daily** basis (even weekends)! 😊
- Students will record their independent reading on a reading log.
- Out of the books a second grader reads, **ONE** book should be chosen to complete the assigned weekly book log activity. Your child will read more than one book per week, but only one will be used for the weekly book log assignment.
- Book (literacy) logs should be turned kept in the agenda. I will collect them when they are complete.
- The **ONLY** way to become a **BETTER READER** is to **READ!**





PLEASE KEEP THIS FORM IN YOUR CHILD'S AGENDA

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Reading Log/Math Facts Tracking Form

☺ A part of your child's homework will be to record his or her nightly reading and studying of math facts.

☺ If your child is reading a chapter book, he or she can just write "same" under book title and author until the book is finished.

**This sheet will be due on Friday, September 13, 2013.**



This is an example of the Reading Log/Math Facts tracking form that your child will keep in their agenda.

Date	Book Title	Author	Minutes Read	Studied Math Facts? Yes or No
9/6/13				
9/7/13				
9/8/13				
9/9/13				
9/10/13				
9/11/13				
9/12/13				
Total minutes read:				
Parent Signature: _____				

Remember...the more you read, the better you read!





# Important Notes from Parents...

## WRITTEN PERMISSION

You **must** send **written** permission **signed** and **dated** each time your child is to:

- Ride a different bus (let me know if you need more bus passes)
- Leave the bus at a different location
- Leave the school with parents or another adult
- Walk home with another child or to another home

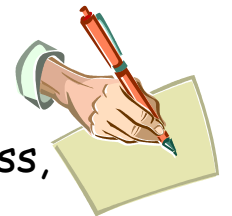


If you or someone else is picking up your child, please sign them out at the greeter's desk in the front foyer. The greeter will call upstairs to have your child released.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Without written permission or permission from the office, your child will be sent home in the usual way.

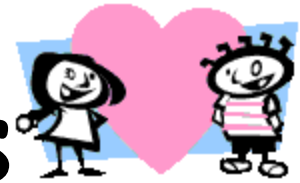
## EXCUSES

When your child returns to school following an absence or tardiness, a written excuse must be turned in stating the reason for absence or tardiness, the date and your signature.





# Classroom Parties



- I love to celebrate holidays in Room 204!
- We will have Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Spring celebrations.
- Please see our sign up sheets for more information!
- Birthday parties are very important, too! You are welcome to send in a treat for your child's birthday. All of the supplies that are needed to serve the treat (cups, can opener, plates, forks, spoons, bowls, etc.) need to be brought in from home too!!





# Parent Volunteers



- **Parent involvement is crucial to a student's success in school. I encourage and welcome your involvement in our classroom!**
- **There are many ways to volunteer! Ask Mrs. Lyons how you can help.**
- **Please sign up to help with classroom parties and to chaperone a field trip! Sign-ups are on the back table during Orientation Day and Open House.**





# Important Events



- Grandparents' / Special Person Day on the first Friday in September
- Arcade Free Library Visits
- Field Trip to the Buffalo Museum of Science
- Field Trip to the Theater of Youth
- Grandparents' Day Reunion in June





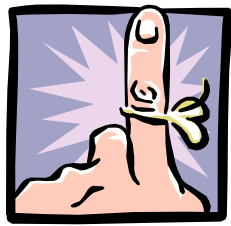
# BOOK ORDERS



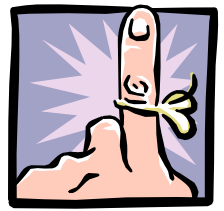
- Classroom book orders are a wonderful way to build your child's at-home library in an inexpensive way. There is no pressure to order books!!
- Book orders will be sent home about once a month. The due date of the order will be stamped on the order form.
- Please send orders to school in an envelope marked with your child's name with a check made out to the book company. You can also order online. Please be timely in sending in your order.
- If you would like to give the books as gifts, just let me know and I will be happy to keep your order a secret!
- Books take approximately two weeks to arrive after I place the order.

**READ, READ, READ!**





**PLEASE DON'T FORGET...**



- **WEAR SNEAKERS TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY.**
- **REMEMBER YOUR SNACK EVERY DAY.**
- **KEEP A SWEATSHIRT IN YOUR LOCKER.**
- **READ EVERY DAY!**
- **MEMORIZE YOUR MATH FACTS!**
- **😊 HAVE FUN IN SECOND GRADE!!!! 😊**





# Important Paperwork



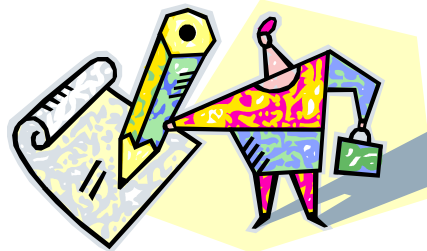
Please fill out and return to me all of the important paperwork for the **office**:

- School compact
- Information form
- Health form
- Technology form
- Walker form (if necessary)
- Lunch application (only if eligible)

Please also fill out and return the following to me:

- Mrs. Lyons' Student Information Sheet
- **\*\*Grandparents' Day slip and dismissal information \*\***

**THANK YOU!**





# If your child is a walker, please fill out this form.

## FOR WALKING STUDENTS ONLY!

### PIONEER ELEMENTARY AT ARCADE SEPTEMBER 2012

Dear Parents of Walking Students,

The safety of walkers is always a concern. To address this issue we ask that you fill out the bottom of this letter and return it to school ASAP.

If your child is ill you must call the school before 9:00AM to let us know. If you do not call us, a call will be made to check on your child. We would like you to give us a number where you or someone else who will be knowledgeable about your child's absence can be reached. Calls will be placed at 10:00AM. If you have kept your child home and will not be available, we ask that you call Lisa Reynolds at 716-492-9426.

THIS DOES NOT PERTAIN TO STUDENTS WHO ARE TRANSPORTED BY THEIR PARENTS OR BY NURSERY SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

We ask that you **not allow your child to arrive at school before 8:45AM**, as there is no supervision until that time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Munro  
Principal

-----  
**WALKER PERMISSION SLIP**

PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL TOMORROW TO MRS. ESPOSITO

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person to call \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

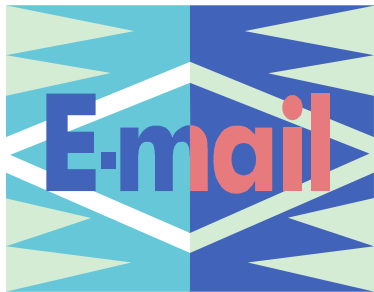
# How do I contact Mrs. Lyons?



***School phone number:***  
**(716) 492-9300, ext. 3204**



***E-mail (checked daily):***  
**[mlyons@pioneerbsd.org](mailto:mlyons@pioneerbsd.org)**



**Thank you!**





# Thank You!

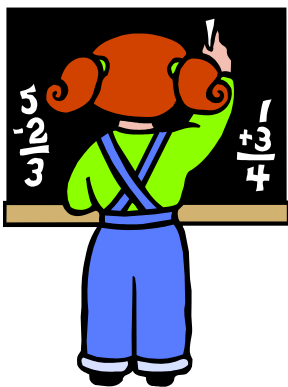


It is my desire that your child have a wonderful year in second grade!

I look forward to working with you as a

partner

in your child's education!



Here's to a **GREAT** year!

