



WELCOME TO  
2ND GRADE!

**We will begin once everyone is settled. Please fill out the paper about how your child will go home on the first day of school. Enjoy getting to know families around you while you wait! Thanks!**

**--Mrs. McKeel**

**5:00**

# WHO IS MRS. MCKEEL?

- I am a reader, a baker, a hiker, a wife, a daughter, and a friend.
- I make mistakes and learn from them. I aim to be a lifelong learner.
- Lately I am learning a lot about cats through hands-on experiences.
- I may have a La Croix problem.
- I love to explore Durham!
- I did my student teaching in **THIS** classroom!
- This is my 14th year teaching 2nd grade.



# ATTENDANCE

Main Office: 919-560-3932

Mrs. McKeel:  
elizabeth.mckeel@dpsnc.net

- Students need to be in the classroom by 9:15.
- If your child is late, you must sign him/her in at the main office.
- Students cannot be checked out after 3:15pm.
- If your child is absent, please provide a note explaining why (s)he was not at school.
- Students must be fever free for        24 hours.

# TRANSPORTATION

- Please turn in the First Day transportation sheet before you leave.
- Your child can only go home with the people you list on his/her emergency card.
- You must notify the school in advance of any transportation changes. Please send a note or call if you change your child's usual form of transportation.
- Please make sure you complete the data sheet, emergency card, & inclement weather form and return them by Friday, August 30.
- Car riders will need a blue card displayed in the dash window for pickup.

# BUS INFORMATION

Bus Tracking App:

[www.herecomesthebus.com](http://www.herecomesthebus.com)

School Code: 97034

Bus routes and numbers are posted near the cafeteria.

If your child is a bus rider, there is a slip in his/her bag with the bus number, morning pick-up time, and afternoon drop-off time.

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# MORNING MEETING

9:15-9:30am

- Please make sure your child is on time for school!
- We greet each other, review the schedule, share news, and do an activity together to help us start our day on a positive note.
- You can read more about Morning Meeting on the Responsive Classroom [website](#).

# LITERACY

9:30-10:40am

Word Work- 12:00-12:25pm

- Students will focus on decoding and comprehending both fiction and nonfiction texts.
  - There is a big focus on asking & answering questions because we want to emphasize reading for meaning!
  - Students will be writing about their reading in reading response journals and having conversations with peers.
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# WRITING WORKSHOP

11:20am-12:00pm

- This year students will go through the writing process-- brainstorming, drafting, editing, revising, and publishing.
- We will write personal narratives, animal research books, opinion pieces, and poems.
- Students will have opportunities to conference with peers and adults about their writing.
- Students will also share and publish some of their pieces.



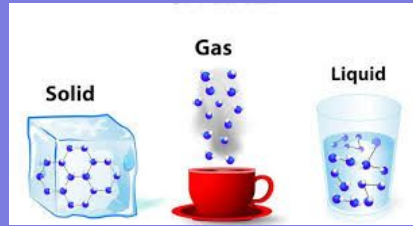
# MATH

2:00-3:00pm

- DPS just adopted a new curriculum called [Eureka Math](#).
- Students will begin working on addition & subtraction facts to 20. By the end of the year we will focus on 2 & 3-digit addition and subtraction.
- We will work on place value with numbers up to 1,000.
- We will also have units about attributes of shapes, linear measurement, collecting & representing data, telling time, counting money, and simple fractions.

# SCIENCE

3:00-3:35pm



## Changes in Matter

## Weather



## Sound

## Animal Life Cycles



# SOCIAL STUDIES



- Integrated into Literacy and Morning Meeting
  - We will learn more about communities, local government, economic concepts, cultures from around the world, how people impact the environment, and how historical figures have impacted history.
  - Students will also work with timelines and maps.
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# GRADING & ASSESSMENTS

- Students will be assessed via Istation, DPS math tasks, informal teacher-created assessments, student work samples, and observations.
- Falcon Reports will go home in the middle of each grading period to report on each student's progress.
- Standards based report cards will go home at the end of each grading period.
- You should expect to receive your child's report card in early November, late January, early April, and on the last day of school in June.

# REPORT CARD SCALE

- 1: The student does not meet the standard
- 2: The student partially meets the standard
- 3: The student meets the standard
- 4: The student exceeds the standard

# BEHAVIOR RATING SCALE

**C:** The student consistently exhibits the standard

**S:** The student sometimes exhibits the standard

**R:** The student rarely exhibits the standard

# HOMework

- 2nd Graders are required to read for 20 minutes every night.
- Students will have a reading log to record their nightly reading on. A copy of the log will be on our [website](#).
- Reading logs will go home on Friday and are due the following Friday.
- Reading logs are your child's homework--(s)he is responsible for recording books read, not you. Your responsibility is to sign when (s)he has read.
- Students are encouraged to read on the weekend, but are not required.
- Leveled books are available in the classroom for students to take home. The borrowed book must be returned before a new book can be taken home.
- It is important for students to be reading a mix of both fiction and nonfiction.

# MATH GAME NIGHTS

Mrs. McKeel will host two make-and-take math game nights for families. More information will be sent home closer to each event, but you will be able to make some of the games we play in class to take home and play as a family.

The fall math game night will be on **Tuesday, November 5** from **5-6pm** in our classroom.

The spring math game night will tentatively be on **Tuesday, March 10**.



# FIELD TRIPS

Background Check form:

<https://www.dpsnc.net/domain/133>

- We usually go to the Nasher Museum of Art and Duke Gardens in the fall.
- Week at the Creek will be in late March.
- We usually go to the Museum of Life & Science in late May.
- Chaperones **MUST** be cleared in advance by Durham Public Schools.
- Field Trip forms have a front **AND** a back. Please fill out all parts of the form.

# SPECIALS

1:00-1:45pm

\*\*\*You can see our specials schedule on our class [google calendar](#).

Mondays: Technology with Ms. Morris

Tuesdays: Music with Ms. Davis

Wednesdays: PE with Coach T **\*\*SNEAKERS!\*\***

Thursdays: Science Lab with Ms. Daly

Fridays: Art with Ms. Weinard

X days: Media with Ms. Graves **OR**

Guidance with Ms. Altman

# LUNCH

10:40-11:10am

- Our class will eat early in the day, so we will have a midday snack! Your child may need another snack after school.
- You are welcome to join your child for lunch. If you would like to join us one day, meet us in the cafeteria at 10:40am. We sit at the tables in zone 6 (near the exit).
- Students **cannot** use the microwaves and adults are **not** allowed to microwave food for them.

# SNACK

- 2nd graders will receive free healthy snacks from a nonprofit called KidBright USA.
- You can send a snack from home, but it must be healthy.
- **NO** cookies, cupcakes, brownies, candy, or soda!
- KidBright needs parent volunteers to shop for & deliver snacks to classrooms. They have an information table in the hall.



[HTTPS://KIDBRIGHTUSA.ORG/](https://KIDBRIGHTUSA.ORG/)

# BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

- There will be one joint birthday celebration a month as stipulated in the [2013 Durham Public Schools Wellness Policy](#).
- Families may send in a treat to share with the class for the monthly celebration or volunteer to lead a special craft or story. Please contact Mrs. McKeel **several days ahead of time** to coordinate. You can send a written note, text via remind.com, or email ([elizabeth.mckeel@dpsnc.net](mailto:elizabeth.mckeel@dpsnc.net)).
- A schedule of party dates is on the next slide and also on our class [google calendar](#).
- Known classroom allergies: none at this time

# BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION DATES

**August/September:** 9/13/19

**October:** 10/18/19

**November:** 11/15/19

**December:** 12/13/19

**January:** 1/17/20

**February:** 2/7/20

**March:** 3/13/20

**April:** 4/9/20

**May:** 5/15/20

**June/July:** 6/5/20

ALL CELEBRATIONS WILL BE IN OUR CLASSROOM AT 3:20PM.



- Recess is daily. If it is raining, we will have indoor recess.
  - Play helps learning! We do not take recess away as a consequence.
  - Please keep in mind your child will need to wear comfortable, safe shoes for playing outside.
  - Teachers spread out and monitor playground areas. Kids should respect **ALL** adults.
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# THE MILEAGE CLUB



- Students can walk or run laps around the playground during recess.
- We will learn the course route the first few weeks of school.
- 3 laps = 1 mile
- Students will keep track of their laps in the classroom.
- For every 5 miles, they get a “toe token” for their mileage necklace.
- For every 10 miles, they get to decorate a foot to display in the hallway.
- On rainy days we will do Go Noodle in the classroom.
- You can read more about the mileage club on [www.fitnessfinders.net](http://www.fitnessfinders.net).



# COMMUNICATION

[elizabeth.mckeel@dpsnc.net](mailto:elizabeth.mckeel@dpsnc.net)

919.560.3932



@MrsMcKeel

- A blue Friday Folder will come home with your child each week.
- There will be a newsletter inside with pictures, information about what we learned, and reminders of upcoming events in the left pocket.
- Your child's graded work will be in the right pocket of the Friday Folder.
- Sign up for remind.com if you would like to receive texts or emails about upcoming deadlines & events. Text @emckeel to 81010 to sign up.
- I will probably not be able to take phone calls or see emails during the school day.

# CONFERENCES

- I would like to meet with **every** family before Thanksgiving break to talk about how we can work together to support your student.
- You can sign up for a conference using the [link](#) on our [classroom webpage](#). I can also schedule with interpreters.
- There are currently available slots posted through the end of October. I will continue to add slots as the year continues.
- Most conferences are scheduled during a teacher's personal time. Please try to respect your allotted time and let me know if you need to cancel or reschedule.

# VOLUNTEERING

- You must have an up-to-date DPS background check.
- Help our classroom by stuffing Friday Folders, sharpening pencils, assisting with Cooking Classes, or chaperoning field trips.
- Lend a hand in the Forest View Gardens! Contact Amy Simonson at [the5simonsons@gmail.com](mailto:the5simonsons@gmail.com) or Ashley Weinard at [ashley.weinard@dpsnc.net](mailto:ashley.weinard@dpsnc.net) for more information.
- Sign up to shop & deliver healthy snacks for KidBright.
- Stop by the media center to get information about volunteering there.

# RESOURCES

## **Bull City Slam**

Login: Student ID #

Password: last 4 digits  
of power school #



## **PebbleGo:**

Login: forestview

Password: school

# WANT A COPY OF THESE SLIDES?

FILL OUT THE LINK BELOW OR WRITE YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS DOWN ON THE CLIPBOARD. I WILL SEND YOU A COPY!

<https://bit.ly/2ZoWYZu>