Welcome to 2nd Grade!

Dear Parents,

 As we begin another exciting school year, I’d like to welcome your child to our class and give you a quick look at my hopes for this year. I’m sure you have questions, and I’ll try to address as many as I can right off the bat!

**About Me**

My name is Lia Fasoli, and I’m a product of Stockton schools (St. Mary’s High School, Delta College, University of the Pacific, CSU-Stanislaus Stockton Campus). This is my 14th year at Hamilton, and my ninth year of teaching second grade. I have one son, also a product of Stockton schools, who is currently attending University of the Pacific. My hobbies include traveling, reading, and listening to music.

**Our Curriculum**

 Our curriculum is driven by the Common Core State Standards for Second Grade, so I am attaching a quick sheet of those learning goals for you (English and Math). Our assignments, projects, lessons, activities, and assessments are all planned to help your student succeed in these skills. As you can see, we have a lot to accomplish in the next 180 days of school, so every day is important!

**Attendance**

Regular and on-time attendance is essential to your child’s success. Please view school as a priority and see that your child is here and on-time every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. Our school day begins promptly at 8:50a.m. If your child will be absent, please notify the school at (209) 933-7395.

**Morning Routine**

Please say your goodbyes before your child leaves the cafeteria area. Our students line up on the playground, except on rainy days (when they are picked up inside the cafeteria). If your child eats breakfast at school, please arrive in time for them to eat, use the restroom, and line up on time.

**Class and School Rules**

 All students are expected to follow school and classroom rules. In these first days, our class will develop a list of agreements for our classroom community. As soon as we have developed our agreements, I will send home a copy for you to read and sign. I believe it’s important for our students to participate in creating our positive expectations for the classroom, so we will do this as a community.

**Behavior Plan & Expectations**

 Any child can have an off day, but every day is also an opportunity to make a fresh start. Our class uses a seven-step behavior chart, and every student starts the day in the “ready to learn” position. Each student’s name may move up or down, according to the choices they make. Rewards for good choices may include recognition, praise, parent contact, and preferred activity time. If a student makes repeated poor choices, I begin with a “please think about it” consequence (asking the child to reflect on what he/she could have done differently). On the rare occasion when the child continues to make poor choices, other consequences may include a private conversation with the student, reduction of recess, and parent contact (by Class Dojo, email, note, or phone). Every child has the opportunity to move up the chart, at any time all day, by making better behavior choices.

**Homework**

 The most important homework your child will have is to read aloud with you every day for 20 minutes (even weekends). Please set aside this time for your child, and make it a regular routine. You and your child should both be looking at the words as the child reads them aloud. I cannot stress highly enough how critical this is to your child’s success! Your child will receive a weekly homework packet on the first day of the week. The completed packet will be due on the last day each week (generally on Friday) as they enter the classroom. Your child should also practice math facts (including telling time and counting money) and complete any other assignments and projects that enhance our classroom learning. Please check your child’s homework folder and backpack for assignments daily, but allow him/her to take responsibility for completing the assignments. **Students are expected to complete all homework by the due date.** Late work may be accepted for reduced credit. Homework is not graded, but is considered a study skill on report cards.

**Absent Work**

 New lessons are taught every day, and not every lesson can be made up if a student is absent. If a student is ill, he/she will receive a packet of available make up work. Students will have the same number of days to make up assignments as the number of days they were absent. If you have a planned absence, please contact me **at least 48 hours ahead of time** to arrange for assignments in advance.

**Parent Visits/Participation**

You are **always** welcome to come and observe your child in our learning environment! When visiting, please adhere to district policy by getting a visitor pass and signing in at the attendance office. If you are interested in becoming a classroom volunteer, please contact me. The front office has information on district guidelines for volunteers.

**Birthdays**

We love celebrations! Please contact me **at least 48 hours in advance** if you would like to celebrate your child’s birthday in the classroom. Celebrations take place at the end of the school day, after 2:00p.m.

**Dismissal/Early Release**

Our school day ends at 2:50p.m., and students begin walking to the front of the school at 2:45 each day. *If your student needs to be dismissed early for an appointment, please sign out through the attendance office prior to 2:35p.m*.

Students who ride the bus are dismissed to walk to the bus from the cafeteria walkway. **For your student’s safety, all other students must line up with the class. I need to see the face of the person who is picking them up.** At 3:00p.m., I will escort any remaining students to the office lawn area to wait in safety. **Please notify me in advance if anyone else will be authorized to pick up your child.**

**Contact Me!**

 The most reliable way to reach me is though district email, which I check several times daily. Please do not leave phone messages with the school, since the delivery system is unreliable and I may not receive them. If you prefer to send a note with your child, please be sure your child knows and remembers to give it to me promptly. I will respond as quickly as possible, usually the same day.

**email:**  lfasoli@stocktonusd.net

**Questions? Just ask!**

 I know we will share a fun and exciting year of learning together. I look forward to a healthy and productive relationship with you and your child. I welcome any questions or comments from you, and I promise to keep you informed of your child’s progress as the year unfolds.

 Thank you for entrusting me with your child’s education,

 Ms. Fasoli, Room 35