



# BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

SERVING IN THE HEART OF HOLLYWOOD SINCE 1915

## Class Syllabus

### **Mrs. Boyett's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class**

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Class Page - [www.schoolblessedsacrament.org](http://www.schoolblessedsacrament.org) (Second Grade Class)

**Welcome Parents!** I am excited to be your child's teachers this year and believe that Second Grade is a very important year to lay a strong foundation for your child's academic success. This year will be a stimulating and educational school year! We are a blended learning classroom, which is an exciting student-centered approach to learning. Blended learning combines small group instruction with a teacher, learning/collaborative instruction centers, as well as personalized instruction on a computer or tablet. Using adaptive technology enables students to control the pace and content of their own instruction as they master grade level material. This way of learning engages our 21<sup>st</sup> century learners while supporting students' multiple learning levels and styles.

### **My Philosophy / A Glance at the School Year**

Second Grade is a critical time for academic and social growth. It is a year we focus heavily on foundational skills that will prove essential in your child's future. I believe children flourish when they use their creative minds and are both challenged and nurtured. The more they feel valued and respected, the more they are intrinsically motivated to be the best they can possibly be. As they become more independent and individual, children will learn more about cooperating, collaborating, and treating others with respect. I will also work with students on developing their communication and social skills in a variety of ways.

### **My Qualifications**

I have been in the educational field since 2005 and am currently beginning my eighth year at Blessed Sacrament School and fourth year as the Second-Grade teacher. Teaching is my second career. I previously spent 15 years in customer service and employee training and development. I also spent 3 years working as the project coordinator for the Divisional Office of the Salvation Army in Los Angeles.

### **Religion**

This year students will learn about: Scripture/Christian Life, Morality/Social Justice & Christian Faith and Practice. A large focus is placed on the Ten Commandments, the Sacraments and worship. Students will prepare spiritually to make their First Holy Communion and experience their first Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Spring of 2019. Our Reconciliation Retreat is scheduled for Monday, May 6, 2019 and the First Communion Mass is scheduled for Sunday, May 19, 2019.

### **Language Arts and Reading**

Reading is a primary focus in Second Grade. Students are expected to double their words per minute rate to 90 wpm by year's end. Success in this area will enable them to handle more challenging text in the higher grades. This year in reading students will develop fluency and solidify the foundations of phonics and reading techniques learned in First Grade. We will use the Superkids Second Grade language arts program. This excellent program includes assessments, online tools, decodable readers, workbooks, as well as books and magazines for reading. Students will also learn cursive handwriting beginning in the 5th unit of Superkids.

### **Math**

We are using the Saxon Math Program this year. Saxon Math scaffolds instruction of each concept and continues to review information introduced earlier. This allows students the time and practice to retain math concepts to the level of mastery. Students will review telling time, two-digit and three-digit addition and subtraction problems, counting money, studying fractions, geometry, graphing, and word problems. Math written assessments and fact assessments occur in every 5<sup>th</sup> lesson and oral assessment in every 10<sup>th</sup> lesson.

## **Science**

In science, Second Graders will learn about the properties of solids and liquids, rocks and minerals, weathering and erosion of the Earth's surface. They will study natural sources of water, and how to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water on Earth. In addition, they also study insects, animals and their life cycles.

## **Social Studies**

In Social Studies, we will learn about: People who make a difference, both in our community and in history; Map skills and relative locations of people, places and environments; Communities; Our ancestors; Landmarks and monuments; and Occupations. At the end of the second quarter, students will complete an invention project and in the third quarter, they will be assigned a project on their personal ancestry and heritage.

## **Homework / Red Folder**

Students use their Blessed Sacrament red folder for homework. Homework is assigned in a packet on Monday for the week. There will be no homework on Fridays. After reviewing their homework nightly, please initial the homework cover sheet. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles has recommended that for Second Graders, no more than 45 minutes per night should be spent completing homework. If your child is struggling with homework or the time it takes to complete it, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can address the difficulties.

## **The Yellow Folder**

Students are also assigned a yellow folder. This is used for any important information being sent home. Please be sure to check that folder nightly and read/address any paperwork. There may be forms which require your signature. We would appreciate any forms being sent back to school as soon as possible. The yellow folder will also contain classwork that is ready to be kept at home. This folder is clearly labeled with what should be kept at home and what should be sent back to school.

## **Gradelink**

This thorough online grading program helps parents keep on top of their child's academic performance. Parents have access to Gradelink at all times and are able to view assignments and grades. Your personal password and information for accessing your child's grade and assignment information will be provided by the school office.

## **Assessments**

An 18-word spelling pre-assessment will be given every week on Thursday and then a final assessment every Friday. The spelling assessments coincide with the Superkids lessons and it is very important students work on reviewing, reciting, and memorizing their spelling words every day. Spelling homework this year will reflect a fun and creative way to memorize spelling words. Math quizzes and assessments will be given

## **Grades**

Grades will be calculated in percentages. The breakdown to determine a child's grade in any given subject is as follows:

Assessments: **35%**      Homework: **15%**      Classwork: **30%**      Projects / Pre-Assessments: **20%**

## **School Testing & Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Our school uses the STAR testing system. Students will be tested 4 times during the year. The testing results are immediate and your child's results will be discussed with you at our parent teacher conference. The conferences will be scheduled on November 14 – 15, 2018 and the second optional conference will be held the May 8 - 9, 2019. These important meetings are a time to discuss your child's academic status, successes, and areas where improvement is needed.

## **Late or Missing Homework / Assignments**

Late or missing homework may be made up. It can be turned in up to **2 days** after it is due. After 2 days, late or missing assignments or homework will not be accepted.

## **If a Student is Absent**

If a student is absent they are expected to make-up the schoolwork and homework they missed. They will be given 1 day for each day they were absent to complete the work.

## **Water Bottles / Snacks**

Please send your child to school with a water bottle every day. We do allow water breaks during class time if needed. A daily snack should be sent with your child to eat at recess time or they may get the morning breakfast snack provided at recess. Please see the school office to enroll your child in our snack and lunch program.

## **Change of clothes**

All students should bring a change of clothes to keep at school in case of any accidents or a need to change clothes. Please mark the bag with your child's name and make sure the clothes are seasonally appropriate.

## **Visitors**

If you are visiting the school or volunteering in the classroom, please make sure you sign in at the office. All volunteers must be cleared through the office to be in the school or in the classroom.

## **Communication**

Please feel free to contact me regarding any matter. Our class will use the Remind App for quicker and more efficient communication. Feel free to text me on that and I will respond on my next scheduled break. I do not respond during class time. If you need to speak to me, please leave a message or text me and I will call you after school. Likewise, I don't have time to check my emails during the day, so I'll return your email after school or within a 24-hour period.

## **Schedule**

Attached is our weekly Second Grade schedule. Note that Full Point Focus will be held weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays. Students are to wear their P.E. Uniforms on those days. Mass is attended by the school every Tuesday at 8:30am. We will meet in the auditorium at 8:15am and walk together as a school to the church. Students should be on time for Mass. Boys should wear their school sweater vest. We do not expect them to wear the vests when the weather is extremely hot. The monthly school schedule is always posted on our school website and will reflect any changes in the school schedule. Please check that weekly.

## **Behavior**

Students have a daily behavior sheet that they color in at the end of each day. Please review this with your child on a daily basis and sign it at the end of each week. It will be kept in their red homework folder. The sheets will be collected during each grading period and returned to you after progress reports or report cards have been sent home. If a child's behavior is consistently problematic, I will contact you to discuss it. Students not following classroom rules will be issued a behavior violation. The system I will use daily for a student not following classroom rules are: 1.) verbal warning issued 2.) name is placed on the board 3.) 1<sup>st</sup> check mark 4.) 2<sup>nd</sup> check mark 5.) final warning 6.) violation issued. I will always encourage a child to change their negative behavior choices and they will be able to reverse the above mentioned check marks, ending the day on a positive note and color!

## **Detention**

If a student receives 3 behavior, uniform, or tardy violations within 1 school quarter, a 1-hour detention is issued. Detention is held every Tuesday from 3:15 to 4:15. The classroom where it will be held will be announced each week.

## **Second Grade Accolade / Character Tags**

I firmly believe that when a child demonstrates exemplary behavior and good efforts it should be recognized. This year students earn *2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Accolade / Character Tags* for a variety of behaviors. Some of these include, but are not limited to, showing great character; doing well on an assessment; turning in their homework for the entire month; keeping their desk area clean; trying their best; showing kindness; or A+ focus. The colorful tags are small badges of honor located in the front of the room on small rings. If your child earns a character tag, please share in their excitement. They love to make you proud!

I look forward to an exciting Second Grade school year and am honored to play a vital role in this important phase of your child's educational experience!

Sincerely,  
*Mrs. Boyett*