



**SECOND GRADE WEEKLY PLANS**  
**FEBRUARY 6, 2016**

**TEACHER: MRS. MARTIN**  
**ASSISTANT: MRS. SMITH**

Virtues for February: Perseverance and Diligence  
Saying: Where there's a will, there's a way.

Read Aloud: "Brady" by Jean Fritz

Dear Parents,

As we approach our February break, I'd like to give you advanced notice on a project that is presented in May. Why now, you ask? Because the project is our Annual State Fair, and if you are traveling to a different state over this vacation or the next one, you might like to claim that state now. Of course, you will be hearing a lot more about it in April but until then, just be aware that it takes place in the Library where each second grader sets up a little "kiosk." The display should consist of a TRI-FOLD board ( it stands up) with components which may include maps, brochures, photographs, and the state flag, motto, nickname, flower, bird, famous people, landmarks, indigenous wildlife, geographic features, teams, and notable events. Sometimes, but not always, students will wear state related clothing or dress as a famous person. Students are not required to write/read a narrative but must be familiar with every part of the presentation and be prepared to talk to visitors. It is always fun to have a food sample as well. The second graders enjoy sharing the information with all the classes in the Lower School.

Science: Today the kids used an apple peeler/corer/ slicer to watch a screw, inclined plane, and lever at work. This week we will also putting the finishing touches on the marshmallow catapults which combine levers and inclined planes. Not only will they have a visual reminder of two of the six simple machines, I find there is no better way to illustrate potential and kinetic energy for a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader. On Friday, we will have a competition in the gym that features two categories: distance and accuracy. The kids always have a lot of fun, and will be able to bring their catapults home; watch out!

Geography: I need to ask forgiveness from Bruce, Angela, Tina, and Alyssa for neglecting to mention the help they offered with our "Carnival." They sent in delicious snacks: banana/mango pudding, Brazilian bread balls, brigadeiro, and dulce de leche cookies. Double thanks to Tina for also coming in to help the kids get started on a weaving project while I assisted with the creation of maracas. This week we begin learning about Central America. Karen Timbrell is going to gift Guatemalan worry dolls to each child, and Senora Harris will offer a lesson on the culture as well.

Community Service Afternoon: Last Thursday, the second graders wrote 75 thank you cards to new Marine recruits at Parris Island, SC. Mrs. Smith came up with the idea because her nephew is there now. It also supported our commitment to gratitude, service, courage, and perseverance. Your children definitely showed both diligence and perseverance as they worked for over an hour to create the cards. As usual, they asked me to create a word bank on the board as they wrote to the recruits. In addition to having the virtue words listed, they asked for country, protect, sacrifice, semper fi, Oorah!, drill instructor, platoon, hero, Marine, determination, honor, and service. We included a piece of gum in each card to encourage them to "stick with it!"

Warm regards,  
Marj