

Welcome to 2nd Grade GATE

We are so eager to cultivate creativity here at the GATE Academy in 2nd Grade. We will have “The Best Voyage Yet” this year!

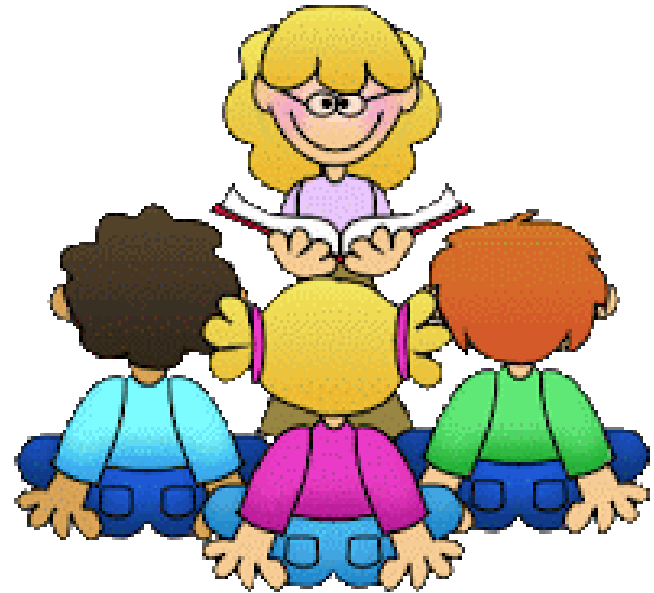
Teacher Contact Information

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EIVUqv0v1EE&list=PL4111402B45D10AFC>

2nd Grade GATE Level Curriculum



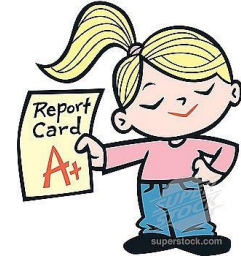
- Allen ISD's curriculum is aligned with the state's guidelines.
- To obtain a copy of our grade level objectives, you may view TEA's website <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/teks/> or Allen ISD's website <http://www.allenisd.org>.
- The GATE will follow state guidelines for second grade, but have a more learner centered approach where students go deeper in learning when able to show mastery.
- ELAR and Social Studies will be combined in our lessons and daily rotations.
- Math will be hands on and also learner centered based.
- We will have Project Based Learning opportunities to integrate all of the academic genres where students will research and create a product.
- We will add "Genius Hour" and "Maker Space" opportunities for our gifted learners, as well as extend on the grade level standards for the state to ensure differentiation in the classroom.
- What is Genius Hour? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMFQUtHsWhc>
- What is "Maker Space"? (See link below)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLEJLOB6fDw>

Student Progress and Conferences

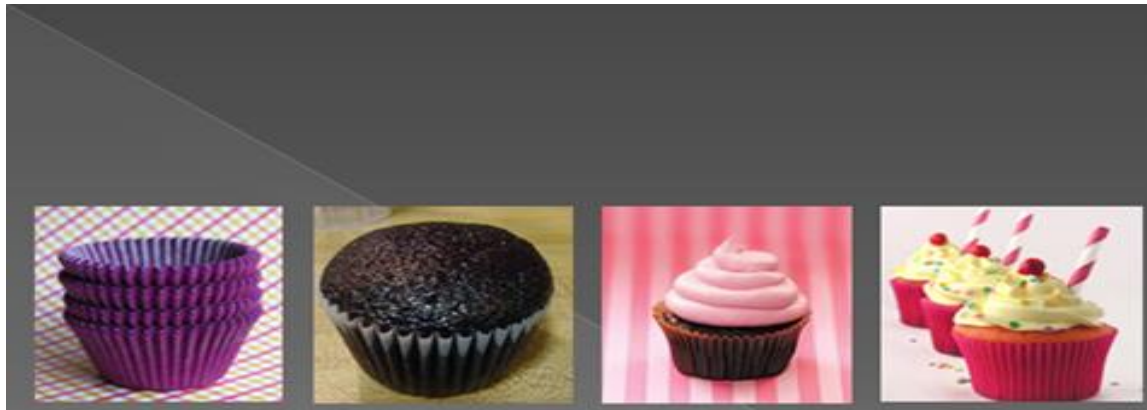
- Second graders will be administered district math and reading assessments throughout the school year and will have ongoing classroom assessments to monitor progress and to assist in the planning for instruction. We will utilize I-Station to monitor reading levels and progress as well.
- Parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled during the fall semester to discuss student progress.
- Parents may also request a conference throughout the year by contacting the teacher.



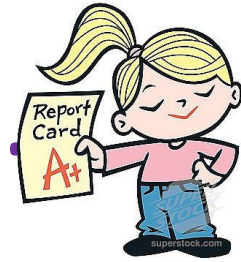
Report Cards



- AISD is on a nine week reporting period this year.
- It is our goal for every student to master all objectives throughout the school year. If it is necessary for extra support, your child may be retaught objectives through small group instruction during the school day or before/after school tutoring. If a student performs below a 70 on an assignment, he/she may correct the assignment within a week's time (per teacher's discretion) with the grade not exceeding 70.
- In the GATE Academy, many of our grades will be based on the process and building of each individual student's skills. We will use checks as well as this visual to monitor progress. It is very similar to the 1-4 used in 1st grade, but we will add a numeric value when needed.



Report Cards Continued.



Student's grades reflect quality of work, ability to follow written and oral directions, ability to turn in assignments on time, and teacher observations. We will be grading with a multitude of methods in the GATE Academy. There will be traditional grades, rubric grades as well as journal check grades and performance grades. If you are ever concerned, please let us know 😊.

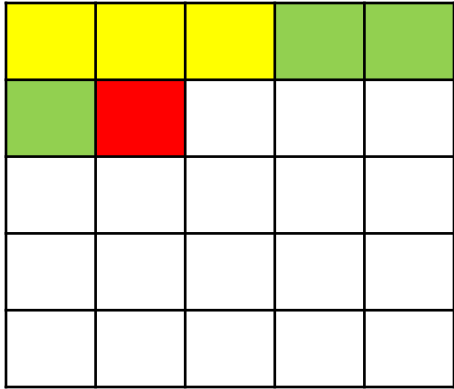
VAUGHAN VIKING EXPECTATIONS FOR SMOOTH SAILING

- Be respectful of all people and property
- Follow teacher/adult directions
- Practice kindness and honesty
- Keep all body parts and objects to yourself
- Be punctual and have materials ready every day



GATE SCHOLARLY BEHAVIORS

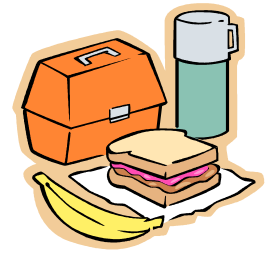
- Work Effort
- Thinking Process
- Contribution to discussions
- Projects/products
- Originality/creativity
- Presentation/communication skills
- Positive attitude
- Cooperation within a group
- Growth mindset



POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

- We will be using the CHAMPS system to reinforce positive behaviors this year.
- Each student will get a “square” page to keep track of themselves. Mrs. Monsen and Mrs. Kile will reward students for positive behaviors including, respect, helping peers, following CHAMPS expectations, cleaning up, adding extra effort and many more to reinforce GOOD behaviors in class by having them color in a number of squares.
- Once a student colors in all 25 of their squares, they have the chance to get a prize from the prize box which could be a small trinket, or a coupon (10 minutes of tech time, Show and Tell, shoes off for the day, 10 minutes of think tank, wobble chair).
- We believe every day is a learning opportunity to do better than the day before. We will redirect as needed and write a small note in the communication log if there is a major concern.

Lunch in 'The Max'



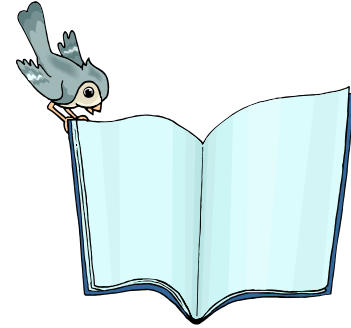
- Second grade GATE lunch will be from 11:00 to 11:30.
- Please ensure your child has money in his/her lunch account each day. Checks sent to school should include the student's account number on them, as well as **the** parent's drivers license number. Please have your child take their money to the cafeteria before going to the gym in the morning.
- Students will be given a lunch account number and will be required to use it to purchase their lunches. Please help your child practice this number at the beginning of the year.
- Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their children in the designated visitor section of the cafeteria starting Monday, August 26th. Parents may not bring food for other children or ask other children to join them for lunch.

Recess

- 2nd graders will go outside every day for 1 recess, weather permitting.
- Please dress your child appropriately for weather conditions and bring a water bottle if needed.
- Basketballs, soccer balls, and jump ropes may be brought to school for recess. Please be sure they are labeled.
- Please do not send any toys to school.



Library



- Second graders will check out two books and leveled readers as needed from the library every Monday. They are also welcome to check out books from our class library for nightly reading.
- Please help your child find a safe place to keep their books and return them on our library check out day the following week.
- Students will be expected to pay for any lost or damaged books, as well as a library fine for any late books.



Go Folder Expectations

- The go folder will be sent home on a daily basis. It will be used to communicate if your child had a good day or required many redirections. Please be sure to initial the folder every night so we know your child has been sharing about their day to you.
- Each Wednesday, your child will bring home their purple folder. This will have a weekly newsletters or notes home from the offices or classroom as well as checked papers from the previous week. Please sign and have your child return their folder the very next day.



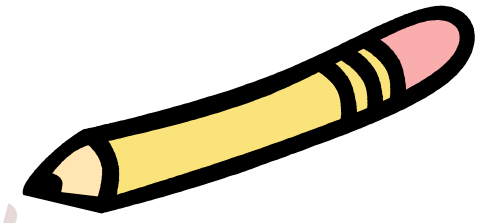
Go Folder Expectations



Students	Parents
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bring it to school every day• Take it home every day.• Keep the papers inside nice and neat.• Take care of it because you will need it all year long!• Show it your parents when you get home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remind your child to take it to school every day.• Ask to see it every night.• Try to check on the condition of the folder weekly.• Keep a look out for important notes.• If there is a note from the teacher please have a conversation with your child.



Homework



- Presently, the regular schedule for homework involves **reading for 20 minutes each night and practicing basic addition and subtraction facts to ensure mastery and to help with challenging math to come.** Students may practice facts in any way to help with memorization, such as flash cards or learning games on the computer. There are some great apps available as well if you happen to have devices at home for students to use.
- If a student has not finished a particular assignment, or has not used their time wisely in class to get it done, it may come home in their purple folder marked “Communication Log.”
- There may be projects assigned throughout the year for your child to work on at home. This should not include your help, as we know sometimes home projects sometimes become parent projects. We will be emphasizing responsibility in learning with our GATE students. ;)

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures



- Students should be dropped off **no earlier** than 7:25 a.m. and should be at school **no later** than 7:45 a.m. **A student will be considered late if not in school by 7:45 a.m.**
- All kindergarten - 3rd graders will wait in the cafeteria until they are picked up by their teacher. There will be a teacher to guide bus riders to the cafeteria in the mornings.
- If picking up your child at the end of the school day, please use the carpool line on the north side (gym side) of the building.
- Parents will be issued a car tag at the beginning of school. It must be visible in the windshield when picking up your student each day.

Miscellaneous



- To avoid hurt feelings, birthday invitations may not be distributed at school unless the entire class is invited.
- Food items may not be sent to celebrate birthdays; however, parents are welcome to send pencils, stickers, or other small items
- We love our WATCH DOG Dads here at Vaughan. If you are interested in signing up, you can check out our counselor, Ms. Moffett's, web page for information: <http://allenisd.org/Page/6376>
- Please label jackets, sweaters and other personal items, so they can be returned if lost.
- All medications must be kept in the nurse's office and administered by Nurse Candi.

Student Dress Code



- All Vaughan students will follow the AISD dress code, which can be found online in the Student Handbook.
- Parents may wish to have their daughters wear a pair of shorts under skirts and dresses.
- Tennis/sneaker type shoes are required for P.E. classes. Please make sure your child can tie his/her shoes. They are also encouraged to have their shoes laces double-knotted.

THANK YOU

- We appreciate your support in and outside of the classroom. Thank you for all you do and if you ever have any questions, or concerns, our doors are always open.
- It is going to be an GREAT year!

