

2nd & 3rd Grade INFORMATION PACKET

Dear 2nd and 3rd Grade Families,

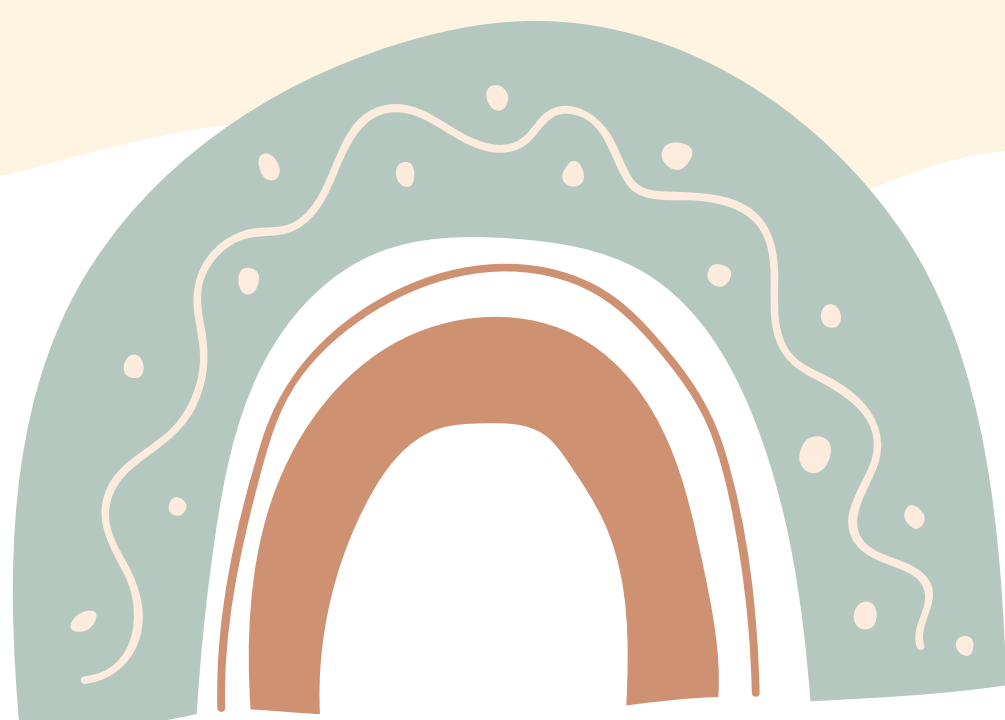
Welcome! This information packet will give you a brief overview of what to expect during the school year. Second and third grade is such a special time in a child's life. It's a big year full of growth, new experiences, and learning. I'm truly honored to be part of this journey with your family.

In our room, we're a school family. We'll celebrate progress, learn from mistakes, and support one another every step of the way. Most importantly, I want your child to feel confident, capable, happy to come to school, and grow in their love of Jesus.

I'm looking forward to a fantastic year of learning, laughter, and growth together!

Here's to a bright year ahead,

Mrs. Shannon Wells



MEET YOUR TEACHER

Mrs. Shannon Wells



ABOUT ME

I have been married to my husband, TJ, for 26 years. I am a parishioner at St. Mary in Alexandria. This is my 8th year teaching. Every year I have taught 2nd grade. For the past 4 years I have added 3rd grade to my teaching experience. I enjoy teaching my students for 2 years. I feel honored to be a part of the 2nd graders sacramental preparation.



FAVORITES

I enjoy camping, boating, reading, crafting, and growing in my spiritual life. My favorite drinks are Diet Sunkist and Diet Coke. I like to snack on Ranch Wheat Thins. My favorite colors are green and blue. My favorite scent is eucalyptus. I enjoy shopping on Amazon. I love growing cute little succulents and treating myself from time to time with a new pair of simple gold earrings.

FUN FACTS

- My husband, TJ, and I have 6 kiddos ranging in age from 22 to 10.
- I have 2 sweet dogs named Gretta and Margo
- I enjoy repurposing things.
- My kids are crazy good water skiers.
- Some of my kids have competed in robotics at the world tournament level.
- I took a long break from teaching to be a stay-at-home mom for 18 years
- I have dyslexia as well as all 4 of my sons.



Our Class Schedule

Daily Schedule

8:00	Arrival
8:20	Morning Work
8:45	Morning Prayer Chapel Visit
9:15	Reading / Phonics / Grammar / Writing
10:15	Break
10:30	Religion
11:20	Lunch & Recess
12:05	Restroom break
12:15	Math, Science, Social Studies
1:00	Specials
1:45	Math, Science, Social Studies (continued)
2:50	Pack Up & Prepare for Dismissal

Specials

Monday	Art (1:00)
Tuesday	
Wednesday	Music (2:00)
Thursday	PE (9:00)
Friday	

Classroom Management

We utilize a type of clip chart in our classroom. Every child begins the day on “green” for making good choices the children get move their clip up a color and earn play money. For poor choices, the children move their clip down and lose money. The colors are as follows (from highest to lowest)...pink, purple, blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. Whatever color you child ends his/her day on is the color that you will see marked in their assignment notebook on the bottom right hand of the page. Signing your child’s assignment notebook is communicating to me that you are aware of your child’s behavior for the day. The students can spend their money on prizes/rewards on Friday. The students created a collective list of classroom rules with guidance. They are as follows... be helpful, cheer for each other, raise your hand to talk, use kind words, follow directions quickly.

Contact Information

Please feel free to email me with ANY questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns. I will try to tend to emails during the day if all that is necessary is a quick response. If more time is needed, the response will likely not come to you until late into the evening. Once I get home, I am in mom mode until after my younger kids are in bed. My email is wells@stpat.school

Another point of contact would be my cell number. I don’t mind if you send me text messages for time sensitive situations. My cell number is (859)801-7824

Take-Home Binder

Your child will bring home their binder each day that contains their home folder and assignment notebook. The left side of the folder will include important papers that need your attention, such as forms to return, notes from school, and homework. The right side will have items that can stay at home, like your child's work and class activities.

Assignment Notebook

Your child's assignment notebook will be utilized for several purposes. It is a means for quick communication. It will indicate your child's color that they ended the day on our behavior chart. Lastly, it will record your child's homework for the day. It is critical that you supervise your child's homework every night and sign their assignment notebook indicating that your child has their work completed.

Homework

Ten minutes of reading homework should be completed nightly. You will find a reading log on the inside front cover of your child's binder that they bring back and forth from home to school. Please indicate the story or book read and sign the log. You will find your child's spelling words glued into his/her assignment notebook on Mondays. These should be reviewed and your child should be prepared for an assessment on Fridays. Vocabulary words will be assigned on Mondays as well. You will find these in the "stay at home" pocket of your child's folder. They are organized in a way that the words can be cut apart and made into a matching game or put onto flashcards. These words will accompany the story that will be reading for the week. A comprehension and vocabulary assessment will be given on Fridays. Phonics and math homework will be given most nights. Math flash cards are important to practice intermittently. Math fluency is important to help with quick recall of facts and will make higher level math more manageable for your child. PLEASE let me know if homework is a struggle. The goal of homework is to simply practice the skill that your child is learning. If homework consistently exceeds 30 minutes, let me know. We can make modifications. I don't want it to be a source of frustration for all.

Birthdays

On your child's special day, we will take a few moments to make them feel extra special during the school day! Birthday treats can be brought in to share but are completely optional. Treats are completely optional. Here is a list of classroom birthdays:



Snacks & Drinks

Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school each day so they can stay hydrated and take a sip whenever they're feeling thirsty. The students keep their water bottles in designated can attached to their desks. Please make sure that your child's water bottle is no larger than ____ inches in circumference so they will fit in the cans. Please only send water bottles with an attached flip lid to help prevent spills. We will have a morning break time where the kids can bring a snack and get outside for some fresh air. After lunch, the kids are "starving". I will allow the students to have another snack when the children are working in the classroom towards the latter part of the day. So, in short, please pack 2 extra somewhat healthy snacks in addition to your child's lunch.

Curriculum

Reading: We will be reading from the Journeys series grade 2. The stories that we read will lead to grammar, reading, and writing lessons. To help reinforce the skills learned in reading and to build fluency, please read with your child for 10 minutes daily. If your child is overwhelmed with the quantity to be read, please share the reading time. Model good reading strategies to your child. They can learn from you.

Phonics: Saxon Phonics for grade 2 is the curriculum that we will be using. Through this program, the students will learn about different spelling rules and syllables. Saxon Phonics is heavy with coding strategies that help children determine the sound that letters make before they try to blend the sounds together to form words. This program is the same that was used during the children's kindergarten and first grade years. The children will receive spelling words on Mondays that align with this curriculum on

Getting To Know Your WHOLE WORLD

As your child’s teacher, I understand that every single child in my classroom is someone’s whole world. You know your child best, and your insight is incredibly valuable to me. To help me better understand your child- what excites them, what supports they need, and what makes them shine- I would love for you to complete this form. Please take a few moments to answer each question and return the form on the first day of school. I’m so excited to get to know your child and partner with you for a wonderful school year!



Child’s Name:_____ Nick Name?_____

How would you describe your child’s personality?

What does your child like to do outside of school?

What does your child like to learn about?

What are your child’s strengths?

What motivates your child?

What are you hoping your child learns this year?

What would you like me to know about your child?

