

# Welcome to Second Grade at Lake Forest Hills Elementary!

## Class and School Information:

Mrs. Doris' Second Grade

Room 14

Lake Forest Hills Elementary

3140 Lake Forest Drive

Augusta, Georgia 30909

Phone: 706 737-7317

Fax: 706 737-7318

Email: [Dorisma@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:Dorisma@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us)

## Teacher Information:

My name is Marcia Doris, and I am very excited to be your child's teacher this year! I have a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and this year will be my 28<sup>th</sup> year teaching. I have taught First, Second and Fifth grades, however 23 of my teaching years have been in Second Grade. I am married and have two beautiful daughters, Lindsey(25) and Bunny(22). Both of my girls are college graduates(Yay!) and Bunny is a Graduate Student at Georgia Southern University in Savannah. You will probably hear many stories about them (and their cats)!!

## Second Grade Curriculum:

Second Grade is a very busy year, and we will learn many new things! Your child will become much more independent and take on more responsibility for their learning. My goal is that with guidance from me and your support we will help them achieve this gradually throughout the year. Some things will be challenging and perseverance will be the key to success!

### **Language Arts:**

In Reading, we will focus on improving reading fluency, first and foremost. Reading comprehension skills will be taught each week using a variety of texts. Each week we will focus on specific grammar and spelling skills. You will receive a sheet on Fridays letting you know what is coming up the following week.

### **Mathematics:**

Math facts are essential for success in Second Grade and beyond! We will dive into a review of addition and subtraction right away. Soon we will build on these by adding and subtracting two and three digit numbers. Place value, counting money, telling time, measurement, geometry, and an introduction to the concepts of fractions and multiplication will also be explored this year. A Topic introduction sheet will be sent home as new concepts are introduced. Look for these in your child's folders. They will contain important vocabulary and a game you can play to reinforce concepts at home.

### **Science and Social Studies:**

Our IB Units are built around these disciplines, however often our reading and writing units are intertwined as well. We will discover information about our earth and the land we live on, government and the need for rules and laws, and the history of Georgia and its people. Earth's natural cycles, states of matter, and energy are always interesting and fun to learn about as well!

### **Classroom Expectations and Conduct:**

I make a point to greet my students each morning with a warm smile and a friendly greeting. Starting the day off on a positive note is a must! I have many systems and routines in place to help facilitate order and maximize learning. All students are expected to follow all school and classroom rules. Respect and

kindness are required at all times! I use a "Sign-in" system to determine Conduct grades. Students who choose not to follow the rules are given a verbal warning. After the warning, if the behavior continues, they will be "signed-in" in my record book. I also record positive behaviors there to justify students earning a 4 in behaviors that support their learning on Report Cards. These are tallied throughout each term. My plan this year, is to send a "Graded Paper Packet" home every other week which will include a Conduct grade. If your child has Conduct issues, I will contact you and begin a daily Conduct report. These packets should be reviewed, signed and brought back to school the following day.

I use positive reinforcement in my classroom to encourage and praise appropriate and exceptional behavior and acts that are reflective of our Learner Profile Attributes and Attitudes. Each child has a "Dot Chart" on their desk and I reward them frequently with "dots" when they are doing what is expected and setting a good example for their peers. Once their dot chart is filled, they are entitled to a trip to my class treat drawer. Spontaneous "Double Dot Days" occur occasionally. ☺ In addition, our school has a "Dolphin Dollar" system where students are able to earn "Dolphin Dollars" for exceptional acts and behaviors throughout the school. They are able to use these to buy treats at a "Dolphin Dollar Store" set up by our Media Specialist, Ms. Murrell. (She always welcomes donations to add to her store.)

### **Homework and Communication:**

Homework will be given each night. At the beginning of every week, your child will receive a "Homework Calendar" for the week. Each assignment will be outlined and worksheets are usually provided for these assignments. It should take your child 20-30 minutes to complete. If your child is having difficulty with this, please let me know. VERY IMPORTANT: The Homework Calendar will also have a "Notes and Reminders" section. PLEASE BE SURE TO LOOK FOR THIS ON MONDAYS AND INITIAL IT EACH WEEK. Every other Tuesday you will receive a Graded Paper packet with graded work and a cover sheet including information about your child's conduct and homework.

### Class Schedule, Attendance and Dismissal:

During the first few weeks of school, class schedules often change. I will send a permanent schedule when it looks like ours is set.

- Currently, our class lunch time is 10:45-11:15. Recess will follow from 11:15-11:35. Snacks are not needed, however water bottles are permitted.
- P.E. days are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Please be sure your child wears appropriate shoes on these days.
- If your child must miss school, please be sure to send a written excuse or obtain a doctor's excuse. When possible, please let me know if your child will be leaving early. It will help facilitate having them ready with homework and papers going home. Early dismissals also count as tardies so be sure to obtain a doctor's excuse if your child is leaving early for a doctor's appointment.
- It is very important that I know how your child is getting home each day. The front office must have written notification for changes. Email is not always a reliable source, as I may not be able to check it until after school. Last minute changes should be faxed or emailed, and followed up by a phone call to confirm receipt. Your child's safety is extremely important to us!

I am looking forward to a fantastic year! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcia Doris

P.S. Help your child earn their first DOT!! Send me an email within the first week of school letting me know you received this information! 😊