**2nd Grade Newsletter Unit 3 Week 5**

Assalamu Alaikum,

Greetings Crescent families!

We hope this letter finds you in the best of health and Iman. Alhamdulillah, we have reached the midpoint of our school year and are making great progress! We thank all students and parents for their hard work and support. Insha’Allah, we will continue to strive to do our best as we move toward completing the remainder of our school year.

**AREAS OF STUDY**

Unit 3 – Intellectual Literacy: Useful Knowledge

Concepts: **Space, Order and Organization**

**MATH**

We have begun our next round of focus math groups with an exploration of the usefulness of counting and using money. Students are practicing counting money with bills and coins, something that can be reinforced outside of school (home, restaurants, and grocery stores). Students will review their knowledge of adding and subtracting with regrouping when completing real-life problems using money. [www.sheppardsoftware.com](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com) has excellent games for students to play if they need extra practice counting coins.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

**Reader’s Workshop:** Alhamdulillah, students are working well independently as well collaboratively. Students are building their reading skills by reading-to-self, reading-to-someone, exploring word work, working on writing, and engaging in book clubs with their teachers. Students are also exercising their coaching skills as they read and help one another comprehend text. We use this time to learn about different genres of text and cover different types of comprehension skills such as using context clues, cause and effect, and rereading to find answers.

**Writer’s Workshop:** Students are doing a great job writing in paragraph format. Students have completed research on a topic of their choice and are drafting a 3-paragraph report. Once a final draft has been written students will present their paragraphs to the class.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

This unit leads us to a fun unit on mapping. Students are exploring maps in order to better understand **space** and their surrounding areas. Students will learn the important parts of a map such as a map key and a using a compass. Students will use grid maps, park maps and road maps. At the end of the unit students will complete a mapping project.

**SCIENCE**

We have been exploring the amazing **energy** of Earth and the creation of various landforms and bodies of water. Unit 3 brings us to the learning of how events in Earth’s history have changed the shape of the Earth and how some changes on Earth occur quickly while others occur slowly. Students have been enjoying learning through experimentation!

**ISLAMIC STUDIES**

Alhamdulillah, we have explored all Five Pillars of Islam. Our next step is to complete a model/poster that represents each of the pillars and to share our understanding with others. Insha’Allah, we will begin our presentations next week (1/19) in class. Students will share their model/poster and will be graded on their presentations. Students will be graded on clarity, coverage of each pillar, and on any additional information provided about the significance of following each pillar. Students are encouraged to share ahadith or ayat from Quran (to support each pillar) in their presentations. Insha’Allah, it will be great!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*Stars of the Week: Aydin Burcham, Lyla Gazal(2A), Bilal Mohsin, Aleeza Mallick(2B), Raneem Haque, Rana Celiker(2C). Takbeer to these students for showing positive attributes and becoming a helpful member of their class community!

\***No School:** Monday, January 18 MLK Jr. Day

**\*Please ensure your student has a full water bottle every day. Class time is being wasted with frequent trips to the water fountain.**

\*No School: Monday, February 15 – Mid Winter Break

\*STEM week is coming up! February 16-19