Lower School Parents Night

Welcome! I'm so glad you are here.

Tower's 2021-2022 theme: Sportsmanship

Tower School: Grade Two Mrs. Field 2021-2022

Who is Mrs. Field?

BS in Childhood Education, NY Certification Grades 1-6, SUNY Cortland. Master of Education: Elementary Education- Professional Licensure, MA, Salem State University.

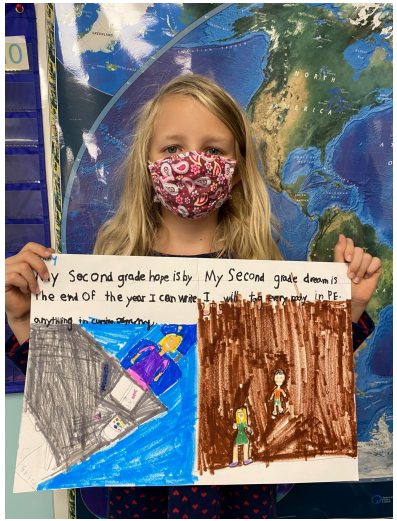
Started in 2005 at Tower; former third grade teacher

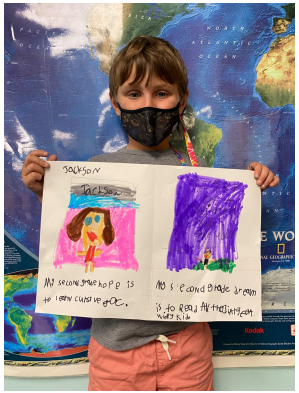
Current Tower Cross Country coach. Previous Adventure Coach, Mrs. Field's Cookie & Sugar Club, Summer@Tower, private tutor

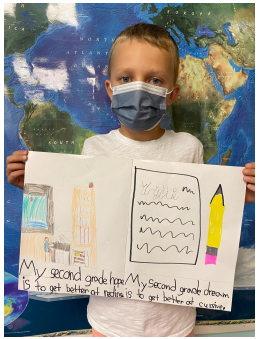
Two kids, Maggie-4th grade & Andy- 2nd grade, Married to Mr. Field, Tower's Woodshop teacher (former PE teacher)

Usually outside; running, biking, hiking, gardening, cooking, eating, reading, & familying on repeat. Go Bills!

Who are Second Graders?







These are second graders!

Tower second graders are:

The BIG little kids.

- Big kids in the Lower School hallway, yet still in *early* childhood
- Growing with independence
- Friendships are important
- Seek to establish fairness and equality
- Love to work cooperatively, but still figuring out what that means
- More stamina, yet still get tired easily

What to expect from your 2nd grader

- Year for learning independence
- Homework- folder and backpack, *their* responsibility, not the grownups
- Fairness and equality are important, bullying vs. meanness
- Learning from mistakes. Tower is a safe place to make mistakes
- Want to be perfect- ex: spelling. They will erase if it isn't "perfect"
- Encourage risk taking, socially and academically
- Learning to make good choices and decisions: negotiating
- Excited about learning!

Responsive Classroom

- Responsive Classroom is part of the social curriculum
- Morning Meeting
- Ownership of behavior and stresses the importance of positive language.
- Examples: class generated rules, jobs, positive language- “remember homework” instead of “don’t forget”
- Group discussions to work through recess/social issues. Model compromise.

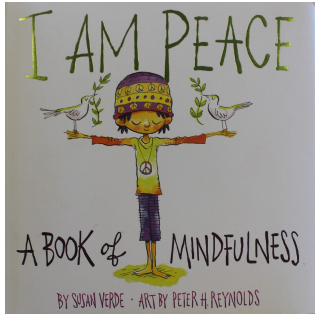
Mindfulness & Movement

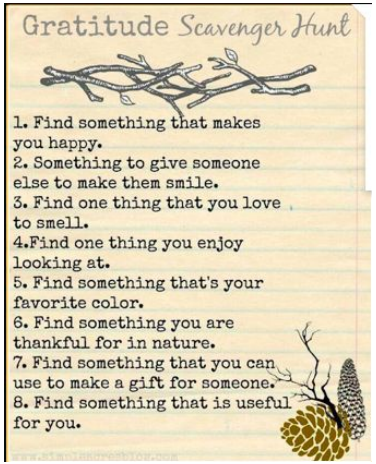
Mindfulness has become an important part of the Tower culture- assemblies, special classes

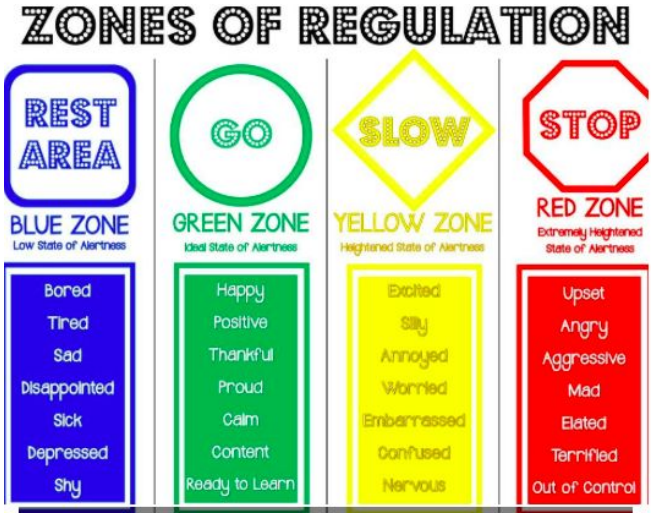
Being outside! Lunch, recess, class!

Movement- drink breaks, walks down the hallway, transition to other classes

Dovetails nicely with our social-emotional learning through Responsive Classroom







Homework

- **Is practice! Reinforcement of new skills**
- **Will be paper and pencil this year**
- Is practicing responsibility- getting it to and from school
- Establish routines and good habits at home
- Should take about 30 minutes or less
- Encourage your child to be as independent as possible, but do provide help when necessary
- Afternoon or evenings- find what works best
- Let us know how it is going
- I'm here to help. Do not fight the fight at home. Email me.

What's Mrs. Miller's role in second grade?

Nina Miller, M.A., M.Ed. Reading Specialist

Meets and collaborates regularly with the teachers to discuss student growth

Assists in the development of the reading and spelling curriculum

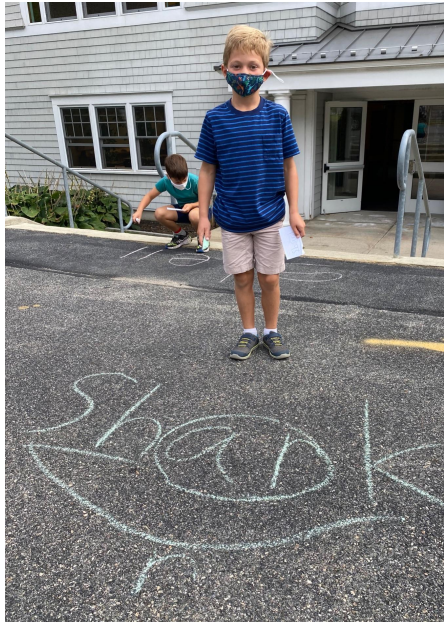
Conducts benchmark assessments for each child 3 times a year and progress monitors students as needed

Works with students in small groups to teach and target specific skills

Acts as a liaison between the second grade team and learning skills

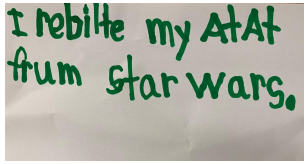
Curriculum

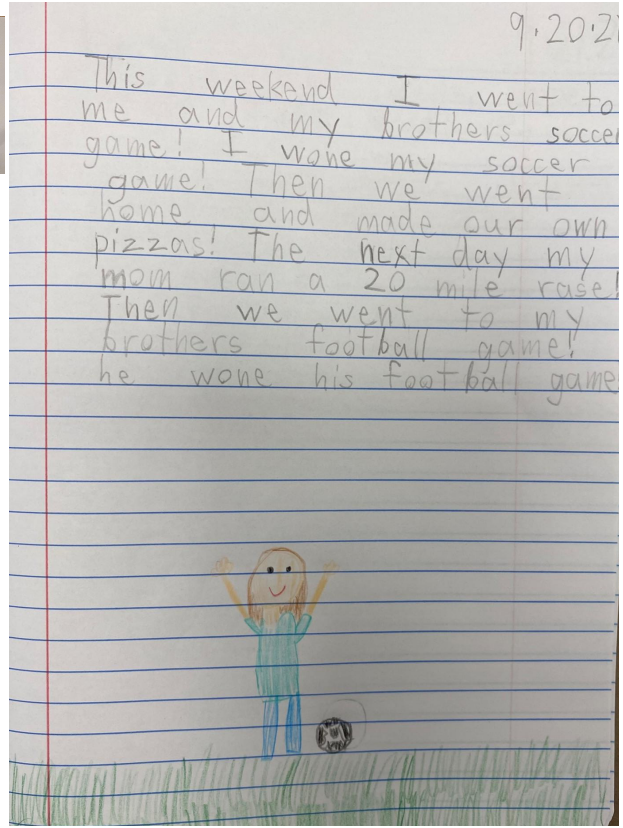
- **Reading:** Guided Reading- leveled reading. Focus on decoding, fluency, comprehension, written output, genres, fostering independent reading
- **Assessments:** Phonemic Awareness, DIBELS including MAZE, Benchmark Assessments System: Fountas & Pinnell,
- **Spelling:** class instruction and homework assignments. Will dovetail with reading instruction. We use Wilson Fundations program



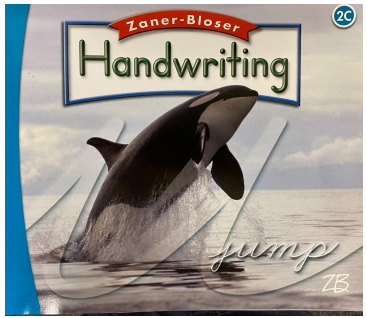
*Please continue reading aloud to your child. Choose books that stretch vocabulary and thinking. The purpose is to model good reading and enjoyment.

Curriculum



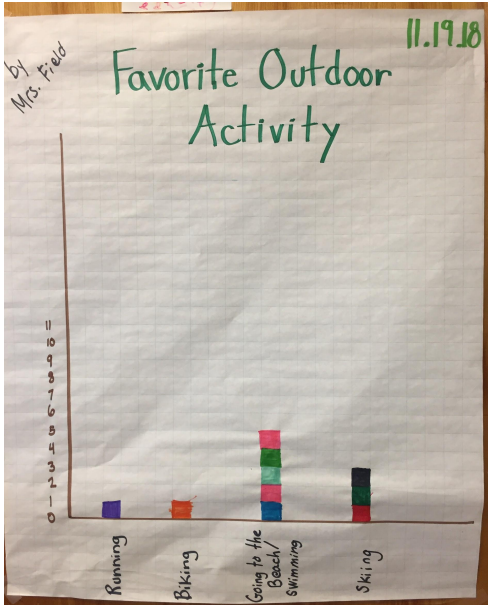


- **Creative writing:** various genres; "Super strong second grade sentences", punctuation, grammar, uppercase/lowercase letters paragraphs, descriptive writing, poetry, mini research reports. Emphasis on the process, rather than finished product. Interesting adjectives and verbs.
- **Journaling:** encourage flow of ideas, rather than spelling and grammar.
- **Manuscript & Cursive:** cursive introduction mid year!



Curriculum

- **Math:** Math in Focus, based on Singapore Math, mastering basic facts, problem solving, multi-step problems, overall number sense! Math games, logic, visual spatial skills. Formal benchmark assessment
- Topics include: numbers, place value, addition & subtraction with two digit and three numbers with and without regrouping, intro to multiplication & division, time, money, lines and angles, 2D shapes, 3D shapes, measurement of capacity, temperature, area/perimeter, weight/mass, length/distance, data collecting, problem solving

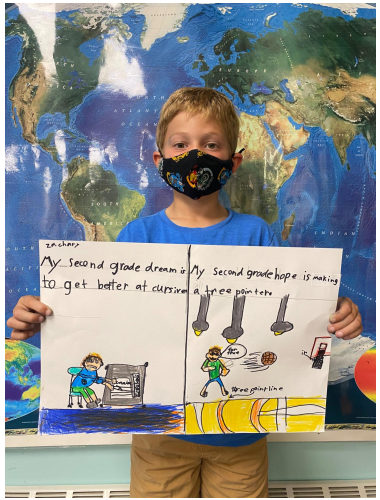


Curriculum

- **Social Studies:** Communities-Who am I? Who is my family? What are my communities? Study of the 50 states, state project, map skills
- **Mindfulness, Responsive Classroom, & Social Thinking**- social curriculum.
- **Technology:** iPad cart, library integrated tech class

- Field trips...

Formal Reporting, Conferences & Informal Reporting



Different format for reports than past years

Three written reports throughout the year: end of fall trimester , end winter trimester, end of the school year

Two Parent-Teacher conference dates- **Zoom** October & February

SeeSaw: in the moment videos, group moments, individual work and assessments- fun pictures!

The Covid Classroom 2021

Masks up indoors

Mask breaks when eating and outside

Shields when eating inside

Buckets to move our things

Open windows & loads of fresh air

Zoom conversations and in-person conversations for grownups

Recess

Snack & Lunch

Friendly Reminders!

Please pack a **spoon, fork, or knife.** OR try this ---->

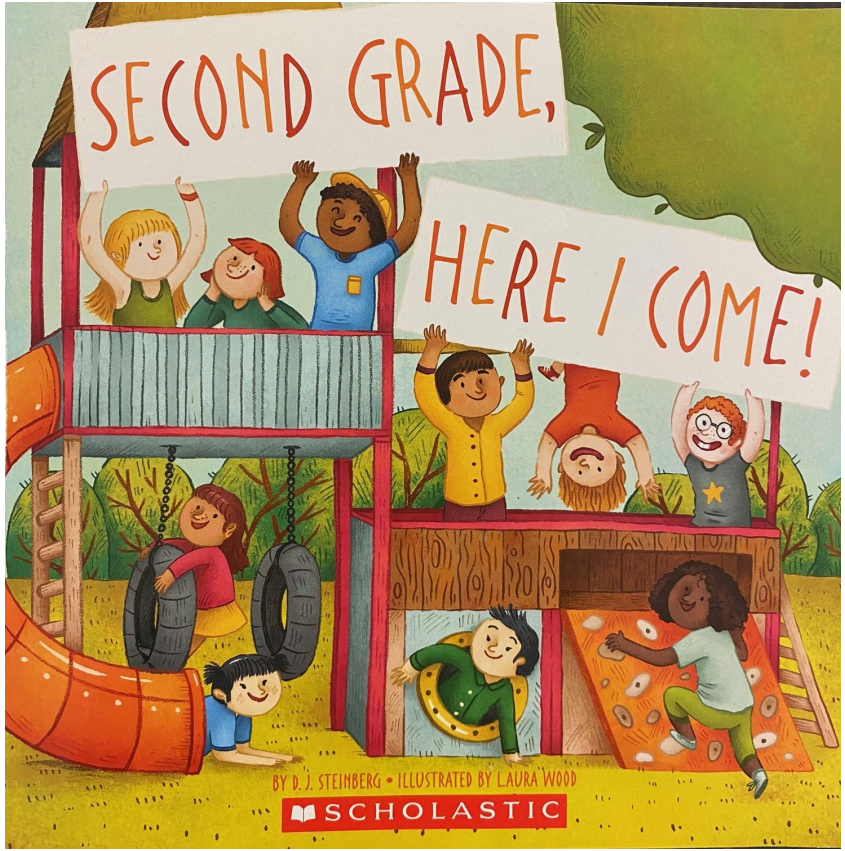
Food- please **pack snack, lunch and water** everyday

Toys stay at home-stuffed animals, trinkets, etc.

Please try to get your second grader to school on time. 7:50-8:05.

PE sneakers

**No set of extra clothes this year, unless you know your child needs it

TONIGHT!

- Please read your child's letter in their journal, leave them a note!
- Complete the puzzle
- Take home the schedule and Yardsticks Guide to Second Grade
- Any questions?