Welcome! My name is Rebecca Popek (Ms. Popek), and I will be your child’s 2nd grade homeroom teacher this year along with our instructional aide, Ms. Elizabeth Fortich. Please note the following information in the syllabus to better understand what will be taught this year as well as what will make the year a success.

Email: becky.popek@cojowa.edu.co

ACADEMICS

Language Arts
We will be working with the Daily 5 program. This rotating schedule allows students to build reading and writing skills daily while also meeting in small groups and individually with the teacher each week.

Reading
By reading every day, the students will work to build strategies to enhance their accuracy, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary.

Writing
Students will work on developing various traits of a good writer including generating ideas, organizing their writing, creating a unique voice, revising and editing drafts, and developing appropriate writing skills in grammar.

Spelling
Students will be working at a variety of levels according to their developmental level of spelling. Students will learn spelling patterns that they can then apply to the rest of their word work.

Math
Students will be working with addition and subtraction facts, money, time, place value, shapes, problem solving, patterns, fractions, measurement, and decimals. Along with the Everyday Math materials, students will have access to the IXL math website where they can practice their math skills.

Science
We will be exploring the scientific process, the habitats of plants and animals, states of matter, and changes to Earth. We will be using Science Fusion books as a resource for these units.

Social Studies
Students will be studying a variety of topics including our community, map skills, government, and economics. We will be using TCI’s Social Studies Alive books as a resource throughout these units.

Second Step
We will be using a school-wide curriculum called Second Step to teach and discuss the positive social skills of empathy, anger management, impulse control and problem solving.
**Assessments**

We will have a variety of informal and formal assessments throughout the year to ensure that each student is mastering the 2nd grade material.

Students will also be taking the NWEA and a DRA, which are both formalized assessments that help focus instruction.

**Grades**

Students will receive grades in line with the COJOWA grading scale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>97-94</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>93-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-89</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>73-70</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>69-0</td>
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</tbody>
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Grades will consist of a combination of homework, participation, projects, classroom assignments, and informal and formal teacher observations. Grades will be posted weekly on Phidias for parents to view.

**Homework**

Students will switch weekly between Raz-Kids and Weekly Reading passages. They will be completing three word study activities a week.

For math students will be keeping their Home Links book at home. They will be assigned a page for homework on most days. They will need to complete it and turn in just the assigned page the following day.

Students will have a login for Xtramath and IXL to practice their math facts at least 3 times a week.

Homework should be completed and turned in on the due date. If homework is repeatedly absent or late, the child will finish missing work during extra-curricular activities on Friday afternoons.

**CLASSWIDE BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS**

We are using school wide behavior expectations and values called REACHES. The letters stand for responsibility, empathy, assertion, cooperation, honesty, excellence, and self-control.

In addition, we have a color chart that we will follow daily. Students can move up or down the chart daily based on their behavior. As the end of the day, they will write their color in their agendas daily for parents to view.

We will continue to follow the same 5 rules that were used in first grade.

1. Listen when the speaker is speaking
2. Follow directions quickly
3. Raise your hand to speak
4. Use self-control
5. Make smart choices and be happy