



**Mr. Lewis**  
**2016/2017 Second Grade**

**MISSION**

Serving children of Christian parents, we provide Christian education of high academic quality that promotes authentic Christian character among students who will impact the world for Christ.

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# PERSONAL TESTIMONY

By God's grace, I grew up going to a Christian church. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior when I was nine years old. *Word of Faith Center* had real lively worship. I was dancing in the aisle there in "Big Adult" church with my family, when I had a vision of Jesus. He was sitting criss-cross applesauce with a book open, and He invited me by saying, "Come." In my vision, I came to Him, and Jesus sat me down on His lap and read a book to me. Once I was dismissed to Sunday School, I told my teacher, Sherry. She led me in prayer to invite Jesus into my heart. Later that year, I declared my faith publicly and was baptized.

My parents divorced when I was 12, and my sister and I left my dad to stay with our mom. We moved across the states to live in Georgia, close to my mom's family. It was during this time that I really grew in my faith, recognizing God as my Father. We moved continuously, as my mom was getting settled as a single mom. My freshman year, I went to three different high schools. I recognized God's love for me, though, being steady and constant. I love this about Him!

The summer of my junior year in high school, God tugged on my heart to go on a mission trip to Russia. My step mom was from the Ukraine, so I was already interested to get to know her culture. I got to put my faith in action—eight children invited Jesus into their lives from God using me there!

I was further surprised when I returned home to Georgia. God had granted me a close, loving mom. We were tightly knit. But God was asking me to go and live with my dad again. So, I went to visit him back in Kennewick, Washington after my trip to Russia.

I didn't realize that God would ask me to stay, but I already had a close relationship with my mom, and I saw what God wanted to do. He wanted to give me a close relationship with my dad and provide total healing and forgiveness.

Entering into my senior year, I moved. I listened to God and He faithfully restored my relationship that had been broken during my childhood with my dad from abuse. Since then, God has directed me to be a teacher, blessing me with two younger siblings. I thought about what I should do, and it wasn't all that difficult once I recognized what made me smile—God's children. My younger brother and sister were an inspiration for this career choice.

At Western Washington University, God continued to pursue me with fellow Christians spurring me on in my faith. I grew into a leader, discipling others in Bible study. Yet during my sophomore year at WWU, I found out that my stepmom was diagnosed with cancer. Doctor's were telling her she had a one in five chance to live. My trust in God was being tested, but I found that putting my whole trust in Him allowed me to truly depend on Him. Cancer has been a trial in my family. I need to rest in God always - no matter what.

Many years later, I am still having to put that same trust in God. I don't understand everything, like my step mom going in and out of remission and dying of cancer. I just know how amazing it is to relax with God in control. I don't have to worry. God takes care of His children just like he did with my brother Daniel. My brother came to live with my BCS family in 2012 after my stepmom passed away. I've witnessed in Daniel's life that when we abide in Him, we bear fruit, and then others get to taste and see the Lord is good. Now Daniel knows and loves Jesus, and it's amazing to witness the old self gone, and the new self put on.

My faith will continue to grow because our God is not below a doctor's verdict with their percentages. His will is good and perfect, and I live to serve and love Him.

The all surpassing power comes from God and not from us (2 Corinthians 4:7). Oh what comfort He brings!

# TEACHER BACKGROUND

When I heard “You’re hired!” I felt God’s comfort and blessing. This is my 10th year here at BCS. I am professionally certified. Before my education classes, my joy for learning with children came from growing up with two younger siblings, volunteering, and serving through different opportunities at church.

I have much younger siblings. As the older brother, I took keen interest in coming alongside them to teach. Anywhere from making a milkshake to helping with homework from school, I was involved. Also, in San Francisco, I volunteered at the Christian Academy that served several homeless children; back in Bellingham, I was a counselor at Royal Family Kids Camp and taught Sunday School.

Working as a before & after school teacher at Hillcrest Kids for two years before my student teaching, I gained the insight of implanting structure while having a good time. I student taught at Roosevelt Elementary School in third grade, teaching a very diverse group of students. Thereafter, I entered the land of subbing for the 06/07 school year in five districts around Whatcom County.

I was a roving teacher at Birchwood Elementary School, having a Kindergarten, first and third grade room part-time two days a week. And at Columbia Elementary, I held a long-term substitute job in second grade for the spring of 2007 before getting hired at BCS.

Whew! I love the 2nd grade and the staff I work with at Bellingham Christian. The kindergarten teacher, Susan Robertson, is my “adopted” mom. God is at work. I saw right away that BCS is one big, great community when a fire burned down my classroom directly after getting hired! We’re family in Christ.

I met my lovely wife 7 years ago, getting an eye exam. She is my best friend, and this life-long journey is way better with her in it. Together we are enjoying the work on our first home God’s provided us in Bellingham.

# YEARLY COURSE OF STUDY

## LANGUAGE ARTS

### Phonics and Reading

- review of vowels, consonants, blends, one-and two-vowel words, consonant blends
- recognition and use of all phonics special sounds in reading
- spelling rules
- oral reading fluency and comprehension

### Writing

- journaling
- published pieces (Plan-Draft-Revise-Edit-Publish!)
- cursive writing

### Spelling and Poetry

- weekly phonics-based word list
- vocabulary words and definitions second semester
- weekly test
- poems

### Language

- capitalization
- punctuation
- complete sentences, questions, and exclamations
- words using suffixes, prefixes, abbreviations, compound words, rhyming words, opposite words, same-meaning words, singular and plural words, and contractions
- alphabetizing words and other dictionary skills
- words usage rules

- writing of complete sentences, questions, exclamations, and short stories
- writing letters and thank you notes, creative writing

## ARITHMETIC

- number recognition, counting, and writing 1-1,000
- numbers greatest and least 1 - 1,000
- counting and writing to 1,000, 3's to 36, 4's to 48
- addition facts through 18, column additions, four-digit addition with carrying
- subtraction facts through 18, four-digit subtraction with borrowing.
- multiplication facts 0-5
- division facts 1-5
- story problems
- multiplication combinations
- estimation
- numbers before and after by ones, twos, threes, fours, fives and tens
- counting and combining coins and bills
- telling time to the nearest minute
- English and some metric measures
- drawing and measuring lines to one-half inch
- developing listening skills
- calendars
- place value to thousands
- unit fractions reading a thermometer
- reading pictographs, bar graphs and line graphs

## HISTORY

- America's flag
- America's freedoms
- America's holidays
- America's songs
- Separatists, Indians, colonists, pioneers, cowboys; new Americans
- tomorrow's America

## GEOGRAPHY

- directions
- continents and oceans
- 50 states

## SCIENCE - ENJOYING GOD'S WORLD

- history of earth
- a round earth
- layers of earth
- shorelines
- living and non-living
- plants
- bones and muscles
- forces
- light and shadow

## BIBLE

• Salvation	• Judges
• Moses	• Ruth
• The Tabernacle	• Jonah
• Joshua	• Christ's birth, crucifixion, resurrection

## 2nd Grade Supply List 2016-2017

- Notebook paper (wide rule pack)
- 3 durable pee-chee type folders (with inside pockets)
- #2 pencils
- Pencil sharpener (with shavings catcher, not electric)
- Utensil storage box (spacemaker)
- 8-12 Crayola markers (not skinny)
- Crayons or colored pencils (twistable crayons are great)
- Watercolors
- Ruler (with inches and centimeters)
- Pencil erasers
- Scissors
- 1 glue stick
- 1 paper towel roll and 1 large Kleenex box
- 2 baby wipes
- 1 box of snack crackers
- Marble composition notebook for journaling (80 sheets)
- 4 Clorox wipes

# **HOMEWORK POLICY**

(practice-practice-practice)

## **READING**

Children should read their assignment once to themselves and once to a parent. Please encourage good expression, speed, and accuracy. Reading homework will be daily starting about the second week of school. Parents should sign-off on child's daily reading.

\*Every Monday, your child's weekly spelling list, memory verse, phonics study and math facts will come home in a packet. Keep these lists visible.

## **SPELLING**

Practice spelling words in the homework packet repeatedly. Spelling tests are each Friday. Every week the children will write out their spelling words and write 10 of them in a sentence to turn them in on Friday morning.

## **MATH FACTS**

A math study sheet will be sent out for the Wednesday test.

## **VERSE**

Get this in your head to recite to Mr. Lewis at the end of the month.

## **HOME FOLDERS**

These are sent home each night and are to come back every morning. Each evening please check your child's folder and help your child remember to return it to school in the morning. I will mark assignments returned on-time on our homework chart. If it's all there, they can participate in FUN Friday. Thank you in advance for your help in this area! This helps your child to develop responsibility and study skills for the years ahead.

# GRADING PROCEDURES

Grades are received in Phonics, Reading, Arithmetic, Spelling and Bible.

E	93-100	Outstanding
S+	84-92	Above average
S	75-83	Average
S-	65-74	Near Failing
U	0-64	Failing

K-2 uses the “E”, “S”, “U” format for grading, while 3-8 uses “A”, “B”, “C”, etc. format.

History, Science, PE, Music, and Art receive S(satisfactory) or U(unsatisfactory) since students are not tested on these subjects until third grade. Marks are a result of class discussion, participation etc.

# **CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE**

(Proverbs 22:6, "Train a child in the way they should go , and when they're old they will not turn from it.")

The children have certain rules and procedures they are expected to follow in order to promote a learning environment that will be discussed and practiced. I use lots of positive reinforcement and natural consequences, and I will handle most situations within the classroom. A child may need to lose a recess or other special privilege, go to the time-out desk for a time, write and tell an apology, etc.

In general, I will implement a five step plan. Step 1 moves a child from green to yellow and serves as a warning. Step 2 is a time-out during recess, moving a child from yellow to red. Step 3 means that the student will visit a buddy classroom to continue their assignment. Step 4 is where the child will call a parent. Step 5 gets Mr. Cunningham involved. If a problem persists, I will call the parents to make them aware of it in detail, and we can create a behavior plan.

In the event of a serious problem, the child will directly go to see Mr. Cunningham at the office. When there is a need, a consultation with you, me, and the principal will be arranged.

My attention-getter will be to say and show with my hand a, "Give me five, four, three, two, one, zero." If I reach zero and have to count back up, it's a minute off recess every count back up for the whole class. As a classroom community, we all need to keep each other accountable. Sometimes, I will "ding" my orange bell for an automatic freeze. At the end of the day, there will be a clean-up song.

When jobs are completed and groups meet me back at the rug, we'll recap the day.

Know that I strive to motivate my students in their learning. I will reward what they deserve altogether and individually.

-----“Who’s the one?” All throughout the week, students will earn tickets randomly for being focused and on-task, memorizing the Bible verse, etc. On Friday, one student will be selected to earn a special prize.

----“Plop in the tub”: The helper of the day will have the privilege of plopping in a tub full of pillows to read.

---- “Desk Dude”: I’m the desk dude. At some mystery point, I will pick the cleanest, most organized desk. A prize will be found inside of it in the morning.

----“Monkey Moves”: The baby monkey is lost from its parents. When the entire class is cooperative, then they will hear a cry from the parents that will direct the baby monkey closer. Once the baby monkey reaches its parents, the class earns a planned party.

-----“Teams”: The team that gets it together by being the most quiet and quick to answer questions will earn team points. The team that earns the most by Friday gets a treat.

----“FUN Friday!”: If all the homework is in, a time set aside at the very end of the day will be for class games or free choice.

# **FIELD TRIPS & SPECIAL PROJECTS**

\*Padilla Bay – Let's visit the estuary exhibits after we learn about the seashore.

\*Larrabee State Park – It's time to perform our reader's theater at this state park's main stage, and then we'll find purple starfish in tide pools.