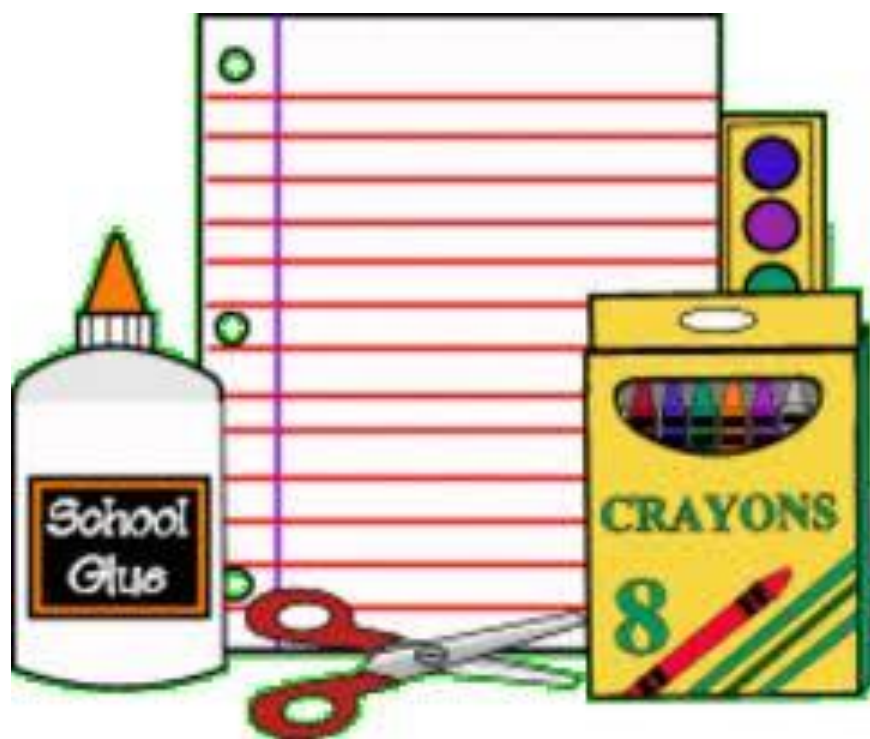


Welcome to   
 Second Grade!



# HELLO tHere!

My name is Nyfa Al-Zaharnah and I am thrilled to be your child's second grade teacher for the 2020-21 school year!



## TEACHING BACKGROUND

This will be my fifth year teaching second grade at River Oaks and I'm excited to see what this year has in store for us. I have a Master's Degree in Education from The University of Michigan (Go Blue!) with a focus on Reading and English as a Second Language. My education and experience in this grade will ensure that I create an exceptional education for your child this year.

## A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

Color: Blue  
Foods: tacos and cheesecake  
Drinks: coffee  
Favorite children's book: The Sandwich Swap  
Hobbies: traveling, reading, and painting  
Seasons: Summer & Fall  
Pets: Dog- Finley, Cats- Molly and Paxton

I can't wait to learn about your favs!

## COMMUNICATION

[Need to get in touch? My door is always open.](#)

Email: [alzahan@dearbornschools.org](mailto:alzahan@dearbornschools.org) \*preferred

Schoology Messenger TBD

River Oaks School Phone: Monday, Thursday

Zoom Q and A's for parents (TBD)

[Need information about River Oaks specifically?](#)

Website: <http://roaks.dearbornschools.org/> ( please subscribe to this blog. You will receive emails directly from Mr. Martin)

River Oaks main office: 313-827-6750



# Instruction

Your child will be starting off the year virtually.

There will be live lessons to attend and pre-recorded lessons to watch throughout the day.

There will be small group sessions where students will get live, individualized support.

There will be afternoon learning labs that will consist of small groups and/or one on one meetings with students. These will be a mixture of virtual and in school. More information will follow.

We will be using the online platform Schoology and the video conferencing system Zoom.



# Schedule

**8:55-10:25 – Reading (live lessons to attend)**

**10:30-11:45 – Math (live lessons to attend)**

**11:45-12:25 – Lunch**

**12:25-1:00 – Social Studies/ Science (mixture of pre-recorded and live lessons)**

**1:00-1:54 - Specials**

**1:55-3:55 – Learning labs/ Independent work**

\*\*Please note, this schedule is subject to change depending on district and classroom needs.



# Student Expectations

- Students are expected to log on everyday at 8:55am for attendance and their first live lesson of the day.
- Students will be expected to be available during the school day for live lessons as well as small group virtual lessons.
- Students are expected to participate during the lessons.
- Students are expected to be respectful of teachers and other students during lessons.
- Students are expected to be prepared with materials as directed by teacher.
- Students are expected to communicate with the teacher if they have any problems with technology, lessons or homework.



# Parent Expectations

-Parents are expected to make sure their child(ren) are available for virtual school each day. Please call the office if they are going to be absent.

-Parents are expected to encourage students to participate during lessons respectfully.

-Parents are encouraged to provide their child(ren) a quiet spot for the live lessons as well as a quiet spot to complete any assignments.

-Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher with any problems or concerns.

-If students are invited for an in-school learning lab, parents are expected to get their students to and from school on time.

-Parents are expected to check their email or Schoology on a regular basis in order to stay up-to-date on school and classroom related information.



# Digital Communication Tools

Email: [alzahan@dearbornschools.org](mailto:alzahan@dearbornschools.org)

Work Phone Number: (313) 827-6750

Schoology Website: TBD

Zoom link for Live Lessons and Q&A Sessions:  
Will be emailed and uploaded on Schoology

Student Login Information: As soon as I receive login information from the district I will pass that on to you. Students are encouraged to practice logging in the first week of school.

# Student Materials

-River Oaks staff will be scheduling days to pass out supplies. Please remember to check your email and/or Schoology accounts for dates and times.

-Materials that will be passed out include (but are not limited to) : Chromebook (if needed), Eureka math books, new Benchmark ELA materials, journals, pencils, etc...

-What else might your student need to be successful in 2nd grade?

Here's a list the 2nd grade teachers put together. **Nothing is required**, but you may find some of these items helpful to have on hand.

- [Number line](#)
- [Hundreds chart](#)
- [Alphabet Chart](#)
- White board/ markers
- [Plastic Sheets](#)
- Pencils/ Sharpener
- Highlighter
- Headphones
- [Wobble Chair/ Yoga Ball/ Bumpy Seat](#)

You may find it's helpful for yourself and your student(s) to have a designated work space, away from distractions. I have attached links to most items so that you can see what it is we are referring to. Again, **you are not required to buy any of these items**. We just wanted to provide a list that could be helpful for continuing learning virtually.





# We Are in This Together!!!!

Please remember that we are in this together. If at any time you or your student feels overwhelmed, reach out! Virtual teaching and learning is new to all of us and we will make mistakes but learn from them and be even stronger in the end. Things are fluid and will be constantly changing as we get more and more information from the administration building. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we all come together to get through this crazy time. I look forward to a wonderful year with your child.