

“Get your paws on a good book!”

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the school year begins, we are gearing up early to meet our district wide goal for each and every child to read 25 books this year. Our 25 Book Committee is busy getting us organized for the year and we are off and reading!

I wanted to take a minute to explain some of the ways we will be helping students to meet their goal. In addition to a large classroom library of grade appropriate books, students will soon have regular access to the school library and time during the school day to “Drop Everything and Read”. In addition, I strongly encourage every child to spend at least 15 minutes every night reading-preferably even more. This can be accomplished in several ways including independent reading, partner reading with a sibling, and reading to a parent or other adult in the house.

Students will be responsible for filling out a “bone” every time they complete a book as part of our “Get your paws on a good book” motivation board. This will develop important self-monitoring skills and allow me to monitor their reading as well. Students can choose to write a summary, their opinion or a short character study after they have finished. An adult who can attest to their reading will be asked to sign the bone when they have completed it. If they are reading a book in class, they can ask a teacher to sign it for them. If they are reading a book at home, I ask you to encourage your child’s reading by signing their bone when they ask. Once the bone has been submitted, a sticker will be given to document their progress towards our 25 book goal and their bone will be displayed on our motivation board. Prizes will be awarded periodically by our 25 Book Committee as students work towards this goal.

There are many exciting ways to reach our personal fourth grade goal that every child reads 25 books this school year. Updates on your child's progress will be sent home periodically in the report card. Please encourage your child's reading and help us to meet our goal.

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Pierce

Suggestions to encourage your child's reading

- 1) Let them see you reading. Even if it is something as simple as the newspaper or a recipe, students learn through watching adults. This lets them know how important reading is to everyday life.
- 2) Ask them to tell you about something they are reading. This lets them know that you care about what interests them and you get the opportunity to spend quality time with your child.
- 3) Provide them with a quiet, comfortable environment in which to read. This also lets them know how important it is to read and keeps their motivation up.
- 4) Praise, praise, praise. Tell your child you are proud of them and their reading!