



Books and Buttons Reading Club and SSYRA Jr. for K-2



Please Read - Exciting News –Two Reading Programs

August 18, 2017

Dear Parents of a Kindergartner, First, and Second Grader:

Each year, one of my goals is to encourage children to enjoy reading while establishing a reading routine. As their parent, you have a wonderful opportunity to be your child's reading mentor. The importance of reading to children cannot be overemphasized; it improves brain growth, language and vocabulary development, and academic achievement. It also provides them with better listening skills that will translate into an attentive learner at school. By reading aloud and with your child a minimum of 15 to 20 minutes daily, they will foster a reading habit that is sure to last a lifetime! Read to your child and talk about the books making sure they comprehend the story and information. Take turns; you read a page than allow them to read a page. Remember, the only way to become a better reader is to **practice reading**. Include a variety of books/genres that include picture books, literature, biographies, poetry, informational text and nonfiction.

The Books and Buttons Reading Club is a monthly motivational reading program designed for students in K-2 and will run from September through April. Each month, a new log can be found on our OCES Media Center School website and on the school's newsletter. The first log will be available at the end of August.

On the monthly logs, record the number of minutes you and your child spend together reading. At the end of the month, tally the total minutes. Allow them to assist you in the calculation of the minutes, not only providing a great math lesson but also giving them ownership of their reading. Please read together **at least 180 minutes (3 hours)**, record on each month's reading log, and return the hard copy to the classroom teacher no later than the **first Friday of the following month. ONLY ONE FORM PER MONTH PER CHILD**. If your child reads beyond 180 minutes congratulate them and yourselves on a job well done.

The purpose of this reading program is for you and your child to create a reading routine. It is also intended for them to read with you and not in isolation allowing you to be their reading mentor. While reading together, stop occasionally and quiz your child on their comprehension and vocabulary acquisition.

As a reward for reading 180 minutes (3 hours), the child will receive a specially created button which will be placed on their lanyard and displayed in the classroom. Also, each month, there will be a Bonus Button given for reading a specific themed book (see bottom of each monthly log for theme). Simply add the title to the bottom of the reading log and sign log.

Children who turn in 6 out of 8 monthly logs and read at least 3 hours each month will be invited to **The Book and Button Reading Club Ice Cream Awards Ceremony** tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2018. At that time, they will enjoy a cool treat and receive their lanyard filled with the buttons earned over the course

of the school year and special commemorative button. Everyone else will receive their lanyard in the classroom.

The return of the reading logs is **TIME SENSITIVE** and must be returned no later than the first Friday of the following month. Due to the bookkeeping and the delivery of the buttons, late forms cannot be accepted. **Please be mindful of these dates. Reading Logs without first and last names cannot be accepted.**

The SSYRA Jr. Reading Club - Is a separate reading incentive program and can be used as enhancement or suggested reading for the Books and Buttons Program (See list of titles below). These books are selected by the Florida Association of Media in Education. Students will be rewarded for reading these books and taking an AR test in class (please note a few do not have a test, however children can talk to their teacher about the book). Students who read 3 books will be allowed to vote for their favorite SSYRA Jr. Book during the "Election". The deadline for reading these books to be eligible to vote in the Election is Thursday, March 15, 2018. Students will be required to earn a 70% or higher on the AR test for it to count toward a prize. Prizes are awarded for reading 5, 10, and all 15 books.

Enjoy your time with your child as you create a joy of reading. Thank you, Mrs. R. Gamboa, MLIS - Teacher Librarian

SSYRA JR. Titles – 2017-2018

Douglas, You Need Glasses by Ged Adamson AR Level 1.5

Thunder Boy Jr. by Sherman Alexie Illustrated by Yuyi Morales AR Level 2.5

Ada Twist, Scientist by Andrea Beaty Illustrated by David Roberts AR Level 3.4

Woodpecker Wants a Waffle by Steve Breen AR Level 2.4

There's a Bear on My Chair by Ross Collins (No AR Test)

The Rooster Who Would not be Quiet by Carmen Deedy Illustrated by Eugene Yelchin AR Level 3.1

Storybook Knight by Helen Docherty Illustrated by Thomas Docherty AR Level 3.2

We Forgot Brock by Carter Goodrich AR Level 2.6

Let Me Finish by Minh Le Illustrated by Ilabel Roxas (No AR Test)

Ferocious Fluffity by Erica Perl Illustrated by Henry Cole AR Level 2.1

The Bad Guys by Aaron Blabey AR Level 2.4

Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea by Ben Clanton AR Level 2.4

March of the Mini Beasts by Ada Hopper Illustrated by Sam Ricks AR Level 3.6

My Pet Human by Yasmin Surovec AR Level 3.4

My Life in Pictures by Deborah Zeke AR Level 3.3