



100 Book Challenge

Dear Parents,

Developing the habit of reading books and becoming a lifetime reader are some of our top priorities at school. Research shows that reading every day improves students' overall reading and writing skills. As educators it's our goal here at CPS for your child to be enthusiastic about reading and eager to read numerous books throughout the school year.

To encourage and instill this philosophy, CPS has developed a program to reward children for outstanding efforts in reading. This program is called the "The 100 Book Challenge." The purpose of this program is to make reading fun and to promote the habit of reading or being read to, on a daily basis.

We know that reading 100 books can sound like an overwhelming challenge to many students, so we plan to celebrate their accomplishments along the way. Once students reach the benchmarks of 25, 50, 75, and 100 books, as well as every 25 after that, they will receive an incentive to encourage them to keep on going. After each benchmark increment, please sign and cut off the relevant slip from the attached form and return it to Mrs. Ferro so your child can receive a reward to recognize his or her achievement. Students may submit the increment slips up until **June 2, 2017**. Students in Pre-K through fourth grade who fulfill the guidelines listed on the back of this letter will be recognized at an awards ceremony in June.

Beyond having your child read, spend a few moments every day discussing the text. Pick out a few challenging words to talk about. Doing so will give you insight into how well your child comprehends what he or she is reading. Also, occasionally, listen to your child read aloud. To some extent, you will be able to gauge whether your child is selecting books that he or she can read fluently. When students read fluently, they read smoothly, without hesitation, and with expression. Generally, fluent readers find it easier to make sense of the text being read. Comprehension is, of course, the whole purpose of reading.

In addition to the individual student goal of reading 100 books, we are setting a school goal for all students in Pre-K through fourth grade to read 19,000 books before June 2nd! Throughout the year, we will track the progress of our group goal. Help us achieve this goal by encouraging your child to read everyday. Every book counts!

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Ferro
Mrs. Grimm

Guidelines for the 100 Book Challenge

1. The students must be keeping a log of the books read in their homeroom.
2. Parents of children who are non-readers or readers at lower grade levels may read to their children and include this on the reading log.
3. Students can log books read during their own time at school but not teacher read alouds or assigned books.
4. Smaller books count as a whole book. For children reading longer books, every 50 pages count as one book for 4th graders, every 40 for 3rd graders.
5. Only books read between September 2016 and May 2017 will be counted toward the 100 Book Challenge.