



ORANGE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Mr. Ronald Lee
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Orange Township Public Schools has kicked off the Reading Rewards Program! Our Preschool classes are joining the entire student body in this program! The purpose of the Reading Rewards Program is to cultivate a love of reading, encourage students to read for pleasure and nurture lifelong learners. Continuous reading improves overall literary achievement.

We know that when students read less, they read less well, resulting in lower levels of academic achievement. Proficient readers with strong comprehension skills accrue personal, professional, and social advantages, while less proficient readers run higher risks of failure in all three of these areas.

In addition to our daily story sharing activities in school, all Preschool classrooms will read 45 books as part of the program. Each class will find a creative way to reflect upon, and keep track of each book read. However, reading at school is only part of the story! We are strongly urging families to take part in the Reading Rewards Program as well! Commit to read with your child every day for 20 minutes. Preschool children enjoy talking about the illustrations in the book or telling the adult reader the story while looking at the pictures. These are important pre-reading skills and certainly count toward the challenge.

Please read fiction books and non-fiction (factual) books with your child. For example, you can read "The Three Little Pigs" and a book about real farm animals. We would like half of the books you read with your child to be non-fiction.

You and your child may read books from home, the classroom lending library, a book store, a library... anywhere you would like. Books may be in the language of your choice. Remember, it is important to keep our home languages alive! Your child's teacher will provide simple activities for you to complete, with your child, after each book is read. Please allow your child to share all completed activities with his/her teachers and classmates.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Blanton, Early Childhood Department Supervisor