



September 2017

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s) of _____,

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go!” This famous quote by the well-known Dr. Seuss will be a motto of our classroom this year, as well as a goal for the students. To accomplish this goal, each month your child will be responsible for turning in a reading log in the form of a reading calendar, and every two months your child will be responsible for completing an assigned book project, which pertains to the genre for that month.

For homework, I ask that your child is reading for at least 20 minutes each night (including weekends). Your child is asked to record the days they have read on the month’s reading calendar and have a grown-up initial each day. They will only earn points for days that are initialed, and those points then translate into rewards. As a parent myself, I understand that nights can be hectic, however, reading contributes so much to a child’s learning, so please try to find time to squeeze in a little reading; it can be in the car on the way to practice, in the waiting room of the doctor’s office, reading to a younger sibling, a few pages before bedtime, etc. In addition, your child was made aware that if we have a silent reading block during the school day, I am more than willing to initial their calendar, all they have to do is ask!

As mentioned, along with the monthly calendars, your child is responsible for reporting on the book they are reading. Every two months your child will complete an assigned book project. Directions for the project will be given at the start of the two-month cycle. The project should be completed by following the attached guidelines and rubric. Attached is a list of the monthly genres, project, and due dates. As I shared with the children, they should use the book projects as an opportunity to express themselves and their knowledge of the book they read. The projects should be completed in a presentable manner, but as fun and creative as possible! Also, if your child has a new, unique book project idea, please share it with me, and if acceptable, they will be allowed to create their own project, (which may even be added to the list)!

Please understand that the directions for the book projects will vary, some are more involved than others. Therefore, I encourage your child to plan accordingly so they can finish their book and hand in the project on time! There will be time throughout each month when your child will be given time to work on their projects. In addition, at any given time if your child finishes their assigned class work early, or we have a quiet independent work block, they are encouraged to work on their book project. ***Please understand, your child will be given a sufficient amount of time to work on their project in school, however, as the due date approaches, whatever is not completed in school will be their responsibility to finish at home.***

OK, so to recap...

Your child is required to read at least ONE book per month of the designated genre, which will be the book they report on, *however*, they are also required to turn in a reading calendar each month. Therefore, if they finish reading the “genre” book, they are encouraged to continue their monthly reading with a book of their choice.

Please note: The designated “genre” book can be selected from the Cohen Elementary library, Mrs. Rosno’s classroom library, a public library, a home collection, etc. However, regardless of where the book was selected from, it **MUST** be approved by Mrs. Rosno.

If you have read through everything and do not have any questions, I ask that you please sign and return the attached confirmation page. Your signature will confirm that you have read the letter and understand the procedure for the monthly reading calendars and book projects. However, if you do have questions, please email me at nrosno@gstboces.org.

Thank you.

Mrs. Rosno

Monthly Genres and Report Due Dates

All reports are due on the first Friday of every month

Month	Genre	Project	Project Due Date
September – October	Mystery	Book Cube	November 3 rd
November – December	Biography	Dress-Up Presentation	January 5 th
January – February	Fantasy	Travel Brochure	March 2 nd
March – April	Fable / Folk Tale	Comic Strip	May 4 th
May – June	Student Choice	No Project	No Project

**Your child was given a packet of reading calendars for the year, as well as the directions for the first book project. The calendars should kept in their blue home folder.*

This is a general rubric used to grade each book project, however, there may also be an individualized rubric assigned with each project to help guide your child through what is expected.

Book Project Rubric	Completed (10pts)	Partially Completed (5 pts)	Incomplete (0pts)
Project was handed in on time.			
Project was completed based on the correct genre.			
Project demonstrates an adequate understanding of the book.			
Project correctly followed all directions.			
Project was completed in a presentable manner.			

Please sign and return by Friday, September 15, 2017

Monthly Reading Confirmation Page

I, _____, parent of _____, understand that they are responsible for reading at least 20 minutes each night Monday – Sunday, and is responsible for asking me to sign their reading calendar after each day they complete 20 minutes of reading. I also understand that my child will complete a bi-monthly book report on the specific genre book they have read, which will follow all guidelines and be turned in on the designated due date.

_____ (parent signature) _____ (date)

After you have reviewed this information with your child, I ask that they please sign and date as well.

_____ (student signature) _____ (date)