Falconer School

Achieving the extraordinary together

Headteacher: Carmel Fox

Thursday 9th January 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to inform you about a new reading initiative that will be implemented in our school to support and encourage the development of reading skills among our students. At Falconer, we believe that reading is a fundamental skill that opens the door to learning, creativity, and lifelong success. As part of our commitment to fostering a love of reading, we are introducing a new structured reading program called **Literacy Gold** which is designed to engage students at all levels.

This program consists of various reading and spelling activities which are tailored to meet the needs of each student. Some of the activities include working on their understanding and application of spelling patterns, grammar, syllables, phonics and overall reading fluency and comprehension. Our goal is to create an environment where students not only improve their reading abilities but also develop a deeper appreciation for the joy and value of reading.

While we will be providing strong support in school, we believe that practicing reading at home is equally important. We encourage you to set aside regular time for reading with your child. Here are a few ways you can help support your child's reading development at home:

1. **Establish a Routine**: Set aside time each day for your child to read aloud, whether independently or with you. Even 15 minutes a day can make a significant difference.
2. **Create a Reading-Friendly Environment**: Provide a quiet and comfortable space for reading and keep a variety of age-appropriate books available for your child to explore.
3. **Discuss What They Read**: After your child finishes the reading activity, engage them in a conversation about the task. Asking questions will help with their understanding of the text (plot, characters, and themes).
4. **Be Supportive**: Celebrate their progress, no matter how small, and offer praise for their efforts. Encourage them to try new genres and books that pique their interest.

We understand that every student progresses at their own pace, and with your partnership, we can ensure that every child is given the tools and encouragement to become a confident and enthusiastic reader. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or would like further recommendations on how to support your child's reading at home.

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Thank you for your continued support and dedication to your child's education. Together, we can make reading an enjoyable and rewarding experience!

Kind Regards

Bernadette Murphy

SENDCO
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