

St. James

Grade 1/2

November newsflash

Dear Parents,

First, I'd like to thank you for your cooperation in working together for the welfare of your child. Home and school working together is so beneficial for your precious little ones, and together we should be able to achieve our goals for learning.

Books sent home are to be read by your child while you listen and provide support as needed. First ask your child to take a "picture walk" through the book and think about what is probably happening in the story. Then have your child go back and begin reading aloud to you. If your child has difficulty with a word, have him/her look at the picture for clues. If that sound doesn't help, have your child try to "sound out" the word. If your child still can't read the word, have him/her skip the word, keep reading and then go back and try to fill in the word using context clues (what is happening in the story). Ask your child if that word makes sense, if it sounds right and if it looks right. If he/she still can't get the word, then you may have to tell them the word. See if your child remembers the word if it is in the story again. Go back and point out the word after the story is finished and say it is the special word you are going to remember for the day. When the story is finished, you should ask your child to retell the story. See if he/she can remember what happened in the story. These are all of the things we will be doing at school in our reading program. If we continue to do the same things in the classroom and at home, we will be giving your child a consistent message about how we read. These little books should not take very long to read. Try to make the experience positive and enjoyable and always praise your child on a job well done!

Please remember to **READ TO** your child. Research says that **READING TO** children is the best way to help our children become good readers. Choose a good library book with a good story or a good non-fiction book on a topic in which your child is interested. If you are reading a good novel to your older children, your young child can listen and enjoy the book. Always spend some time after reading discussing what has happened in the story and asking what might happen next.

Also, please record **only** the books your child has read in their Mario reading log.

Once again, thanks so much for giving your child the wonderful gift of your **time**.

Mrs. Hugill

