

Parents & Guardians,

Accelerated Reader is a reading program used here at Northwest where students take quizzes on the computer about the books that they are reading. AR is available to students in grades 2nd - 5th. 1st grade students usually begin using AR in the second semester, but some students start within the first semester, and Kindergarten students start on an individual basis.

After students have read their library book they log in to Renaissance Place and answer 3, 5, 10 or 20 questions about the book they just read. They then earn points based upon how many questions they got right. Each student, with the help of their teacher, sets a 9 week AR goal. The students have the whole 9 weeks to meet that goal with at least an 85% testing average. Each 9 weeks students will set a new goal for themselves. If a student meets their AR goal, at the end of the 9 weeks they will receive a dog tag and chain. At the end of the year AR medals will be given to students based on the following expectations.

Meeting AR goal 2 out of the 4 Nine weeks = Bronze Medal

Meeting AR goal 3 out of the 4 Nine weeks = Silver Medal

Meeting AR goal 4 out of the 4 Nine weeks = Gold Medal

Parents can use Renaissance Home Connect as a way of monitoring and encouraging your child's reading practice. You may be wondering how does Renaissance Home Connect help me improve my child's reading progress?

- You can view your child's progress toward reading goals and reader certification, and view all books that your child has read and quizzes your child has taken.
- You can view all words a child has learned through Vocabulary Practice Quizzes. In addition, words the child missed are clearly marked so you can help your child learn those words.
- You can access an online search tool, AR BookFinder, to search for books using various criteria, including author, subject, or reading level.
- You can receive emails that reveal results for Reading Practice Quizzes and Vocabulary Practice Quizzes and provide links to the website where you can check progress.

Teachers will be sending home a Renaissance Home Connect Letter by the end of this week. The letter will have a website for you to access and then a username and password to get everything set up! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or our librarian, Ms. Sharla Wilkinson, at (512)594-4421 or by email at [sharla.wilkinson@pfisd.net](mailto:sharla.wilkinson@pfisd.net).

Thanks,