St. Alphonsus School

Middle School Accelerated Reader Requirements

2023 - 2024

Students in grades 2nd – 8th must participate in the Accelerated Reader (AR) program. St. Alphonsus School has access to all quizzes in the Accelerated Reader database. Books are available from the school library, the student's classroom library, the public library, or from their home library. The goal of the AR program is to foster a love of reading while progressing reading and comprehension skills. Below are the guidelines that all students must abide by for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

- Each nine weeks students will take a STAR Reading test. The test is taken at school and usually takes 15 – 20 minutes to complete. The test will give the student a Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) or book level.
- Students will pick a book based on their ZPD with guidance from their reading teacher and/or the librarian. The library has a color-coded labeling system that can help the students pick a book based on their reading level (ZPD). It is imperative that your child stays **within** his/her reading level while reaching their nine weeks goal. The program is designed to help them excel by reading within their level.
- Middle School students are expected to keep a reading log of the book(s) they are currently reading. **Students may not take a test on a book that has not been approved by Mrs. Bradfield or Mrs. Amy Nicosia. If a student does take a test on a book that was not approved the test will be rescored as a zero.**
    - Summer Reading books are counted as a **separate** grade and will not count towards student's first nine weeks goal.
    - Middle School students must have their score verified by Mrs. Amy Nicosia, Mrs. Bradfield, Mrs. Tammy, or another middle school teacher **before** exiting the program. If a student does not have his or her score verified the test may not be counted at the discretion of the above teachers or administration.
    - Middle School students will be able to take **ONE** article quiz per nine weeks. Any other article tests will not be counted and will be deleted from the student's record. **Extra points accrued during a nine weeks period do not roll over to the next nine week period.**
- Students will not be allowed to take an AR test on books that have inappropriate content or go against our Catholic morals. If you are unsure about the content in a book that your student would like to read www.commonsensemedia.org and www.goodreads.com are great resources to research book choices.
    - Tests taken on books with content deemed inappropriate will be rescored as a zero and blocked from the SAS AR database.
    - A permission slip with a content warning will be sent home on books rated as "upper grade" according to the Accelerated Reader website.
- At the end of each nine weeks students that meet or exceed their goal will be given incentives
    - Students that meet their point goal will receive a certificate
    - Students that double their point goal will receive a free dress coupon
    - Students that triple their point goal will receive a free dress coupon and candy of their choice
    - Top student in homeroom will receive a gift pack curated by the librarian
    - Students that exceed Mrs. Amy's AR points for the nine weeks will receive an additional prize

- If you have any questions about the Accelerated Reader program or the guidelines please contact your student's Reading teacher or Mrs. Amy Nicosia at anicosia2@stalphonsusbr.org

Each nine weeks students are expected to meet a point goal. Goals are as follows:

- 6th Grade
    - First Semester: 10 points
    - Second Semester: 12 points
- 7th Grade
    - First Semester: 12 points
    - Second Semester: 14 points
- 8th Grade
    - First Semester: 14 points
    - Second Semester: 15 points

Please sign and return stating that you have read and understand these guidelines:

Student's Name:_____

Homeroom: _____

Student's Name:_____

Homeroom: _____

Student's Name:_____

Homeroom: _____

Student's Name:_____

Homeroom: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

_____