

READING DEPARTMENT
INDEPENDENT READING FOLDERS GRADES 3-5

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Improving the reading achievement of children has recently become a major focus both nationally and locally. We at Westtown-Thornbury will do everything possible to provide high quality literacy instruction to each and every child. To reach their personal best, however, students must read extensively to practice the skills and strategies taught in class. We need your help in this area.

Beginning in September, every third, fourth and fifth grader at Westtown-Thornbury is required to read for 15 to 20 minutes each night. Each day the student will bring home an independent reading folder in which you will find their book, a reading log, and a reading response journal. We are asking that you, the parent or guardian, monitor your child's reading each night. Be sure that they are, in fact, reading and that they are thinking about their reading. Please talk to them about their book to check for understanding. You may want them to read aloud to you.

On Thursday night students will complete the reading log; they will write down the author's last name, the book's title, and the pages read (for example, pages 15 to 75). Parents or guardians will then initial the reading log to verify that the child did in fact read that week. Teachers will check the independent reading folders on Friday.

Please help the students develop responsibility by reminding them to bring their independent reading folder back to school each day. (Students will be reading both at school and at home.) Working together, we can ensure that students will reach their personal best. We at Westtown-Thornbury look forward to working with you this year.

Sincerely,
The Staff at Westtown-Thornbury