

To the parents of \_\_\_\_\_ October 9, 2007

It is time to begin our response journal entries. I worked with the students in class to write their first entry. They have a laminated card to work from as well as an outline showing how to write their response journal entry that is glued into the cover of their journal. This entry will be based on the 150 minutes of independent reading done at home each week. At this rate, they will read two books each month and write two entries. Response Journals will be due every other week. This will let me evaluate the students' understanding of the book, and their personal responses to it. It should take them about 2 sittings to complete a quality entry. Doing this the night before it is due is not suggested. Please help your child to complete this assignment on time. It will count as part of their reading grade. I will give them a reading certificate when 3 +'s are received and they will be recognized by their classmates as having achieved this goal. Any student who reads 3 books and completes an additional monthly entry from October through May will be entered into the Movie Club.

Any words the student spells incorrectly will be included in their list of words to learn this year. Please do not help them spell words when they first write the entry. Any words spelled incorrectly will become part of their independent spelling list. When they get the response journal returned, any words with a red dot next to them are spelled incorrectly and have to be fixed before they write the next entry. Students can use a dictionary, Spell Checker, or a How To Spell it Book to correct their spelling errors. You may also assist them at this time. By working in this way, I hope to increase their spelling awareness and make them more conscious of how words look and sound. The children signed up for which day of the week their journal is due. The schedule is listed on the next page.

Thank you for your assistance in helping your child complete this on time every week. I would like you to sign the next sheet and return that part to me, so I know that you saw it. The schedule starts this week. I have made a schedule through March for now.

Thank you for your cooperation

Mrs. Patricia McGlynn  
mcglynnp@region10oct.org

Monday	10/9 & 10/22 11/5 & 11/19 12/3 & 12/17 1/7 & 1/22 2/4 & 2/25 3/10 & 3/24	Austin, Anthony, Claire, Nathan  Martin Luther King holiday 1/21
Tuesday	10/9 & 10/23 11/6 & 11/20 12/4 & 12/18 1/8 & 1/22 2/5 & 2/26 3/11 & 3/25	Rithya, Justin G., Jack, Alexa
Wednesday	10/10 & 10/24 11/7 & 11/21 12/5 & 12/19 1/9 & 1/23 2/6 & 2/27 3/12 & 3/26	Stephen, Alexander, Tyler, Thomas
Thursday	10/11 & 10/25 11/8 & 11/21 12/6 & 12/20 1/10 & 1/24 2/7 & 2/28 3/13 & 3/27	Timothy, Alessandra, James, Sol One day early because of Thanksgiving
Friday	10/12 & 10/26 11/9 & 11/21 12/7 & 12/21 1/11 & 1/25 2/8 & 2/29 3/14 & 3/28	Devon, Miranda, Justin T, Erika, Richard Two days early because of Thanksgiving

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Please sign and return this bottom part by Friday, October 12, so I know you have seen this response journal schedule.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_