

UNMASK YOUR SUPERPOWER...READ FOR AR!!

This Friday, Oct. 6, the PTO had their annual fall Accelerated Reading program kickoff with the theme of "Unmask Your Superpower...Read for AR! This program (sometimes simply referred to as AR) is a reading incentive program designed to encourage your child to read for comprehension. For the kick-off, Lacie Hill and Keela Nickel, came to visit each class in 1st-5th grades with a Superhero skit and poster and also share with them some of their favorite books that the students may want to Unmask their Superpower and Read for AR. Bookmarks and Superhero Suckers were sent home with the reminder "Unmask Your Superpower... Read For AR!"

To encourage children to read books for this reading program there are several special incentives, with the main incentive coming in the form of being able to go "shopping" at the school AR store. The AR store which is held three times a year is a highlight for many students. The store consists of a mini shopping mall for kids, sponsored by PTO, with various items available for purchase. Items range from toy cars to books, from pizza to basketballs. Children can "go shopping" with their points for prizes depending upon the number of points they have earned. Prices start at 1 point and range up to 50 points an item.

Here's how the "shopping dollars" for the AR store can be earned--students check out and read an AR book from the school library (AR books are also available at the Goessel Public library as well). These books are identified with a yellow dot on the book spine. (Some books without a yellow dot may be an AR book as well). A complete listing of AR book titles and tests is available on the school website. The student then goes to the school library and takes a computerized test that tests their understanding of the book. The tests are scored and points are earned based on the level of reading and the amount of correct answers that were achieved. These scores become point values which are then redeemed for shopping at the AR Store.

This year's Fall AR store will be in November (Date to be announced). An additional incentive award will be awarded on that day as well to the top boy and girl readers who earn the most points during the fall semester (not cumulative or saved points from previous years). These two students will receive a Superpower surprise. It's a surprise and it will be revealed for that superhero at the store! **For the fall semester, 1st-5th grades will participate in the AR program and in the spring, the Kindergarten class will join in participation.**

A Parent-Home Connection is available with our AR program. You can go to the school website and check to see your child's AR progress or allow them to take an AR test at home. Here's how to:

- Log onto the USD 411 website (usd411.org) and click on the elementary page.
- On the right hand side of the screen, click on "Web AR Reader".
- Click on "Student". Students will know how to log on. Student user ID's are the child's first initial and the first 4 letters of their last name. Some students also have numbers after this due to duplicate letters. The student password is the first letter of their first and last name. Just make sure your student's name is in the top right hand corner of the screen.
- To take a quiz, click on "Take a Quiz" and then "Reading Practice Quiz"
- After that, type in the name of the book, click on the correct book, and you should be able to take the quiz.
- If you get a message that you are not allowed to retake a quiz, then that student has already completed the quiz at an earlier time.
- If you click on "View Quizzes Taken", you will be able to see every quiz that your child has completed during the school year or over his/her career at GES.
- If you look at the student points, the totals may not be accurate as the student program does not include points that carry over from year to year.

We would like to encourage you to take an active interest in your child's reading at home. Support them, motivate them, and help them "Unmask their Superpower... Read For AR!"

Happy Reading!

Keela Nickel and Lacie Hill
PTO Accelerated Reader Reps