Birmingham Primary School No. 5048

Grade Five Diaries and Home Reading Expectations

Dear Parents, 1st February, 2018

Recently, your child received their 2018 school diary which will be an important component of their homework expectations for this year. The diary is an excellent way for students to keep track of school events, homework tasks, and their own social events. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in helping your child to use their diaries by encouraging them to enter important dates at home, such as sporting events, family functions, and other such engagements.

One of the most important uses for your child's diary this year will be to keep track of their home reading. It is expected that your child will complete **no less than 5 sessions of reading per week in at least 20 minute blocks**. The grade five teachers feel very strongly about the benefits of regular home reading and will be checking to ensure your child completes their reading each week. **It is expected that your child will take their diary home every afternoon and bring it to school every morning.**

We encourage students to read all types of reading materials including newspapers, magazines, comics, non-fictions texts, online texts (such as Reading Eggs), and picture-story books, however, we would request that the five sessions each week consist mostly of novels. The main reason for this is to prepare them not only for grade six, but also high school, as students will be required to read regularly at home in preparation for novel studies in class.

Below is an example of how we would like your child's reading progress to be entered into their diary. (**Please note – there is a space provided on each day of the week to record home reading**):

Book Title: **Finders Keepers** **7:00 – 7:20 p. 13-25**	Parent Signature Here

In order for us to be certain your child is reading regularly, we would appreciate you helping us to monitor their progress by signing their entries after each reading session. **It is the responsibility of your child to bring you their diary with the details filled out, and a pen for you to sign it** – we would like the majority of the responsibility to be on them to make it simple for you and make them more independent in preparation for grade six and secondary school.

We would appreciate it if you could discuss these expectations with your child and return the tear-off slip below to your child's classroom teacher. If you have questions or comments about home reading expectations or the student diary, please talk to your child's classroom teacher, as we always welcome your feedback. Thank you for your support.

Trish Enzinger, Principal
Zoe Peterson, Grade Five Coordinator
Israel Carroll, Gerard Lowrie, Stephanie Krueger, Grade Five Teachers

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I have read and discussed the above information with my child and understand that I may contact my child's teacher with any concerns I have in regards to diary usage or home reading expectations. My child's name is _____ in grade _____.

Parent Signature: _____