



Foundation Academy
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Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s):

As we move further into the second semester of the school year and a new unit of study in 7th grade English Language Arts (ELA), your child will be required to do an increased amount of reading independently at home, and he/she will need your support to develop the stamina and independence to read this complex text.

All students have had the opportunity to check out a copy of *Lyddie* by Katherine Patterson from our school library. This text is about a young girl who works in the Lowell textile mills. As we read and study this text, your child will be learning more about the topic of working conditions, both throughout history and modern-day. He/she will have to think about how people, settings, and events interact within the book, and then learn how to write an argument essay about Lyddie's choices.

This unit reinforces some of the most important skills that your child will need not only for success this year, but throughout high school and college as well.

Please find enclosed a calendar to assist with ensuring that your child is reading the appropriate sections of the text each evening. He/she should also take and keep notes of the readings. We will be monitoring students' reading progress each day at school as we check student understanding of what they read the night before and discuss the book in class.

Below are some additional suggestions of ways that you can help your child experience success:

- Keep the enclosed calendar in a place that is visible and reference it nightly
- Help your child formulate a plan for completing the reading
- Assist your child with finding an appropriate space to read
- Ensure that your child is taking the time to read
- Allow your child to read aloud to you or take turns reading aloud with him/her
- Ask your child to tell you about what he/she read
- Assist your child with keeping his/her notes of the readings organized
- Offer praise and encouragement for reading

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. We thank you for your support!

Jennifer M. Rees
Program Administrator
and the 7th Grade ELA Team