

Letter to parents regarding reading course

Dear parents

Information about the reading course, which will take place March 16th to April 24th for the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades at skúlin við Løkin, called *The Focused Reading Course (Miðvísa lesisekeiðið)*.

Goal

This reading course aims to nurture reading skills, develop stable and fast reading, and increase students' vocabulary. Several studies have pointed out that when students reach the intermediate stage (grades 4-7), they stop reading spontaneously. In this course, students will be reading a wide variety of books. In doing so, we aim to inspire them to read more. We hope that you will support this effort.

Course structure

The reading course will take place over the next 5 weeks. We will be working on automatic word recognition, increasing reading speed, expanding vocabulary, and doing reading exercises. When children read independently, books must not be too difficult to read. A guiding rule is that in the intermediate stage, students should be able to read around 120 words per minute and read 98 out of 100 words correctly in simple, age-appropriate texts.

Each week, we have a primary goal, which you must help your child practice at home. The students will receive a folder, which they use for this purpose, and by the end of each week, the students evaluate their primary goal. We will be evaluating the students' steadiness in the classroom, and you must do so at home.

Parents' task

Your task is:

- to support your child in reading for at least 20 minutes every single day
- to listen while your child reads a few pages out loud to you*
- to have a conversation with your child about the book
- to confirm your child's reading in the reading log and help your child to focus on the weekly goal.

All necessary charts are included in the folder for the reading course.

** Research evidence has made it clear, that we remember words and texts better when we read them out loud.*

This is because when we read out loud, we use both our eyes and ears while we are saying the words.

We hope that you will support this effort and that you will complete the assigned homework, so this reading course can make a difference and improve your child's reading development, reading joy, and reading habits.

On behalf of Skúlin við Løkin

Pálin Olsen, reading consultant