

St. John Campus
Grades PreK-2
800 Fifth Street
Defiance, OH 43512
419-782-2136
fax: 419-784-5410

Defiance Catholic School

Strength for the Future
<http://www.defiancecatholicschool.org>

St. Mary Campus
Grades 3-6
702 Washington Ave.
Defiance, OH 43512
419-782-2751
fax: 419-782-8835

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As part of our academic excellence at Defiance Catholic School, your child will be taking part in Renaissance Place's Accelerated Reader this school year. Accelerated Reader has been a part of Defiance Catholic School for many years. For the past two years we have been using Accelerated Reader Enterprise. Enterprise allows our students to have access to over 110,000 AR Quizzes, as well as Read Aloud Quizzes, Literacy Quizzes and Vocabulary Quizzes.

Used as a reading tool, AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child chooses a book at his own level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.)

Your child will begin by taking a STAR Reading test. Every child will have a goal of receiving 85% correct on the Reading Practice Quizzes – this is the *most important* goal to focus on. Your child and his/her teacher will discuss the results of the STAR test and determine, together, other goals to be achieved such as points and reading level.

Using AR BookFinder, students will be able to easily search for books to read within their interest and grade/book level. If we do not have the book your child wants to read at school, we encourage you to visit the Defiance Public Library. A link to AR BookFinder is available on the school's website. (A reminder – you must have a library card to access the computers at the Public Library.)

All teachers will set aside a minimum of 20 minutes of reading time every day in the classroom. Each student will be given a log to document their reading practice and teachers will review this log on a regular basis and discuss your child's reading progress at that time. If reading is done at home, parents will be responsible for signing the log confirming the amount of reading time. If a child is read to or reads with someone, this time should also be logged. Students will be required to discuss the book with their teacher before taking the quiz. Students will also be required to take a quiz within 24 hours of finishing a book. All quizzes will be taken at school.

Home Connect is a feature from Renaissance Place and is an excellent way to track your child's progress in AR/AM. A link to the Home Connect site is available on the school's website. We encourage you to check this site regularly and to sign up to receive the result email each time your child takes an AR Quiz. The Home Connect letter also includes a web address for accessing A Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader. This guide provides answers to many questions about AR.