Dear Parents and Caregivers

During Semester 1 all of the children at GSPS have been working extremely hard to improve their reading skills and learn about reading. The children have enjoyed reading books by various authors, books that are familiar to them, stories that are new and digital and interactive books. Providing opportunities for children to read, discuss the strategies they used to help them read a text and talk about what they are learning will ultimately help our children comprehend and think more deeply about reading.

Kindergarten

During Semester 1 the children in Kindergarten have been learning about Fairy tales. We have focused on oral language, authentic conversations and reading comprehension. The children have really enjoyed watching, listening and discussing different Fairy tales.

Year 1

Year 1 have also been learning about Fairy tales this Semester. The children have been taking responsibility for their own learning by engaging regularly in conversation about different Fairy tales, creating meaning while reading and reflecting on their understanding of a text.

Year 2

The children in Year 2 have been carrying out various activities to support them with learning about reading. The children have completed a 'Partner Read and Think' activity which engages partners in applying six distinct steps to each segment of text that is read. The combination of steps helps students engage at several levels of comprehension and encourages language use. The Year 2 children have also learned how to complete the 'I Remember!' strategy using informational texts. This strategy allows children to unpack the content much more easily, pause to think about what they have learned and then interact with the next passage.
Years 3 and 4

Years 3 and 4 have been using the Super Six Metacognitive Comprehension strategies this year. The children have completed an activity called ‘Weave a Web of Understanding’ which reflects on a factual text. The children read a text, think about what they have read and then prepare to share with the class. The first student holds a ball of wool and shares one thing they remember about the text. The first student hangs on to the string and the wool is passed across the circle and not around. This allows the learners to identify the most important ideas and restate them in their own words.

Years 5 and 6

During Semester 1 the children in Years 5 and 6 have carried out Readers’ Theatre. This unit makes reading come alive for students; it helps build oral fluency and strengthens reading. It also promotes teamwork and develops confidence in students. The children in Years 5 and 6 practiced and rehearsed their play scripts and then performed to the children in 3/4N and 3/4G. The children really enjoyed performing to other classes and receiving constructive feedback.

There has been lots of wonderful reading taking place at GSPS since the beginning of Term 1, keep it up! Remember to keep reading with your children at home 😊

Miss McAleer