

# OXHEAD ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Centereach, NY 11720  
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Phyllis L. Saltz, Principal

Middle Country Central School District  
8-43<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Centereach NY 11720

Dr. Roberta A. Gerold, Superintendent  
Francine McMahon, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction  
Dr. Beth Rella, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
James G. Donovan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Reading is a fundamental building block for academic achievement. Effective reading skills play a critical role in the comprehension of both literature and content area material. Strong readers are more likely to experience success across all areas of the curriculum.

Research tells us that the more a child reads, the more skilled he or she will become at decoding and comprehending challenging texts. Research also tells us that reducing the amount of time a child spends watching television and/or playing video games, and increasing the amount of time the child spends reading, has long-term academic benefits. Additionally, reading aloud to children, no matter what their age, increases their comprehension, language skills, and imagination, and helps cultivate a life-long love of reading.

**Please refer to the chart below to see what the end-of-year expectation is for your child's daily, at-home reading.**

GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
25 minutes	30 minutes	35 minutes	40 minutes	45 minutes

You can support your child's reading growth by providing a quiet place and time to read each night, by giving your child access to enjoyable reading material, and by modeling reading yourself. Instilling a love of reading in our young learners is one of the most important steps we can take to support their academic success.

If you have any questions about what you can do to support your child's progress in reading, please be sure to communicate with your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

***Phyllis L. Saltz***

Phyllis L. Saltz

Principal

Oxhead Road Elementary School