

Dear John Ross Families,

We are working hard to recognize students for their good choices and academic achievements! Merriam-Webster defines the word *recognition* as *special notice or attention*. We want to make sure that we provide students with explicit instructions of what the desired behavior or academic achievement is and then we want to give *special notice or attention* to that child when he/she accomplishes it. We found that some of the student recognitions we had utilized in the past did not have a specific criteria attached to it; therefore, students didn't know what they needed to do to achieve it. We believe this very specific criteria makes the recognition more meaningful to students.

We have designed student recognition key chain tags (much like a gym membership or Homeland card). Each student in grades K-5 received a SOAR tag and a key ring for displaying it on their backpack. Students in grades 1 – 5 will be able to earn additional tags for achieving academic goals in both reading and math. Additionally, every teacher selects two students each month who exhibit the traits of the month's character word. The following academic goals have been set for students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Reading Goal</u>	<u>Math Goal</u>	<u>Content Goal</u>
First Grade	Sight word mastery	Club 36 – Addition	100 Books Read
Second Grade	90 words per minute	Club 36 – Subtraction	Paragraph Writing
Third Grade	120 words per minute	Club 36 – Mixed skills	Oklahoma Symbols
Fourth Grade	130 words per minute	Club 36 - Multiplication	States & Capitols
Fifth Grade	136 words per minute	Club 36 – Mixed skills	Writing Mastery

You will be receiving more information from your child's teacher about the specific skills involved for each grade level. Club 36 will begin after Fall Break for grades 3, 4 & 5. Grades 1 & 2 will begin during the second semester. The goal is to correctly complete the grade level skills within one minute. We look forward to recognizing many students for their outstanding accomplishments this year! Thank you for sharing your child with us.

Respectfully,  
Ruthie Riggs