



EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

*Foundations for Life*

## **Introduction to Accelerated Reader** **Grades 1-4**

Episcopal Day School students will continue to participate in the Accelerated Reader (AR) program this school year. Accelerated Reader is a computer software program that is used to promote independent reading in schools. This program is individualized to allow students to read books at their own pace and level of reading ability. The Accelerated Reader program will be used as a supplemental reading program for enrichment in kindergarten through fourth grades. All students are required to participate. Written below is the Episcopal Day School Accelerated Reader Mission Statement.

**Accelerated Reader provides EDS students with the means to improve, increase, and encourage their reading opportunities. This non-competitive, incentive-based reading program is used to further enrich and promote independent reading in kindergarten through fifth grade. Each academic division within the school determines the proper use of Accelerated Reader for its appropriate age level.**

In computer classes during the first month of the school year, the STAR test will be administered to students in grades two through five. This is a computer-adaptive reading test that determines the appropriate reading range for the Accelerated Reader Program. First grade students will be given the STAR test later in the school year and will begin the Accelerated Reader program after Christmas.

Our goal is to have every student choose and read books that are appropriate for his/her ability. You will find a list of suggested reading on the EDS website under the PARENTS tab. As books are read, students will take a multiple choice comprehension test on the computer. When the test is completed, the computer scores the test. Points are awarded based on the following: the length of the book, the reading level of the book, and the number of questions answered correctly.

Each grade level has set specific guidelines for their students. Classroom teachers will introduce these guidelines for Accelerated Reader to you at Parent Orientations at the beginning of the school year.