

SUMMER READING

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Summer Reading! Research shows that summer setbacks in reading skills occur when students fail to read over the three month summer vacation. Students can begin school in the fall three months BEHIND where they were when they left school in June, if they do not read.

In contrast, students who complete a summer reading program can gain skills and start the next school year ahead of where they were when summer began. The evidence suggests that reading 4 or 5 books largely eliminates summer setbacks. There exists a powerful relationship between the volume of reading and achievement in reading. Children whose reading development lags behind their peers engage in far less reading than their higher achieving peers.

Research also shows that student choice in reading results in greater motivation enhancing academic engagement and reading achievement. This summer the **4th graders** are required to read a **minimum of 500 pages** and the **fifth graders a minimum of 600 pages**. In many cases, this amounts to 2-3 intermediate novels for the summer.

Attached are two book observations and a reading log which are due the first week of school. Students complete the book observations after they have read two books of their choice, one fiction and one nonfiction. In addition, please list the titles of the books/authors/number of pages read on the attached log.

Some students may want to read the entire series of books written by an author while others may choose to read various books by various authors. Helping students find the right books to satisfy their curiosity and literacy needs can result in reading opportunities that foster life-long reading interest. Together we can help all levels of readers become proficient in skills and become engaged readers.

Have a happy, safe, and well read summer! Looking forward to seeing you in the fall! Happy Reading!

Best,
Mrs. Holly Oszakiewski,
Reading Specialist

Book Observation Fiction

Title of Book/number of pages

Author

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Complete the following :

Setting

List the main characters and a short description.

What is the conflict (s)/ problem that the character (s) face?

4. How is the conflict resolved ?

5. Short essay. Identify one of the problems in the story. Explain how the character works to solve it. Use quotes from the book to support your answer.

Book Observation Nonfiction

Title of Book/number of pages

Author

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New words I learned and their definitions (3 minimum)

Write a short paragraph about what you already knew about this topic.

Write a short paragraph about what you learned.

My Summer Reading Book Log

List title/author/number of pages