

From the Desk of Mrs. Murphy

Incoming Fifth Grade Summer Reading Assignment:

The Importance of Summer Reading: The latest research shows that students in this age group need to read six to seven books during the summer in order to maintain their reading skills and reading level. Students who read less are most likely to move backwards one or more reading levels during the summer. Research also shows that it often takes three months (until November of the next school year) for students to get back to where they were in June. Please note that the summer assessment will only be based upon **one** book of the students choosing.

Where can I get my summer reading book?

- Barnes & Noble
- Amazon

Ways to Support Summer Reading:

- ✓ Reading should feel like a fun part of your day. Let your child relax on the couch or outside with an ice pop while reading!
- ✓ Let your child choose the books that interest him or her. You might look at online book reviews together before deciding.
- ✓ Parents, consider reading the book, too. You could read it before, after, or at the same time as your child. The important thing is to talk to your children about what they read. Ask questions such as: What are your favorite scenes? Which character are you most like and why? Would you like to live during this time period and why?
- ✓ Celebrate when you finish by watching the movie, earning a treat, and checking out other books by the author.

Student Directions for the Summer Reading Assignment:

- ❖ Select **1** book of your choosing which is both age/grade level appropriate and is a **chapter book**; graphic novels are **not** acceptable! A list of possible genres have been provided below.
- ❖ As you read, use your Reader's Notebook (the one you've been keeping in 4th grade) to use the skills you have previously learned and practiced (look through your notebook if you need reminders), to help you with your chosen assignment. **Be prepared to turn in your summer assignment upon our return in September. Please do not send anything via Google Drive/Google Classroom/Email over the Summer!**

Possible Genres:

- Fiction
- Realistic Fiction
- Science Fiction
- Fantasy Fiction
- Historical Fiction
- Fantasy
- Humor
- Mystery
- Adventure

Assignment:

Letter to My Teacher

For this task, students will compose a letter to their teacher describing the book they have read over the summer. This letter should include the following components:

✓ Introduction to the book: Title and author

✓ Summary: A brief description describing the characters, plot and resolution (conclusion)

✓ Personal Opinion: A paragraph detailing personal thoughts about the book

 o Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not? This is not a simple “Yes” or “No” response!

 o Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not? This is not a simple “Yes” or “No” response!

✓ Personal Opinion: A paragraph explaining how you will continue to model the lessons you have learned throughout the story in your everyday life