

Dear Children:

We wish for you many adventures this summer. We hope some of your adventures happen while reading. Perhaps your reading will take you on a trip to another country. Perhaps your reading will introduce you to new friends. Wherever the reading takes you, we want you to read a lot this summer! This could mean that you are reading 30 minutes every day or even longer on some days to make up for days when you don't read at all. We hope you read about a book per week or a book every 2 weeks if it is a longer chapter book. What is important is that you read books that are "just right" for you on a regular basis. A "just right" book is one that is not too easy or too hard. (Too easy means that when you read your brain is barely active as you flip through the pages, effortlessly devouring line after line, hardly having to think at all; Too hard means that you can't read or understand many words on a page. Not knowing one or two words on a page is okay.)

Reading regularly will help reading get easier and make reading more fun, so start now! When you come back to school in September you should have read 5-10 "just right" books. Please remember to read starting now so that you are not cramming books in at the end of August. Doing that will not be fun and will not give you the regular practice over the next 2 months.

We have created a summer reading booklist filled with titles of books you might want to read! Be sure to look it over, and take it with you to the library or the bookstore. As you are looking for books look them over carefully to judge if they will be fun and interesting to you, while also being a "just right" fit.

We have also enclosed a response booklet for you to use as you read. You learned this year how important it is to be active in your mind while you read, and you learned some of the strategies that good readers use to do this. The pages in this booklet will give you ways to practice being an active reader. Use them to share with us some responses to your books. **For each book that you read, choose one page in your booklet for your response.** (It is okay for you to dictate your responses to an adult.)

We hope you have a wonderful, fun summer filled with adventures in real life as well as adventures in books! Happy Reading!

See you in September.

Scott, Deb, Becky, Melani, Dawn, Katri, and Patrice