

**2016 Summer Reading Requirements
For Students Entering Grade 5**



JOHN J. AHERN

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Foxborough, MA

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Summer is here and many students are looking forward to a break from schoolwork, but summer is not a time to take a break from reading! **Research tells us that when students don't read for two months their skills regress.** Research done at Harvard University by James Kim has shown that even reading 4 or 5 books over the summer helps to prevent the summer slide. Reading is a skill which requires practice, just like baseball or playing an instrument. Summer reading helps students of all ages keep their skills sharp so they are ready when school begins again in the fall.

All students are expected to read a minimum of **AT LEAST TWO BOOKS** over the summer, **ONE OF WHICH IS A REQUIRED TITLE FROM THE GRADE LEVEL LIST ON PAGE 4.** The required read is tied to the theme of overcoming obstacles. This minimum requirement of two books will count as a homework grade. In addition, during the first full week of school, all ELA classes will have a graded assignment based on the required summer reading book.

However, we are encouraging all students to read **beyond the minimum requirement and double their efforts by reading four books or more.** Any student who doubles his or her effort will have their name entered into a raffle to win \$50 in free books during the first Scholastic Book Fair of the year which will be held in November. One student from each grade level will be selected to win.

Wherever your summer days take you, bring along a good book, and read, read, read!



Requirements

1. **Students entering grade 5 in September are required to read at least one book from the grade 5 list on page 4.**
2. After reading **one of the titles from the grade 5 list,** students are to complete the required response page in their reading log.
3. Next, **students need to select at least one other book to read during the summer.** We have included a list of suggested authors as a guide, but feel free to select authors and titles that may not appear on the list.
4. For each book read, students record the title and author, as well as a brief response.

Their response can take any **one** of the following forms:

- ❖ Write a brief summary of the book.
 - ❖ Write a book recommendation/critique, describing why someone may or may not be interested in reading that book.
 - ❖ Share your thoughts, a reaction, or a connection you made to a character or event in the story, or to the information you may have learned.
 - ❖ Draw or sketch a favorite or interesting part of the book.
5. Parents will need to sign on the line provided in the reading log for each book your child completes.
 6. During the first week of school in the September, students will hand their reading logs in to their homeroom teachers.
 7. Students who read a minimum of two books will receive credit for the first homework assignment. Students who read four or more books will be entered into a drawing to win \$50 in free books at the first Scholastic Book Fair to be held in November.

Required Reading Title List for Entering Grade 5 Students

[Select a minimum of ONE title]

Theme of "Overcoming Obstacles"

Baseball's Best: Five True Stories by Andrew Gutelle

"I Survived..." Series by Lauren Tarshis

"Who Was..." / "What Was..." / "I Am..." Series by various authors

Edwards Eyes by Patricia MacLachlan

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byers

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool

The Best School Year Ever by Barbara Robinson

Long Way From Chicago by Richard Peck

Bud Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Because of Mr. Terupt and Mr. Terupt Falls Again by Rob Buyea

One for the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Sisters by Raina Telgemeier

Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper

If you are looking for additional titles, here is a list of popular authors for fifth grade readers.

Avi	Gordon Korman
Judy Blume	Lemony Snicket
Scott O'Dell	J .K. Rowling
Gary Paulsen	J. R. R. Tolkien
Jerry Spinelli	Mike Lupica
Kathryn Lasky	Sharon Creech
Laura Ingalls Wilder	Rick Riordan
Eve Bunting	Linda Sue Park

Title: _____

Author: _____

Parent Signature: _____

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