

June 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that your summer vacation is a relaxing, rewarding, and peaceful rest for you and your families.

This year's summer reading list is varied in subject and for reading level. I want your child to enjoy his or her reading without the pressure of worrying about producing a written report. I am giving the students several options for completing their reports.

- Your child may make a brown bag book report by choosing 5 important elements or items from their book that they would like to talk about.
- Your child may illustrate an important and climactic scene or scenes from the book and be prepared to talk about it.
- Your child may choose to write a report that is no longer than 3 paragraphs summarizing the book and what they found most interesting in the story. It may be word processed or written legibly.
- If they are ready to try something new, they could re-enact a climactic scene or two from their book using models or puppets to represent their characters.
- Finally, give an oral 5minute persuasive review defending why they either recommend or don't recommend the book.

With each project, your child should expect to be talking in front of the class for at least 5 minutes and that they may also need to verbally answer a question or two.

The suggested books are listed on the back. If you have any questions regarding a particular book, please send me an email in the beginning of the summer, so that your child will have time to complete the project.

Sincerely,

Glenn Petrucci

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A Whole New Ballgame by Phil Bildner 2015 256 pages. From the first morning with their odd new teacher, fifth grade is full of shocking surprises for best friends, Rip and Red.

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin 2014 226 pages Rose Howard is obsessed with homonyms. She's thrilled that her own name is a homonym, and she purposely gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms. Not everyone understands Rose's obsessions, her rules, and the other things that make her different-not her teachers, not other kids, and not her single father.

Catching a Storyfish by Janice N. Harrigan 2016 224 pages Keet knows the only good thing about moving away from her Alabama home is that she'll live near her beloved grandfather. When Keet starts school, it's even worse than she expected, as the kids tease her about her Southern accent.

The Secrets of Blueberries, Brothers, Moose & Me by Sara Nickerson 2016 336 pages To make some extra money, twelve year-old Missy and her brother Patrick get summer jobs picking blueberries at a local farm. For Missy though, it's about more than just money-it's the distraction from the fact that her dad is getting remarried.

Older selections from which to choose:

Frindle by Andrew Clements 105 pages

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry 137 pages

Matilda by Roald Dahl 240 pages

11 Birthdays by Wendy Mass 272 pages

The Magician's Elephant by Kate DiCamillo 201 pages

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg by Rodman Philbrick 224 pages



Brown Bag Book Report

You will be completing a brown paper lunch bag book report as an assessment for your story. On the **OUTSIDE** of the bag you must consider each of the following: **setting, plot, main character, and the theme.**

There are four panels on a brown paper lunch bag. You will be expected to dedicate one panel of your brown paper bag to each of these four elements.

1. For the setting, you must include the time and place (if there is more than one time/place include those too). As well, you must create a small illustration to add to this panel that illustrates one of the main settings in the novel.
2. You must summarize the plot in a few sentences-keep it short and sweet.
3. Tell about the main character on the third panel. Tell how this character changed throughout the story. What happened to him/her to cause this change etc? You can include the obvious information (family background, physical traits etc.) List the other major/minor characters in the story by name on this panel.
4. The final panel must be about the theme of the book. What is the theme(s) and what are your feelings about the message in this novel?

The information for each panel must be neatly written/typed on a small piece of paper and glued/taped to the panel of the bag. Drawings/visuals are welcome, but optional. **On one panel be sure to include the title of the novel, author and your name clearly on the outside of the brown bag.**

You must include 5 items in your bag that have some significance to the story. Be imaginative... Think outside of the box. You can use toys, modeling clay, or anything else that may represent something important from the story. Include a one sentence descriptor or each item about its significance in the story.

You will be expected to share your brown bag book report with the class (inside and out) and will be marked on: inclusion of the setting, plot, major character(s), theme and conventions (outside of the bag), your ~~ten~~ items inside the bag and your overall speaking/listening skills during the presentation.

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Have fun and do your best!