



MIDDLE SCHOOL

June 2019

Dear Fifth Graders and Fifth Grade Parents,

Hello! It is amazing how quickly we slip into summer mode. Sleep in late, stay up late, play from sun up to sun down, swim to your heart's content, go to camp, go on vacation, catch lightning bugs (Or, do you call them fireflies?), and so much more.

I look forward to meeting all of you in the closing weeks of summer. Until that time, I would like the "newly-minted" fifth graders to enrich their summer vacation with reading and writing.

I ask that the students pick **two books to read** and share with their classmates and English teacher upon our return to school. The students should pick **one** of the books **from the list** below. The **other** book should be one of each **child's choosing**.

Reading regularly during the summer months is a healthy habit. I recommend frequent trips to your local library where you will find suggested reading lists that may be of use to you and your child. Also, many of the local bookstores have summer reading programs with incentives beyond the joy of reading. I hope the kids surpass the two required books they are to read for school. I include in their reading choices magazines and newspapers, as well as, books.

As for a summer writing assignment, I would like the children to write of their summer experience at home, in the neighborhood, at the pool, on vacation, at camp, or wherever their paths lead them. This assignment may take the shape of a scrapbook, a journal, a collection of six or more postcards filled with writing, a memory box with writing on six or more index cards, or other creative forms. **Make sure there is writing on every page/postcard/notecard.** I am interested in the students sharing this piece of written work in the first weeks of school. They may focus on several events or the whole summer. I want to give them some freedom, in terms of the format, so they can be creative and have fun with this **writing project!**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at my e-mail address listed below. May each child and parent have a happy, relaxing summer! It will be a privilege meeting all of you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Molly Murray Petre -- petrem@countryday.net

Choose one of the selected books below. You can find them at local libraries, bookstores, and through Amazon.com.

Wild Robot - Peter Brown

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane - Kate DiCamillo

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library - Chris Grabenstein

Redwall - Brian Jacques

The Phantom Tollbooth - Norman Juster

Regarding the Fountain: A Tale, in Letters, of Liars and Leaks - Kate Klise

A Wrinkle in Time - Madeleine L' Engle

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon - Grace Lin

Travel Team - Mike Lupica

The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl - Stacy McAnulty

Pegasus - The Flame of Olympus - Kate O' Hearn

A Year Down Yonder - Richard Peck

