



LONG ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE GIFTED

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Dear Families,

June 2022

Kate DiCamillo, renowned author states, "*Reading should not be presented to children as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift.*" I agree! This year, our summer reading program for grades K-6 will not focus on projects and reports. The literacy department met and everyone agrees that this summer the children should read, read, read.

Independent Reading! We hope that independent reading includes at least six books.

Read Aloud! We also hope that you find time to read aloud to your child(ren) since reading aloud is one of the most important things parents can do with their children. When children listen to their parents reading a book that may be too high for them to read themselves, they build vocabulary, learn fluency, build listening skills and it is simply a marvelous way to spend time together! So, grab a chapter book and start reading!

There is one "whole grade" book that we want the children to read. This way, in September we can celebrate the grade book, together by hosting book clubs. What can your child do to prepare for a book club? Use Post It Notes and tag pages to share. The following are some ways I use Post It Notes on all the books I read:

- lovely vocabulary
- beautiful description
- amazing character
- text to text connection
- text to life connection
- text to world connection

The following books are required for each grade, and after that, it is the children's choice!

Kindergarten: Please submerge the kids in the *Pete the Cat* series! Kindergarten will start with an author study on this series.

First Grade: Read *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo.

Second Grade: Read *Frindle* by Andrew Clements.

Third Grade: Read *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White.

Fourth Grade: Read *The Big Wave* by Pearl S. Buck.

Fifth Grade: Read *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by Elaine Konigsburg.

Sixth Grade: Read *Julie of the Wolves* by Jean George.

Need suggestions for additional books to read?

Association for Library Service to Children:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists/2021-summer-reading-list>

Scholastic:

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/best-new-book-sets-kids.html>

Happy Reading!

Pat Geyer
Head of School