June 2017

Dear Incoming Third Grade Parents,

The up-and-coming summer vacation is not only the perfect time for your children to play, visit new places and spend extra time with family and friends, it is also the perfect time to maintain reading momentum and develop new skills. We recommend that incoming third grade students read independently for at least 20 minutes each day. The practice children get by continuing to read on a daily basis is essential to their literacy development.

Rising third graders are required to read at least two books of their choice. We then ask that they write a summary of one of those books to share with their teacher when they return to school in the fall. More information on this requirement and a summary organizer will be posted on the Primary School Library's website, which can be accessed through the link below.

Mrs. D’Urso, Primary School Librarian, has posted a list of recommended books for incoming third grade students on the Primary School Library's website. The suggested summer reading list includes books from a variety of reading levels to support the diverse needs of our students. You can access the summer reading list via the following link:

http://tinyurl.com/mkasummerreading

We believe that books are not only meant to be read but "experienced". With this in mind, we have created additional resources to help your children engage with books. On the summer reading website, you will find:

- a "Reading Enrichment: Reflection" packet that challenges students to reflect on their reading through a variety of activities.
- a "Reading Enrichment: Summer of STEAM" guide that links picture books to activities related to science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM).
- a link to MKA's Tumblebook Library e-book collection, which includes animated talking picture books in English, French and Spanish, as well as nonfiction books and educational games (http://tinyurl.com/mkaebooks).

If you are looking for additional book suggestions, Mrs. D’Urso has started a book review website at http://librarymom.com for more book recommendations throughout the year.

Lastly, we wanted to remind you that the special memories children form throughout the summer months can inspire purposeful writing that helps build skills. Your child might enjoy writing letters, lists, postcards, diaries and stories based on his/her summer adventures.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Donna Carrara Rosemary D’Urso
Primary School Curriculum Coordinator Primary School Librarian