June 2017

Dear Incoming Kindergarten 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 encourage you to continue reading aloud to your child on a regular basis during the summer as well as the school year. Reading with children year-round is a great opportunity to help them practice early literacy skills through predicting what might happen in a story based on its cover, title or pictures; recalling events in the story; and using the story as a springboard to create their own stories.

We suggest that you and your children read from a variety of genres including picture books, poetry, fairy tales, early chapter books ("easy readers") and non-fiction books. Mrs. D’Urso, Primary School Librarian, has posted a list of recommended books for incoming Kindergarten 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 suggested summer reading list via the following link:

http://tinyurl.com/mkasummerreading

If you are looking for additional book suggestions, Mrs. D’Urso has started a book review website you can visit at the following link for more book recommendations throughout the year:

http://librarymom.com

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: 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).

We hope that you have a great summer and enjoy many special moments reading together!

Sincerely,

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