



Dear Parents,

Reading is one of the most important skills there is. Indeed, it is the foundation of almost all future learning for your child at Hilldale School and beyond. Families who encourage daily reading and writing will have more successful children. Your support at home is essential!

Reading experts note that most young readers suffer a back slide in reading skills during the summer down time. But that need not be the case! Families can make reading a priority during the summer months. You can help your child succeed by the positive attitude you take toward reading to your child and hearing him/her read to you, by the expressive voice intonation you use, by questioning about what you and your child have read and about what your child can see in a book's pictures, and by the encouragement you express to your child as they try out their reading in a variety of venues. Please help to make reading a priority during the coming summer months!

Every Hilldale student is encouraged to read as much as possible during the summer vacation. A list of recommended titles follows, and each student is *required* to independently read *at least three books* from this list. One of them is a required book for all, so that we can start the year off right by discussing the story during the opening days of school. You may supplement the selections with other books that you and your child may find and enjoy.

In addition to reading the required reading book: Amelia Bedelia: Calling Doctor, a student entering first grade should keep a record of the two additional books (chosen from the list below) by writing the title and author of each book, drawing a picture to illustrate a favorite part, and writing at least three sentences telling about the story. These are to be handed in to the teacher on the first day of school. Therefore, students have to read three books (one of which has to be Amelia Bedelia: Calling Doctor) and write two book reports on any two other books listed below. Enjoy a great summer of reading!

#### Summer Reading List Incoming First Grade

Required for all:

Amelia Bedelia: Calling Doctor

Herman Parish

Choices:

Amelia Bedelia Series

Herman Parish

Henry and Mudge series

Cynthia Rylant

Berenstain Bears series

Stan Berenstain, et al

Arthur series

Marc Brown

Froggy series

Jonathan London

Little Bear series

Else Minarik

Bear series

Karma Wilson and Jane Chapman

Mouse Tales

Arnold Lobel

Gus Was a Friendly Ghost

Jane Thayer

If You Give a Pig a Pancake

Laura Numeroff

Olivia series

Ian Falconer

Caps for Sale

Esphyr Slobodkina

A Bad Case of Stripes

David Shannon

The Cat in the Hat

Dr. Seuss

Diary of a Spider

Doreen Cronin

Diary of a Fly

Doreen Cronin

Diary of a Worm

Doreen Cronin

Goldie and the Three Bears

Diane Stanley

Let's Read and Find Out science series