



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: Flat Stanley, a student entering second grade should keep a neat, well-written record of the two additional books by writing a short book report using the attached sheets. These two reports 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 Flat Stanley) and write two book reports on any two other books listed below. The students will begin a project on Flat Stanley on the first day of school, so it is imperative that he/she reads this book to avoid starting the year behind the ball. Enjoy a great summer of reading!

Summer Reading List Incoming Second Grade

Required for all:

Flat Stanley

Jeff Brown

Choices:

Nate, the Great series

Henry and Mudge series

Magic Treehouse series

American Girl series

The Pieces of Home

Cam Jansen - Mystery of the Dinosaur Bones

Space Cat

Glenda

The Sword in the Tree or Shoeshine Girl

Molly's Pilgrim

Hill of Fire

Ben and Me

Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express

The Drinking Gourd

The Hundred Penny Box

Stuart Little

Let's Read and Find Out science series

Marjorie Sharmat

Audrey Wood

Mary Pope Osborne

Miska Miles

David Alder

Ruthven Todd

Janice May Udry

Clyde Bulla

Barbara Cohen

Thomas Lewis

Robert Lawson

Eleanor Coerr

F.N. Monjo

Sharon Bell Mathis

E.B. White