

Summer Reading 2019  
Fifth Grade English Language Arts

Dear Fifth Grade Students and Parents:

All incoming fifth graders have been given and are required to read a selected grade-level book over the summer: either *Holes* by Louis Sachar or *Lupita Mañana* by Patricia Beatty. Your child signed theirs out and it is due back on the first day of school, September 5. Students are *encouraged* to follow the complexities of the characters, stop and jot, and mark passages that deal with character growth as they read novel. Your child is *required* to complete **one** “Write It”, “Present It”, or “Create It” activity to showcase their comprehension of the novel (Choice board is attached) and hand in on September 5. Literature circles will be conducted during the first week of school to explore the plot and analyze the themes of the stories.

Both *Holes* and *Lupita Mañana* are stories of determination. The main characters, Lupita and Stanley have the ability to recognize a problem and pursue a solution. These are skills that we ask of our students to practice every day as they mature into middle school learners. As teachers, we feel that these books directly connect to the first unit of study on Human Rights as these stories deal with how people respond to challenges.

As a reminder, reading just 4-5 books during the summer may potentially prevent a child from experiencing a reading lapse and help perform at higher levels next school year. In addition, a great way to keep up with writing skills is to journal about summer adventures. Have your child create entries in which they stop and reflect on a fun-filled day, or perhaps a day where they learned something. This is optional but if completed and shared, it would help promote a positive classroom culture starting from the beginning of the year whilst boosting up your child’s writing skills.

We hope you all have a relaxing and safe summer and we look forward to getting started with your children in the fall.

Sincerely,  
The Fifth Grade Teachers