

TO: Parents of Students Entering Fourth Grade in August, 2012

Dear Parent:

We want to welcome your child to the 4th grade. Everyone loves summer, which is full of good times and fun memories, but at the same time, we don't want students to experience learning losses when they don't read over the summer. In order to maintain and improve reading skills over the break, we are requiring that your child read at least 2 chapter books.

We are asking that each student select any chapter book written by the award winning author, Andrew Clements. The second book can be any type genre or by any author. It should be a chapter book that falls in your child's ZPD level.

After each book is completed, have your child select one of the following activities as a follow-up. (They can also take the AR test as soon as we start back to school.) The completion of this assignment will become part of the first nine-weeks evaluation.

- 1) Write a letter to the author of the book. Tell who was your favorite character(s) and why. Next, tell the author what was your favorite part or least favorite part of the book and why. Last, tell the author your honest opinion of the book and whether you would recommend this book to a friend. You can mount it on a piece of construction paper.
- 2) Write a one-page summary of the book. (Including character names, setting, and main problem situation of the story. Draw an illustration on a separate piece of paper if there is no room left at the bottom. Mount your final work on a piece of construction paper.

We hope you'll encourage your child to read as much as possible. Use a sheet of paper, and make a reading record. Your child can bring it to school the first week of school.

We are looking forward to seeing you in August.

Sincerely,
4th grade Teachers