



2020 SUMMER READING LETTER TO PARENTS

May 25, 2020.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

For the fourth consecutive year, the Summer Reading Committee at The Mount Washington School (MWS) has worked to promote summer learning by providing access to interesting texts and rewarding students for reading. This year, there has been a concerted effort to provide texts digitally, so that more students can access the readings. Although we have provided a list of texts, students are also encouraged to read more than the titles suggested by the school. While students who are in grades K-3 will be rewarded for just keeping the Beanstack reading log, students who will be in **grades 4-8 during the 2020-21 school year are also required to complete two summer reading organizers** in order to be recognized. The organizers for grades 4-8 may be counted as a grade in the fall, so please urge your student to complete the forms during the summer and submit them to their reading instructor on the first day of school.

Accessing the Readings

Although families are welcome to purchase the books, here is how students can access many of the readings for free:

- **YouTube:** Many ebooks have been provided, especially for younger students, on YouTube, so that parents do not have to purchase the books.
- **Maryland Digital eLibrary Consortium:** This site allows students to use their library cards to check out audiobooks and ebooks for free. Books that are available online are noted on the summer reading lists. These books can be accessed on the [Enoch Pratt website](#) and here: <https://maryland.overdrive.com/maryland-enchoprattfree/content>
- **Enoch Pratt Free Library:** The library has expanded its services to include sidewalk pick-up and books by mail to promote contactless delivery. They also provide tutoring for students in need.

Rewards for Reading

In order to provide students with tangible rewards for reading, we are promoting the following initiatives:

- **The Enoch Pratt Free Library** will provide students with prizes throughout the summer if students use their digital (or paper) reading log called, [Beanstack](#). This summer reading challenge runs from June 17 - August 12, 2020 and includes non-reading activities as well.
 - Elementary students (2020-21 SY) earn prizes for every 12 days of activity (up to 48 days). The first set of prizes includes a t-shirt and a book.
 - Students ages 0-5 participate in the 'Read to Me' program and children ages 6-12, complete the school-aged version of the reading/activity log.
 - Students in grades 6-8 (2020-21 SY) can complete the teen version of the reading/activity log (even if they are not a teenager) and are entered into a drawing for prizes for every 10 days of activity. Drawings will happen June 30th, July 16th, and August 13th, so students should log activities as they complete them.
 - Prizes are available while supplies last and must be picked up before September.
- **Barnes and Noble** will provide a free book to students in grades 1-6 (during the 2020-21 SY) who read at least eight books during the summer and write down their favorite part using the Barnes and Noble summer reading journal. The [reading journal](#) will be available on their website in July and can be redeemed for a free book in August, while supplies last.
- **Pizza Hut** is sponsoring a reading initiative called, [Camp BOOK IT!](#), which allows students to set reading goals for each month of the summer. For each month that students meet their reading goals, they are awarded a personal, one-topping pizza. This program is for students in grades K-6.

- **The Mount Washington School** will provide recognition to students in grades K-3 who read any number of books over the summer. We just ask that they log their reading. There will also be recognition and a cash prize raffle for students in grades 4-8 who read at least two books and complete at least two summer reading graphic organizers. In order to be eligible for the raffle, the summer reading organizers must be turned in on the first day of school.

Other Literacy Initiatives

- **People & Parks Foundation** runs a virtual camp called, SuperKids, which is open to any Baltimore City student entering grades 1-5 in fall of 2020. The camp will help students work on literacy skills while learning about nature. They also have a 100 Book Challenge and often provide books for free. SuperKids Camp 2020 will last for six weeks and will run from Monday, June 29, 2020 until Friday, August 7, 2020 for about two hours a day. Up to 500 students will be allowed to participate. Parents can register their student(s) here:
<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=parkspeople&id=1>
- **Loyola University** has partnered with the Institute of Reading Development to provide a 5-week reading instruction program for students of all levels. The students meet in an online class setting and complete lessons as a group and independently. All class materials are provided by the company. Services are provided for children and adults, with the starting age being four years old. Middle school students also receive instruction in study skills and note-taking.
 - **Link:** <https://www.loyola.edu/school-education/community/summer-reading-program>
 - Phone: (800) 451-1263 Cost: \$249.00 + \$39(books)
 - Registration dates vary by grade. Registration available in June and classes begin in June and July.
- **City Schools** provides free summer programs for students in math and English. Two are listed below, but there are others as well. Remember: MWS is not a Title I school, and our school number is 221. Interested parents should register their student(s) as soon as possible.
 - **Link:** <https://www.baltimorecityschools.org/summerlearning>
 - **Shining Stars K-8 Math/ELA Summer Program:** For K-8 students from July 13, 2020 to August 13, 2020. Programming will run Monday-Thursday every week from 9:00am-12:30pm.
 - **ESOL:** Este programa es para estudiantes de escuela intermedio inscritos en servicios de ESOL.
 - Fechas del programa: 29 de Junio al 31 de Julio
 - Instrucción en vivo en línea: Los estudiantes van a participar en dos sesiones de instrucción en línea en vivo cada día de 9 a 9:45 am y 10 - 10:45 am.

Thank you for your continued support of this program. My goal is to help children of all ages cultivate and maintain a love of reading.

Respectfully,

Crystalyn Thomas-Davis
Chair, Summer Reading Committee
English Language and Literature Instructor
The Mount Washington School