

Dear Fifth Graders,

June 2017

Every incoming fifth grader is required to read **both** of the following books:

**The Pinballs** by Betsy Byars (to be reviewed in Reading Class)

**The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg** by Rodman Philbrick (to be reviewed in Social Studies Class)

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In addition, we **recommend that you read one, two, or all of the following books** this summer.



**The Fighting Ground** by Avi - Thirteen-year old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers that the real war he is fighting is with himself. (Historical Fiction)

**Earthquake Terror** by Peg Kehret - While camping with his family, Jonathan Palmer gets trapped by an earthquake and has to save himself and his paralyzed sister. (Realistic Fiction/Adventure)

**Dear Mr. Henshaw** by Beverly Cleary - In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parent's divorce and being the new kid in school. (Realistic Fiction)

**Lost and Found** by Andrew Clements – Twelve-year old identical twins Jay and Ray have long resented that everyone treats them as one person and so they hatch a plan to take advantage of a clerical error at their new school and pretend they are one. (Realistic Fiction) (**or any Andrew Clements book**)

**Disappearing Acts** by Betsy Byars - Herculeah Jones stumbles onto the trail of her friend Meat's long-lost father while she and Meat are investigating the disappearance of a dead body from the men's room of a comedy club. (Mystery)

**The City of Ember** by Jeanne DuPrau - In the future, twelve-year old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city. When she finds fragments of an ancient parchment, she realizes that time is running out for the City of Ember. (Fantasy) (Kids Favorite!)

**Walk Two Moons** by Sharon Creech - After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left. (Newbery Medal Winner)

**City of Orphans** by Avi - In 1839 New York, thirteen-year-old Maks, a newsboy, teams up with Willa, a homeless girl, to clear his older sister Emma from charges that she stole from the brand new Waldorf Hotel, where she works. (A great book!)

**Mission Unstoppable: Genius Files** by Dan Gutman - On a cross-country vacation with their parents, twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to be thirteen, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their being part of a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files.

**The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle** by Don L. Wuffson - Brief factual stories about how various familiar things were invented, many by accident, from animal crackers to the zipper. (Non-fiction)

**The Kid Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth** by Kathleen Krull - This picture-book biography explains how Farnsworth held on to his dream to develop television and the scientific concepts behind it. (Non-fiction)

All books are available through Amazon and Barnes and Noble, as well as local libraries.