

Reading Never Takes a Vacation

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The temperatures have finally dropped, snowflakes have been spotted and it appears that winter will not be eluding us after all! What better way to stay warm than to turn your thoughts to summer? I know, you're already picturing yourself on a sandy beach, soaking up the warm sunshine, with a great book in your hands, aren't you? You DO have a book in your hands, don't you?

Throughout the school year, teachers include 15-20 minutes of reading as a daily part of each student's assigned homework. First graders bring home familiar books from reading groups to reread at home. Older students use the time to read independently. Many parents also read aloud to their children (a great way to share wonderful stories that are beyond their reading level). Our students are working hard and making wonderful progress! We celebrate their many successes. **To prevent set-backs, we need to keep our children reading all year long.**

The benefits of reading are many! Reading helps students in the areas of comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, writing, grammar, and yes, even math! Students use their reading skills all day long. **We simply cannot afford to take a break from reading. It's just too important!**

It's not too early to think about your family's summer reading goal. Perhaps you can plan weekly visits to our new library or encourage your child to set up a book club or book exchange with a few friends. Imagine the great discussions you could have if you read some of the books your child reads. **Your summer reader will return to school in the fall ready for another successful year.** So, keep dreaming about those warm, summer days, and when you pull out that big beach bag in June, remember to pack some books! Happy Reading!