



Dear Parent,

Did you know that when kids don't read over the summer they are likely to fall behind when they head back to school? These learning losses are often called the "Summer Slide," and our school has made it a priority to keep our students' skills sharp by encouraging them to read all summer long.

Our class has signed up to participate in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, a free online reading program that invites children to log their reading minutes to help set a new world record for summer reading. The goal this year for schools around the world is to break last year's reading world record of 304,749,681 minutes! With your help, we can do it.

I'm excited to share that the theme of this year's program is Power Up & Read; as kids log their reading minutes, they will unlock stories written by bestselling authors. Plus, throughout the summer, kids will earn digital rewards and learn about great new books to read. You'll also find free articles, activity sheets, and book lists for parents on the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website.

The fun begins on May 4, 2015, and ends on September 4, 2015! The school that logs the most minutes will win a visit from a bestselling children's book author and will be featured in The 2016 Scholastic Book of World Records.

I invite you to learn more about the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge at scholastic.com/summer. If your child forgot his or her summer reading username, please contact me directly or contact Scholastic at 1-800-SCHOLASTIC.

Have a wonderful summer!



Dear Parent,

I hope you are enjoying your summer with your family and that you are keeping reading a top priority. The Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge is underway, and our school is doing well so far! This is a friendly reminder to keep encouraging your child to read and log his or her minutes at www.scholastic.com/summer. If our school logs the most minutes of any participating school, we'll win a visit from a bestselling children's book author!

Here are a few ideas to help you and your child keep the reading momentum going all summer:

➤ **POWER UP... AND READ BOOKS THAT MAKE YOU LAUGH.**

A recent study shows **91% of kids** ages 6-17 say that their favorite books are the ones they pick out themselves. Go for funny reads! Kids of all ages 6-17 say they want "**books that make me laugh.**" (70%)*

Try titles like *Dr. Seuss* (3-5 yrs), *Junie B. Jones* (6-7 yrs), *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (8-10), and *Sisters* (11-13).

➤ **POWER UP... AND READ TOGETHER.**

Research shows **40% of kids** ages 6-11 who are no longer read aloud to say they wish their parents had continued. In addition, more than 80% of kids ages 6-17 say they loved or liked a lot being read aloud to.*

Set a goal and see how many books you can read together in one summer. Be a role model! Read aloud the sports section in your backyard during a lazy Sunday or a comic book together while in line at the grocery store.

➤ **POWER UP... A READING PARTY.**

71% of kids say, "I'm more likely to finish a book I choose myself."* Take their favorite book one step further and create a themed reading party.

**Kids & Family Reading Report, 5th Edition (2014)*

As you may know, kids are more likely to finish a book they pick out themselves, so visit a library, bookstore, or your own bookshelves, and let your child choose a book to read.

You can find more tips and ideas to motivate your kids to read in the parent section of the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website (scholastic.com/summer). If your child forgot his or her summer reading username, please contact me directly or contact Scholastic at 1-800-SCHOLASTIC.

Happy Summer Reading!



Dear Parent,

We are halfway through the summer, and you are doing a terrific job motivating your child to read! This is a friendly reminder to keep encouraging your child to read every single day, even if it's only for a few minutes. There are so many other summertime distractions that can often take the place of reading, but it's important to stick with a reading routine.

For every minute your child reads, he or she is strengthening his or her reading skills (and contributing to a new world record for summer reading!). Our school is committed to making sure all of our students come back to school prepared, and reading every day can truly make a difference.

If you're looking for new books for your kids to read, check out Scholastic's age-appropriate summer reading lists at **scholastic.com/summer**. You'll find the best nonfiction, series books, and more. If your child forgot his or her summer reading username, please contact me directly or contact Scholastic at 1-800-SCHOLASTIC.

Have a great rest of the summer!



Dear Parent,

I hope you had a wonderful summer, and that you and your child had fun participating in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge. I want to congratulate all the families from our class for their commitment to reading over the course of the past few months. Together with thousands of children and their families from around the world, you helped set a new world record for summer reading. We should all feel extremely proud of our class participation.

If you haven't already done so, please have your child print out his or her minutes from their user profile, which can be found on the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website at **scholastic.com/summer**. Please have them bring it to school so we can share and celebrate their summer reading success! If your child forgot his or her summer reading username, please contact me directly or contact Scholastic at 1-800-SCHOLASTIC.

Thank you for being a great reading partner for your child this summer. The time and effort you put in will make for a wonderful school year ahead.

Thanks again!