

Whispering Pines Elementary

FLEX YOUR “MENTAL MUSCLES” – Jump Into Reading 2013 Summer Reading Program



June 4, 2013

Dear Parents,

We are approaching the end of another terrific year of learning at Whispering Pines Elementary School. While it is our wish for students to have a fun and relaxing summer break, we also want to encourage students to continue to flex their “mental muscles” by participating in our 2013 Summer Reading Program.

Research shows that students lose a significant amount of learning over the summer months. What better way to combat that loss than by exercising our minds by reading great books! Our Summer Reading Program is designed to allow students to select books from the District Summer Reading List, compile a Reading Log, and complete a fun “Book-In-A-Bag project to be brought to school and shared at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year.

Students who meet the following requirements will be invited to a special “*FLEX YOUR MENTAL MUSCLES – JUMP INTO READING*” celebration to be held on Friday, August 30, 2013. Students that complete the following requirements will be invited to the celebration:

1. Read the required number of books for your 2013-2014 grade level.

| Kindergarten | 1 st Grade | 2 nd Grade | 3 rd Grade | 4 th Grade | 5 th Grade |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 6 Books | 6 Books or 3 Chapter Books | 6 Books or 3 Chapter Books | 10 Books or 3 Chapter Books | 10 Books or 3 Chapter Books | 10 Books or 3 Chapter Books |

2. Complete the attached Reading Log for each book and obtain a parent’s signature. Return your completed Reading Log to your teacher by Friday, August 23, 2013.
3. Select one of the books from your reading log and submit a BOOK-IN-A-BAG PROJECT to your teacher by Friday, August 23, 2013. Students will be required to decorate a small paper bag and fill it with 4-6 “props” related to their selected book. Props should include items from the book that can be found around the house. Students may also create props from materials they may already have such as paper, clay, crayons, etc. Each bag must include the following:
 - Title (Front of Bag)
 - Author and Illustrator (Front of Bag)
 - Student’s Name and Grade Level (Front of Bag)
 - 4-6 Props and/or handmade items related to characters or events in the story (Inside of Bag)
 - List and/or Draw Pictures of Main Characters (Side Panels of Bag)
 - A Brief Summary (Approximately 1 Paragraph)- (Back of Bag)

Students will orally present their Book in a Bag project.

The District 2013 Elementary Summer Reading List is posted on our website at <http://wpines.dadeschools.net>. Most of the selections can be found at your local public library. New or used copies may be purchased at local book stores or online retail outlets such as www.amazon.com, www.bn.com, www.half.com, or www.overstock.com. Our program follows the Miami-Dade County Public Schools K-12 Summer Reading Guidelines. We appreciate and thank you for your support in keeping our kids “in shape” and ready for the upcoming school year. If you have any questions about our Summer Reading Program, please feel free to contact Ms. Brown or Ms. Pando at 305-238-7382. Thank you.