Dear Parent/Guardian,

As the end of another school year approaches, we are asking your assistance in keeping your child connected to the learning process through the summer months and to nurture their enjoyment of reading. As we believe in and stress the importance of reading beyond the school year, we will be offering suggested titles that are developmentally appropriate for all of our students who share varied ability levels, learning styles and interests. Stephen Krashen, a linguist and leading researcher in reading, suggests that an often-overlooked method to improve reading is providing readers with a supply of interesting and accessible books by visiting local libraries and bookstores. Research demonstrates that self-selected voluntary reading leads to the greatest gains in reading achievement. (Krashen, S. The Power of Reading: Insights from the Research, 2nd edition. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.) Please read the following requirements with your child so that he/she will be well prepared when the 2019-2020 school year begins in September.

Your child is required to read one book this summer and complete the corresponding graphic organizer for the book. Students may choose a title from the provided grade level list. The completed graphic organizer is due on September 23, 2019. The assignment will be counted as a quiz grade for the first marking period. The information in this packet may also be found on the district's website www.kearnyschools.com. On the main page under District Departments, click on the Curriculum and Instruction tab and then click on the Summer Reading link. Additionally, the Kearny Public Library and the Clifton Barnes and Noble will be given Kearny's Summer Reading lists.

Technology is continuing to grow as an integral component in education today. We invite students to use iPads, Kindles, audiobooks, etc. We also encourage students to continue to use Achieve 3000 (https://portal.achieve3000.com/index), for which they all have logins, to access informational articles, essays, newspapers, and magazines.

Achieve 3000 will be holding a contest called the "Achieve Summer 40-Activity Challenge." Students who complete 40 activities with a first try score of 75% or more on each, will be entered into a raffle to win an iPad mini! In addition, each week Achieve 3000 will send an exciting prize to the student with the most achievement points across the nation. These are the points students earn automatically for completing work within the program. No registration is required to join this contest. The contest will run from the first day of summer to the first day of school. A flyer with more information is available on our district website under the Summer Reading link.

We wish you and your family an enjoyable summer!

Happy Reading!

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