Dear Parents,

I am really looking forward to having some unstructured time. However, the “summer slide” is a real challenge for students. One thing that can mitigate this loss is reading every day. I would encourage you to make reading 20 minutes, most days, a priority for your child(ren).

Here are a couple of summer reading programs and a few book suggestion lists; these sites provide lists of good books as well as links to other places that suggest books. They include lists of award winners, book reviews, author links, and activities related to reading.

- Spokane Public Library
  Summer Reading Program: Free activities and prizes for reading, information here: https://www.spokanelibrary.org/summer-reading

- Spokane County Libraries
  Summer Reading Challenges: Challenges for all ages, plus special camps and events, information here: https://www.scld.org/summer-reading-challenge-track-your-reading-for-rewards-prize-drawings/

- New York Public Library
  https://www.nypl.org/books-more/recommendations/best-books/kids

- American Library Association
  https://www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists/summer-2026 for a direct link to Summer 2026 reading lists and
  http://www.ala.org/alsc/audiencemenus/parents list of lists, including Newberry and Caldecott Award winners and honor books

- Barnes and Noble Summer Reading Program, Grades 1-6, for a free book
  https://www.barnesandnobleinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025-BN-Kids-Summer-Reading-Journal.pdf

- Brightly Summer Reading Central https://www.readbrightly.com/summer-reading-central/

- Common Sense Media Best Books for Kids lists: Lists by topic and grouped by ages
  https://www.commonsensemedia.org/book-lists

- Start with a Book https://www.startwithabook.org/

Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Lynette Georgeson

Lower School Librarian