

June 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of Incoming 2021-2022 Sixth Graders,

Congratulations on the completion of another year at Blairstown Elementary School! We are looking forward to meeting your child and are excited to guide them through their last year here at BES. Over the course of the summer, we would like to encourage incoming 6th graders to read several novels of their choice to enhance their joy of reading.

To ensure students maintain and practice the reading strategies they mastered during their fifth grade year, each student is **required** to read **one** of the books listed below. Your child should read reviews and pick one they think they would enjoy. When we return to school in September, they will be expected to actively participate in book clubs, which will help build a strong community of readers and help us get to know our new 6th graders. These book club conversations will focus on the standards below:

- Determine the theme or central idea of a text and how the plot of the story unfolds.
- Engages effectively in a range of collaborative and academic discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led).

Please visit your local library or bookstore to find the title your child has selected from the list. We look forward to meeting your child in September and hope that you have a wonderful summer filled with a lot of reading.

Here are the selections your child must choose from:

- White Bird (Graphic Novel) by R.J. Palacio
- Who Stole the Wizard of Oz? by Avi
- 39 Clues: The Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan
- My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

Happy Reading,
The Sixth Grade Team