



# Calling all kids who love to read!

Dear 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and Parents:

For the third year, our school will participate in a Reading Olympics. Initially we will practice together from 8:00-8:30 on Wednesday mornings beginning in January 2013. After discussing all of the books, we will hold two book challenges. At that time, we will divide into teams. Each team will be asked questions about the books and can answer as a group.

The list of books that you will need to read is included on the back of this letter. You need to read all eight of the books to qualify for a team. Upon completing each book, you will need to fill out a page in your Reading Olympics Journal.

We will officially begin our Reading Olympics book discussions on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013. If you would like to participate, please fill out and return the participation agreement to school by Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. You will receive a calendar and your Reading Olympics Journal at a later date. The journal will help you log your reading and assist you in recalling the details of all the books that you read when it comes time for our discussions. This will be a good study guide to assist you in preparing for the book challenges we will have in March 2013.

All students who participate in this event by reading the books, filling out the journal, attending the Wednesday morning discussions and competing in at least one challenge will be entitled to attend the reading celebration at the end of the program.

We are very excited about this program. Please consider participating. The books on the attached list are available in our school library as well as the public library however you may also have to find copies from a friend, Amazon, etc. Books in the school library are on a first come, first serve basis.

Please contact Mrs. Smith at 662-8836 or [nicosmit@hssd.12.wi.us](mailto:nicosmit@hssd.12.wi.us) if you have any questions about Reading Olympics.

Looking forward to reading and enjoying books together,

Mrs. Smith - Gifted and Talented Specialist



## Reading Olympics Book List 2012-2013

***The Mouse and the Motorcycle*** by Beverly Cleary

A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

***Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*** by Judy Blume

Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever-increasing problem. He's a two-year-old terror who gets away with everything—and Peter's had enough. Peter has put up with Fudge too long. How can he get his parents to pay attention to him for a change?

***Dear Mr. Henshaw*** by Beverly Cleary

In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.

***Everest – The Contest*** by Gordan Korman

Four climbers, winners of an American Junior Alpine Association contest, vie to become the youngest person ever to reach the peak of Mount Everest.

***Hoot*** by Carl Hiaasen

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

***Mr. Popper's Penguins*** by Richard Atwater

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

***Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library*** by Eth Clifford

Two girls spend an adventurous night trapped inside the public library during a terrible blizzard. Is Jo-Beth right about the library being haunted by banshees? Or is there a logical explanation, as Mary Rose claims?

***The Plant that ate Dirty Socks*** by Nancy McArthur

When Michael and Norman's sock-eating plants are chosen for the space program, the boys' whole school gets involved by building a mock spaceship, trying space food, and counting down to blast-off.

---

### Participation Agreement for Reading Olympics

I, \_\_\_\_\_, wish to participate in the Reading Olympics Program. I will read the 8 assigned books and keep my Reading Olympics Journal up-to-date. I will be on time to meetings and book challenges.

I understand that the meetings will be held in the library at 8:00-8:30 am on Wednesdays beginning January 9, 2013. There will be 8 Wednesdays of discussion, 2 Wednesdays of competition and 1 Wednesday of a celebration breakfast.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_