Upper Elementary Summer Reading
Welsh Hills School
Summer 2025

Dear Students and Families,

Summer is a great time for reading! Our summer reading assignments are meant to provide continued practice over the summer break and to prepare students for our areas of academic focus this fall. Though "Giant Country" is fictional, some parts of *The BFG* take place in England, which ties in to our Continent Study of Europe this coming school year!

All summer reading assignments must be completed by the first day of school on August 20th. Students will need to have copies of their required reading books in class beginning the first day. The other summer reading book, each student's choice, will need to be at school with their book project on Monday, August 25th.

Upper Elementary students are required to read a total of **two** books over the summer (though we hope you read and enjoy as many books as you can!).

Book ONE (required reading):

All UE students are required to read ***The BFG* by Roald Dahl**.

This will be the first book we discuss together at the beginning of the school year. There is no independent project to be completed for this book. Work will be done in class once school starts. All students are required to have a copy of this book at school.

Book TWO (independent choice):

The second book required for summer reading is the **student's choice** and should not be a book he or she has previously read. There are *many* excellent children's books to choose from, including the titles recommended at the links below.

- https://www.readbrightly.com/summer-books-for-tweens/
- https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-tools/book-lists/this-school-year-s-bestselling-books-for-grades-3-5.html

- https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/3rd-to-5th-grade

Each student will need to create a project for the book he or she chooses independently.
The project should tell the class all the important details about the book your student read, including:
- Title
- Author
- Genre
- Characters
- Setting
- Plot

All projects must be labeled with the book's title and author. Students may choose a project idea from the list provided. Have fun and be creative!

Have a wonderful summer and happy reading!

Summer Reading Book Project Ideas
Upper Elementary

This is the chance for you to share with your classmates and teacher all about one book you chose to read over the summer! After you finish reading, choose one of the following projects to complete and bring to school on Monday, August 25th. Pick the project that you will enjoy the most! Be sure to include your name somewhere on the project.

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Cereal Box Book Report:
For this report, you will be decorating all sides of a cereal box to show and tell important information about the book. Make it neat and colorful!

Materials needed:
- Empty cereal box (any size, but larger is better)
- Paper
- Glue
- Scissors

- Pencil with eraser
- Markers, crayons, paint, or colored pencils

Front of the Box:
- Title of the book along with author's name plus a picture/drawing that represents the main idea of the story

Right Side of the Box:
- Story elements in words and pictures/drawings (Characters- Who? and Setting - Where? When?)

Left Side of the Box:
- Story elements in words and pictures/drawings (Problem-What was wrong? and Solution -How did they fix it?)

Back of the Box:
- Summary of the book (Who was in it, where and when did it take place, and what happened?)

Top of the Box:
- Book Recommendation or Review (Did you like the book? Why?)

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Mobile Book Report:
For this report, you will be creating a mobile that shows and tells important information about the book. Make it neat and colorful!

Materials needed:
- Clothes hanger
- Index cards
- Hole punch
- String or yarn
- Scissors
- Pencil with eraser
- Markers, crayons, paint, or colored pencils
- Small objects representing details of the book (optional)

Create one index card for each of the following using words on one side and colored pictures/drawings on the other side. Punch the hole near the top of each card BEFORE you write and draw:
- Title of the book and author's name plus a picture/drawing that represents the main idea of the story (this can be on an index card OR on paper covering both sides of the hanger's "triangle" on top.
- Main character (name and description in words; drawing/picture)

- Setting (where and when story mostly takes place in words; drawing/picture)
- Problem (problem main character faces in words; drawing/picture)
- Solution (how problem is solved in words; drawing/picture)
- Summary of the book (Who was in it, where and when did it take place, and what happened?) words only
- Book recommendation or review (Did you like the book? Why?) words only
- Optional - Find small objects that represent something or someone in the book and attach them with string. For example: Kevin, the main character, chews lots of gum, so a stick of gum could be attached to the mobile.

Once you have all the cards ready for your mobile, attach each to the bottom of the hanger so it hangs below. Try to cut the pieces of string or yarn in different lengths so some cards hang lower and others hang higher. That gives them more room!

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Book-in-a-Bag Report:
For this report, you will be choosing objects/items that each represent an important piece of information about the book. Be creative!

Materials needed:
- Paper bag
- Index cards
- Pencil or pen
- Small objects representing important details of the book.

Write the title and author of the book on the front of the paper bag. You will place all the objects/items and index cards in the bag when finished.

Choose at least ten objects or items to represent details of the story. Create one index card for each of the items explaining what the object represents and why. The objects must tell about the following story elements:
- Main character
- Other important characters
- Setting (where and when story takes place)
- Problem (problem main character faces)
- Solution (how problem is solved)

On a separate index card, write a summary of the book (who was in it, where and when did it take place, and what happened?). No object is needed for this card.

On a separate index card, write a book recommendation or review (did you like the book? Why?). No object is needed for this card.

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Board game/Card Game Book Report:
For this report, you will be creating a game that
shows and tells important information about the book. Make it neat and colorful!

Materials needed:
- Large stiff paper or cardboard for game board
- Stiff paper for cards
- Scissors
- Pencil with eraser
- Markers, crayons, paint, or colored pencils
- Small objects representing details of the book for game pieces (optional)
- Die/dice (optional)
- Spinner (optional)
- Box to contain game (optional)
- Paper for game play instructions

Your game must include the following:
- Title and author of book
- Short summary of the story
- Review or recommendation of the book
- Instructions for playing the game
- Details from the book about the main character and other characters
- The setting,
- The main problem
- The solution.

As people play the game, they should learn about the story!
Incorporate those details into the game board, pieces, and rules.

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PowerPoint/Google Slides/Canva Book Report:
For this report, you will create a visual presentation using either Powerpoint or Google Slides that shows and tells important information about the book. Make it neat and colorful!

Materials needed:
- Access to PowerPoint/Google Slides/Canva

The slideshow should contain information about the book in words and images. You must include slides about the following:
- Title of the book and author's name
- Main character
- Setting (where and when story mostly takes place)
- Problem (problem main character faces)
- Solution (how problem is solved)
- Summary of the book (Who was in it, where and when did it take place, and what happened?) Words only
- Book recommendation or review (Did you like the book? Why?) Words only

You may choose to create more than one slide about each of the story elements. You may also include additional slides highlighting details of your choice (favorite part, favorite quote, new words you learned, etc.)