

Timberlane Regional School District Summer Reading



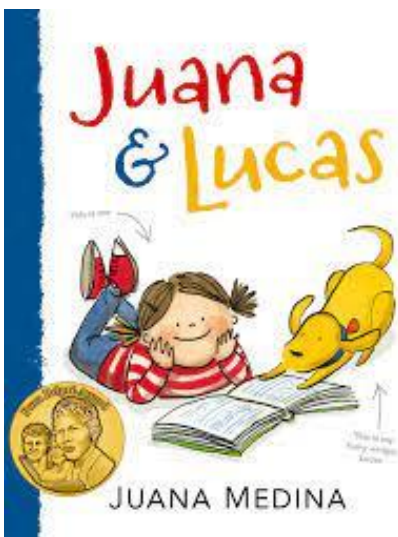
June 2021

Dear Grade 3 Families,

Students need a strong foundation in reading and writing in order to reach their full potential. Reading outside of the classroom is critical for maintaining and expanding a child's literacy skills, especially over the extended summer break. Research suggests that students should spend a minimum of 20 minutes a day reading. This could be listening to a book read aloud or practicing their own reading skills. Conversations about each book increase enjoyment and connection to texts. As students discuss or write about what happened in the book, as well as things the books make them think about, the deeper a love for literature is developed.

Timberlane's summer goal is simple: Help students connect with books (both fiction and non-fiction) to grow a love for learning and engagement in texts. This will inspire students to become lifelong readers. To this end, we are sending each student home with a book that we hope will be read and reread over the summer.

Incoming Grade 4 students will receive...



Juana loves many things - drawing, eating Brussels sprouts, living in Bogota, Columbia, and especially her dog, Lucas, the best *amigo* ever. She does *not* love wearing her itchy school uniform, solving math problems, or going to dance class. And she especially does not love learning the English. Why is it so important to learn a language that makes so little sense? But when Juana's *abuelos* tell her about a special trip they are planning - one that Juana will need to speak English to go on - Juana begins to wonder whether learning the English might be a good use of her time after all.

This is a great book to share with your child, whether you share the reading, have your child read to you, or read alone. Follow up with conversations or students writing about what they love and are not fond of, when they have learned something new and their feelings about that, Juana's feelings, or a strong relationship with a pet or a person.

One way to share and celebrate reading is to visit local bookstores or libraries and peruse selections. Be sure to also check out local area library schedules for events occurring through the summer, hyperlinks below.

Danville <https://colbymemoriallibrary.org/>
Plaistow <https://www.plaistowlibrary.com/>
Sandown <http://www.sandownlibrary.us/>
Atkinson <https://kimballlibrary.com/>

Below are some optional activities to go with your summer reading book, *Juana and Lucas* by Juana Medina.

- Visit this website to see a video of how Juana Medina, the author and illustrator, created the art for *Juana and Lucas*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ls78ZmzCKc>
After you watch the video, use a black ink pen and watercolors to create your artwork like Juana Medina's.
- Juana and Lucas live in Bogota, Columbia. Visit this website to learn more about Columbia. How is Columbia like the United States? How is it different? Make a list.
<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/geography/countries/article/colombia#colombia-dancing.jpg>
- Look back in the story at how Juana describes each of the characters. Think of a pet or a person you love. Get a piece of paper and draw your pet or person in the middle. Draw lines out from the picture and write reasons you love them. Give it to your loved one as a gift!
- This story is told from Juana's point of view. What if it were told from Lucas's point of view? Review the story, paying close attention to the words and illustrations that include him. What do you think he is doing when he is not with Juana? Write about what you think Lucas's story would be.