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We have a great time exploring books and technology!



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview
Special Events
Links
Contact Us

Overview

Read-aloud

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When we read books aloud in class, we choose a wide variety of high-quality titles. Many books we read are award winners; we love introducing students to the Nutmeg, Caldecott, and Newbery Awards. We encourage students to make observations and connections as well as ask questions about why authors and illustrators make particular decisions.

Independent Book Selection

Students choose from many books. Our collection offers picture books, chapter books, biographies, and non-fiction at many different reading levels. Students

might bring home books they can read independently; they may also bring home books that are more appropriate to be shared with an adult. Please take an active interest in the choices your children make and continue to read aloud with them! Sharing stories fosters a love and enjoyment of literature as well as modeling fluency and aiding comprehension.

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Using Chromebooks and iPads, students are learning about research skills, improving their digital literacy, and becoming responsible consumers and producers of information.



Special Events

<u>September:</u> International Dot Day (http://www.thedotclub.org/dotday/) and The Crayons are Quitting! (a celebration of *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt)

October: first "Star Reader Week" of the year

November: introduction to computer programming

<u>December:</u> The Hour of Code (<u>www.code.org</u>) and SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR (12/5-12/11)

*Still to come... Nutmeg voting, digital citizenship, and digital storytelling!

Links

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This is a database for emerging readers. It offers information on a variety of subjects. Students can read, listen, watch, and interact with the site in various ways as they develop their research and non-fiction reading skills. It can be accessed from school or home. Ask Mrs. Tietjen or your child's classroom teacher for logon information.

www.iconn.org/classicelementary

Known as Connecticut's search engine, this web site offers free access to many articles on various topics. Different search engines offer options such as sorting results by lexile level in order to make information useful to elementary school learners. You will need to enter your public library card information if logging in from home.

www.code.org

Computer science is a growing field, and this site offers a kid-friendly introduction to coding, programming, and computational thinking. Memorial School second and third graders will participate in the Hour of Code, an initiative to get elementary school students into coding, in early December. No logon information is needed; just visit the site and learn the basics that could lead to creating your own video game or app!

http://www.nutmegaward.org/

Connecticut's annual book award is special because KIDS choose the winner! For the first time this year, Memorial students will be voting. We will read many of the nominees during library class, and all the titles will be available for students to check out. Visit this site to check out the nominated titles and see other information about the contest.

Contact Us

Please call (860) 365-4020.

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Pat Mahoney, Library Paraprofessional
