

September  
2020

# Mrs. Therrell's Library

Despite the uniqueness of our 2020 school year, we've had such a great first month together learning and reviewing important library procedures and expectations. I have so enjoyed visiting students in their classrooms for library.

- **IMPORTANT CHANGE:** Our regularly scheduled Scholastic Book Fair set for October will be postponed until Spring 2021. This is to help us better adjust to our new "normal" for the 2020 school year without any additional interruptions to our schedule. We will update as our fair time approaches. We know this is something we all look forward to at PES!

Readers today  
become leaders  
tomorrow.

This is usually the time of year when I begin discussing our RCSD Reading Fair with students and modeling great storyboards turned in from our students in past years. We always have such great participation at our school, and it sure does make a librarian heart so proud! RCSD is carefully considering all options for this school year, and they will let us know when they have made a final decision as to whether or not we will host the Reading Fairs at each school this year as well as our District Reading Fair in November. I will keep our families updated as I receive news on the Reading Fair.

## September Library Plans

### Prek-2<sup>nd</sup> Grades

We will continue reviewing library manners and BEST behavior when teachable moments arise, and we will continue discussing how different our Ebooks this year are compared to checking out physical library books like normal. However, our goal is to embrace the difference as a great challenge for us as readers. Different truly can be good! We'll use very "unique" texts like Chalk, The Typewriter, and Fossil all by Bill Thomson to help us tell the story of wordless books. As readers, we also become the authors of these great texts! We will review the importance of truly analyzing pictures to help us become the authors. Engaging activities will correlate.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

We will begin our historical fiction text, Stone Fox. We will learn a lot about the setting—a small potato farm in Wyoming and compare the way of life from the past to present in farming. As readers, we are holding on to the fact that Little Willy can figure out what's causing Grandfather's sadness and help him get through this tough time. Students are engaged in literacy centers that encourage students to think, write, create, design, and build creatively.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

We're entering the realm of science fiction this month through reading Top Secret, a chapter book about 4<sup>th</sup> grader Allen who wants to prove his discovery of human photosynthesis could win the silver trophy at the upcoming Science Fair. His teacher, Miss Green, along with many other critics try to get in his way, but luckily, Allen is a kid like so many of our students who never gives up and thrives off a challenge! Engaging centers correlate with our text. I am LOVING the discussions held while students consider the science possibilities in this text. Mrs. Mann and Mrs. Pagart are already training these scientists to question and test what some would believe is impossible!

### 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> Grades

5<sup>th</sup> Graders will begin a realistic fiction chapter book, The Tiger Rising, which will take them on a journey as readers to put themselves in the character's shoes facing loss, challenges of friendship, bullying, and being brave enough to stand for something they believe in. Engaging reading, writing, and research activities will be offered for enrichment for students after our reading and discussion each day.

6<sup>th</sup> graders are reading one of Mrs. Therrell's favorite books in Mrs. Holyfield's class Because of Mr. Terrupt. To collaborate with Mrs. Holyfield, we are holding open discussions, creative writing, engaging activities, and comprehension games correlating with their read alouds each week. In addition to these extension activities, we'll also begin The Tiger Rising together this month. Students will have the chance to participate in either text's enrichment activities after reading and discussing together.

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