



Dear Parents of Incoming First Grade Students,

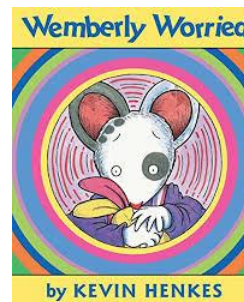
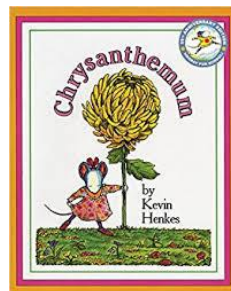
First and foremost, our goal for every child is to develop a love of reading. When reading is fun and enjoyable, it easily becomes a regular part of life. It's essential to incorporate reading into our daily lives so that our children see the pleasure in it, and will want to experience it.

Research shows that when children select their own books, they will be more motivated and engaged while reading them. Showing your child a handful of books and asking them to choose a few can be empowering for a young reader. While we encourage reading any and all kinds of books, below is a list of our favorite authors that are available at most public libraries.

Recommended Picture Book Authors

Mo Willems	Jan Brett	Syd Hoff	Eric Carle
Joy Cowley	Kevin Henkes	Tomie DePaola	Mem Fox
James Dean	Ezra Jack Keats	Leo Lionni	Mercer Mayer
Arnold Lobel	Cynthia Rylant	Robert Munsch	Margret & H.A. Rey

For most people, reading is a social experience. Though most of our young budding readers may not be ready to read the words independently quite yet, they do have thoughts and opinions as they listen and read the pictures. Ask them what they are thinking before, during and after reading, letting their answer guide the conversation!



We hope you enjoy your summer and wish you lots of happy reading!

Sincerely,

The First Grade Team