WHITE PLAINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



EDUCATION HOUSE FIVE HOMESIDE LANE WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10605 914-422-2026

Debbie J. Hand, Ed. D. Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction

June 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Summer is a perfect time for families to relax, recharge, and dive into the joy of reading together! Reading beyond the classroom plays a vital role in helping children maintain and grow their literacy skills during the long summer break. Just like any other skill, reading improves with daily practice—building vocabulary, critical thinking, and comprehension along the way.

This year's **Project Summer Read** theme is "Color Our World"—a celebration of how books and art can brighten our imaginations and enrich our lives. To support your child's reading journey, our schools will be sending home a packet filled with recommended book lists and helpful online resources.

Here are a few ways you can help make reading a colorful part of your summer routine:

- **Set aside time each day for reading**—whether it's a quiet moment before bed or a shared story after lunch.
- **Visit your local library** to explore a world of books and discover exciting programs. Our Project Summer Read website includes a calendar of events hosted by the White Plains Public Library.
- **Encourage your child to choose books that spark their curiosity** from different genres to new authors and diverse characters.
- **Read together and talk about the stories**—ask questions, share thoughts, and imagine new endings.
- Take a trip to a bookstore for a family outing. Your packet and our website include information about the Barnes & Noble summer reading program, where children can earn a free book.

You can also access a digital version of the reading packet, complete with book suggestions and additional resources, by

visiting https://www.whiteplainspublicschools.org/read or scanning the QR code below.

We hope your family will embrace the joy of reading this summer. Books have the power to color our world with knowledge, creativity, and endless adventure.

Wishing you a summer of fun, discovery, and unforgettable books!

Respectfully,

Dr. Debbie J. Hand

